Priority Setting for Health Research

Mohsen Shati, MD MPH PhD Epidemiologist

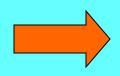
University of Social Welfare and Rehabilitation Sciences

Health Research & Development: A Global Imperative

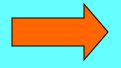
- 1. Population: the most valuable Asset of a country.
- 2. Value of the Asset is measured by its Health Status.
- 3. Health Status depends on many Determinants.
- 4. With unlimited resources, we could act on all determinants.
- **5.** Resources being limited, we have to select the determinants which have the greatest impact on health.
- **6. Only through research** can a country identify the key determinants for the health of the country.
- 7. Conditions of success: keep research out of isolation.

The 10 / 90 Dis-equilibrium





\$56 Billion spent every year on health research.



Only 10% used for health problems of 90% of the world 's people.

Can We Do Something About The 10 90 Disequilibrium?

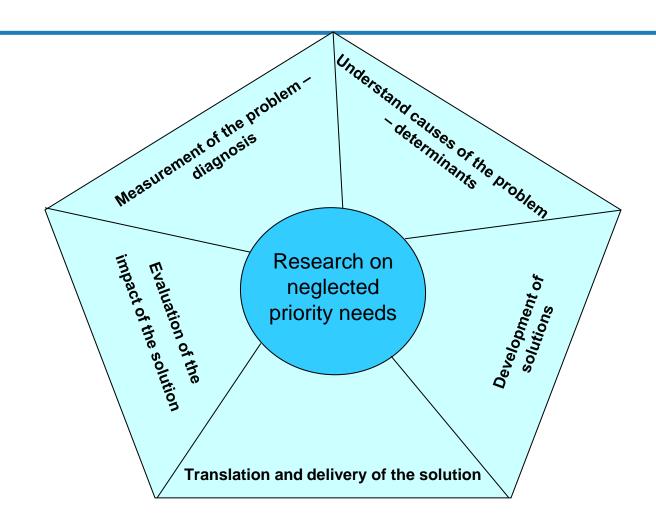


Priortity Setting in Health Research at the National & Global Levels.

Why Priority setting?

- Limited resources
- Balance interest of constituencies
- Coordination amongst players
- Local requirements
- Tool development vs. implementation
- Levels of intervention

A framework for research for health priorities





The « Five Steps » in Priority Setting Ad Hoc Committee, WHO

What is the burden of disease?



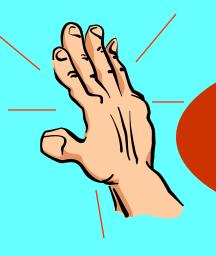
What is the burden of disease?

Why does the burden persist?



What is the burden of disease?

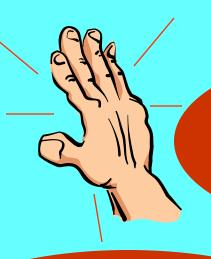
Why does the burden persist?



How cost-effective are present interventions?

What is the burden of disease?

Why does the burden persist?



How cost-effective are present interventions?

How cost-effective could future interventions be?

What is the burden of disease?

Why does the burden persist?

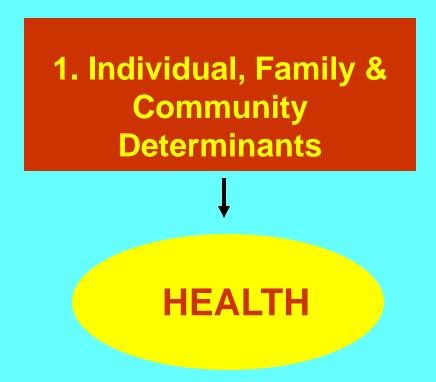
What is the present resource flow for that disease/risk?

How cost-effective are present interventions?

How cost-effective could future interventions be?

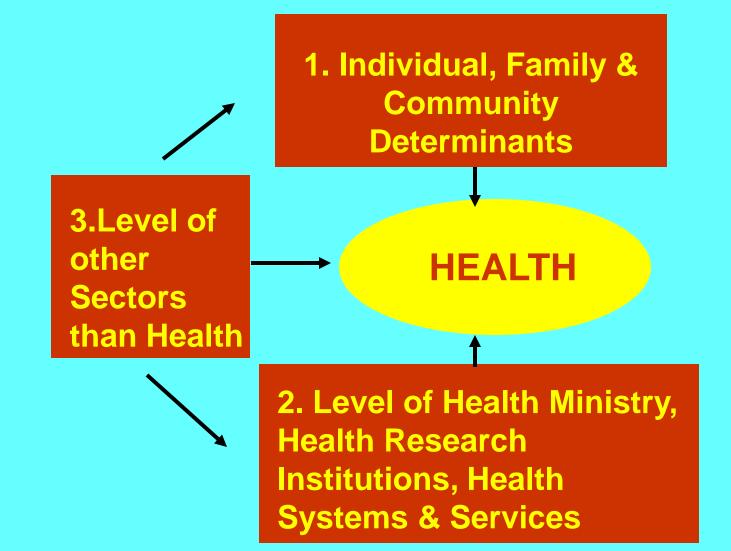
An Institutional Overview of the Determinants of Health: Global Forum for Health Research

