HTA in Ghana
Value for money towards UHC

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NHIS in Ghana

- NHIS was established in 2003, and has a goal of universal healthcare in Ghana.
- NHIS offers comprehensive healthcare package to all citizens of Ghana and is heavily subsidized by tax (National Health Insurance Levy).
- The scheme penetration attained 40% in 2014 and has stayed relatively flat since.
- Claims = 80% of expenditure.
- NHIS running into deficit if financial structure and benefit package are not re-aligned.

NHIS Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NHIS Population Coverage</th>
<th>165 District Offices</th>
<th>c.3,000 Branch Staff</th>
<th>11.2m Active Members</th>
<th>c.4,000 Healthcare Providers</th>
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<tr>
<td>2006 11%</td>
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<td>2010 31%</td>
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<td>2014 - 2016 40%</td>
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NHIS Comprehensive Healthcare Benefits

- In-patient
- Out-Patient
- Medicines
- Diagnostics

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Ghana Health Financing Landscape

Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
- VAT
- SSNIT

Ministry of Health
- Transfer
- Claims reimbursement

National Health Insurance Authority
- Premium payment

Development Partners
- Budget transfer

Grant, Lending (concessional and commercial)

Households
- User fees

Health Facilities

World Bank report on NHIS
Rise from 100 to 200 M USD, and % rise as a share of total health expenditures over the medium term.

Given limitations in isolating government-only expenditures these projections relate to on-budget government and external financing (incl. NHIS).
IV. Challenges & Way Forward

Development Partner Funding

Downward trend in external financing to the six sectors: 198 M USD in 2017 to 90 M in 2025. FP and HIV/AIDS projected to decline most rapidly.
NHIA Inflows & Expenditures

Years:
- 2005
- 2006
- 2007
- 2008
- 2009
- 2010
- 2011
- 2012
- 2013
- 2014
- 2015
- 2016
- 2017

Income, Expenditure, and Balance - Surplus/Deficits

MILLIONS GH¢
Problem Statement

- The NHIF currently the source of most of the counterpart funding
- Co-Financing - rising from 144 M USD in 2017 to 350 M USD in 2025
- External financing - $108 M USD
- Government needs to find an additional 314 M USD over the medium term

Major areas of financing needs are
✓ Family Planning
✓ Malaria
✓ HIV/AIDS
✓ Immunisation
How to find money when the external funding declines?

**Incorporate these areas into the NHIS**

How to do this and keep the NHIS financially sustainable?

**Health Technology Assessment**
In February 2016 iDSI team & Ghana stakeholders agreed an action plan for HTA.
Focus was on antihypertensive drugs – NHIS cost driver.
1st practical step for priority setting.
Formulation of the questions.
Data requirements and data availability.
Webinar: train and build capacity core team.
Methods

Objective: To estimate the cost-effectiveness and budget impact of drugs to reduce blood pressure to prevent cardiovascular disease (CVD)

Approach: Developed based on the recommendations of the standard treatment guidelines as well as clinical practice

Population: Patients with hypertension, excluding those with pre-existing CVD or diabetes, and pregnant women

Interventions: First line drugs (main classes):
   A. ACE inhibitors or ARB
   B. Beta-blockers
   C. Calcium Channel Blockers
   D. Thiazide-like Diuretics

Comparator: No intervention (NI)

Outcomes: Coronary heart disease (heart attack), stroke, heart failure, diabetes, disability adjusted life years (DALY), and costs
Impact

• Reinforcement of utility and value of HTA in Ghana

• Needs assessment – capacity, expertise, existing resources

• Data gaps – to support effective HTA processes

• Importance of institutional collaboration

• Reinforced importance of institutionalization of HTA

• Pricing issues – reinforced the need for pricing policies
Impact

- National Medicines Policy (2017) HTA recognised as a priority setting mechanisms
- National Pricing Committee (to be established)
- Removal of Value Added Tax on medicines (Legislated Instrument 2255 enacted)
- Standard Treatment Guidelines (2017)
- iDSI/HTAi conference September 2018!
Way Forward

Recommendations

✓ Set up a HTA body in Ghana
✓ Standing body with representation from existing organisations
✓ Start gradually using existing data
✓ Refine & improve as capacity is built
✓ Collaborate with global partners
Health Technology Assessment is not about devices or medicines only. It is a scientific method for **Strategic Purchasing**. The NHIS **must** purchase strategically in order to survive. As we begin our 15th anniversary, we take our first steps in HTA.
THANK YOU