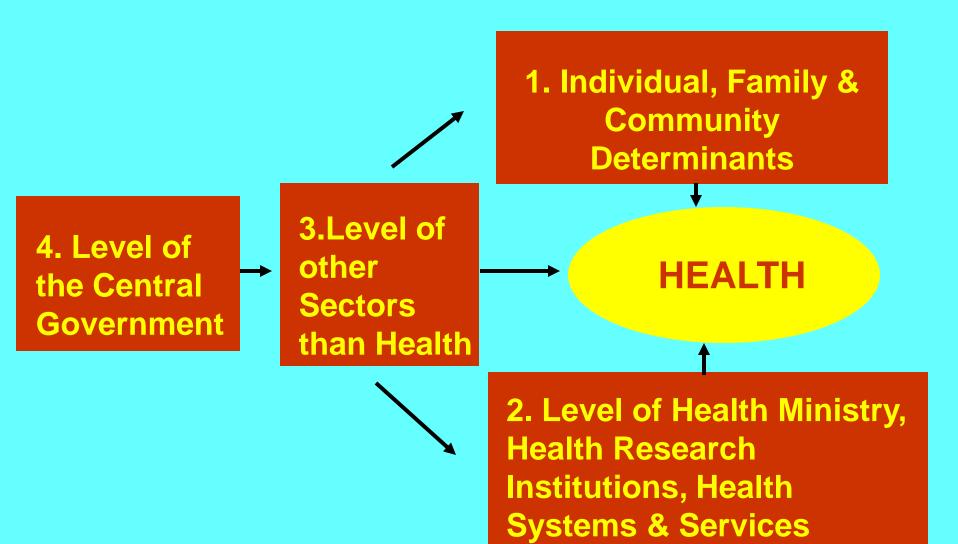




1. Individual, Family & **Community Determinants HEALTH**

2. Level of Health Ministry, Health Research Institutions, Health Systems & Services





FIVE STEPS IN PRIORITY SETTING	Actors/Factors Determinig The Health Status of a Population (Intervention Levels)			
	(a) Individual, Family & Community Level	(b) Level of Health Ministry, Health Research Institutions, Health Systems & Services	(c)Level of Sectors Other Than Health	(d) Level of Central Government
I. DISEASE BURDEN	I(a)	I(b)	I(c)	I(d)
II. DETERMINANTS FOR PERSISTENCE	II(a)	II (b)	II (c)	II (d)
III. PRESENT LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE	III(a)	III (b)	Ш(с)	III (d)
IV. COST- EFFECTIVENESS OF FUTURE INTERVENTIONS	IV(a)	IV(b)	IV(c)	IV(d)
V. RESOURCE FLOWS	V(a)	V(b)	V(c)	V (d)

Points for Discussion: Diversity

Overall health research governance:

- diversity of actors
- define roles and collaboration principles.

Fields of health research:

- -(1) biomedical issues
- (2) behavioural and community issues
- (3) sectors outside health with profound influence on health
- (4) good governance issues affecting health research.

Points for Discussion: The Research Loop

The research "loop":

- -(1) creation of knowledge
- (2) validation of knowledge
- (3) transformation into best practices
- -(4) dissemination
- (5) identification of gaps and development of initiatives to fill the gaps
- (6) development of indicators to measure impact on health status
- (7) feedback on orientation and design of future research - focus on the weakest link/s.

Points for Discussion: Remember the Goal of Research

- How to increase the efficiency/effectiveness of the research "loop":
 - research (process, tool)
 - knowledge (research outcome)
 - change in health status of populations (global objective).

Conclusions

- Identifying priorities is as important as conducting research itself.
- The process is a critical part.
- The methods presented here are tools.
- Review information available and research conducted elsewhere.
- Consider a wide variety of areas including conditions and risk factors.

Focusing Dimensions

- Different Fields (Biomedical, behavioural, ...)
- Determinant Levels (Individual, family, community, health sector, other sectors)
- Priority setting steps

Priority Setting Process

- Problem definition
- Identification of stakeholders
- Description of an 'ideal' control situation
- Identification of literature of research
- Description of information gaps
- Review of national activities
- Review of institutional comparative advantage
- Matching requirements of other programmes

References

- Presentation of Adnan A. Hyder, MD MPH PhD. Department of International Health Bloomberg School of Public Health. Johns Hopkins University, USA
- (ahyder@jhsph.edu)
- Global Forum for Health Research. The 10/90 Reports on Health Research. Geneva: GFHR, 2000 and 1999
 (www.globalforumhealth.org)
- WHO. Ad Hoc Committee on Research. Geneva: WHO, 1996 (www.who.int)
- Essential National Health Research. Council on Health Research for Development. Geneva: COHRED, 2000 (www.cohred.ch)