

Course 2

Health Planning and Management in Settings with Limited Resources

Prof. Marcel Tanner and Prof. Don de Savigny

INTRODUCTION

The course will engage participants in the latest tools and methods for assessing population health needs, establishing health intervention priorities, and allocating health resources in a context of highly limited resources.

The course work will be illustrated with examples, case studies, good practices, and lessons learned from the Swiss Tropical & Public Health Institute's experience in developing and transition countries.

OBJECTIVES

At the end of the module students will be able to:

- Understand new concepts of comprehensive health information sub-systems as an integral evidence source for the health system;
- Identify, acquire and use a variety of health information sources and evidence pertinent to a given setting to establish population health needs from a burden of disease perspective;
- Apply practical approaches and health information analyses to understand current intervention coverage/access constraints retarding equity-effectiveness of health services;
- Apply practical approaches to develop plans that use evidence-based priorities for intervention strategies, and allocate appropriate shares of limited resources to address population health needs.

PREREQUISUTES

Basics in public health and epidemiology (i) relevant further training e.g. MPH and/or (ii) practical work experience in public health or health planning/management

PEDAGOGICAL METHOD

Adult learning methods – theory (readings and brief reminder), examples from case studies, facilitated group work and discussion, break out sessions and role playing.

ASSESSMENT PROCEDURE

Group presentation (15 min) and discussion (15-20 min) on last day.

COURSE CONTENT AND STRUCTURE

Teaching Days	Morning (from 9.00am to 11.00am and from 11.30am to 1.00pm)	Afternoon (from 2.00pm to 4.00pm)		
	Content	Method	Content	Method
Monday	Priority setting and resource allocation: Lecture	Lecture, discussion round for start of 1st simulation exercise	1st resource allocation simulation	Group work
Tuesday	Results and discussion of 1st simulation Health system decentralization:	Lecture and discussion Lecture and case studies	2nd resource allocation simulation Burden of disease and case studies	Group work Individual reading
Wednesday	Translating burden of disease concepts & data into practical meaning for health planners and managers	Lecture, group work, discussion	Interpreting national and regional burden of disease profiles	Group work, discussion, Hands on exposure to computer assisted planning tools (HMN Assessment Tool)
Thursday	Continuing simulation exercise Health service utilisation	Continuing simulation exercise Lecture, case studies and discussion	Continuing simulation exercise	Group work
Friday	Simulation exercise wrap up and discussion.	Group presentation and discussion	Evaluation of course	Questionnaire and free discussion round Handout of course CD and tools

CURRICULUM VITAE

Professor **Marcel Tanner**, PhD, MSc, MPH, Director of the Swiss Tropical & Public Health Institute. Concurrently he has been Professor of Epidemiology and Medical Parasitology at the University of Basel since 1990, and the Dean of Science until 2004. He studied biology, chemistry and medical microbiology at the University of Basel followed by post-doctoral research in Africa, and post-graduate studies in public health at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. He has over 30 years of experience in basic and applied research in the control of communicable diseases and health systems analysis for evidence based planning under resource constraints. Marcel Tanner has been an advisor to the World Health Organization, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, the International Development Research Centre, Canada, and various other expert panels.

His most important publication are:

- Tanner M (2005) Strengthening district health systems. *Bull World Health Organ* 83, 403.
- Tediosi F, Hutton G, Maire N, Smith T, Ross A & Tanner M (2006) Predicting the cost-effectiveness of introducing a pre-erythrocytic malaria vaccine into the expanded program on immunization in Tanzania. *Am J Trop Med Hyg* 75, 131-143.
- Low NM, Schneider M, & Tanner M (2007) Internationale Gesundheit In: Sozial- und Präventivmedizin - Public Health Aufl. 3, eds. Gutzwiller F & Paccaud F. Bern: Verlag Hans Huber, 457-485.
- BechirM, Ould Taleb M, Bonfoh B, Tanner M & Zinsstag J (2008) Towards integrated and adapted health services for nomadic pastoralists and their animals: a North-South partnership In: Handbook of Transdisciplinary Research. Ed. Hirsch G. Heidelberg: Springer, 277-291

Don de Savigny, PhD, MSc, epidemiologist and public health specialist with more than 30 years experience in health technology assessment, health interventions research, and health systems development in developing countries. He did BSc and MSc studies in medical microbiology, parasitology and immunology at the University of Guelph in Canada and has a PhD in epidemiology from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. He has worked extensively in the field of public health interventions research and teaching, particularly in Africa. He is currently head of the Health Systems Unit of the Swiss Tropical & Public Health Institute, Department of Epidemiology & Public. He is also a frequent advisor to the World Health Organization, UNICEF and the World Bank for health systems development and is currently engaged in a number of such initiatives in sub-Saharan Africa.

His most important publications are:

- de Savigny D, Kasale H, Mbuya C, Reid G: **Fixing Health Systems**. Ottawa, Canada: International Development Research Centre; 2004.
- Rowe AK, de Savigny D, Lanata CF, Victora CG: **How can we achieve and maintain high-quality performance of health workers in low-resource settings?** *Lancet* 2005, **366**: 1026-1035.
- Lengeler C, Grabowsky M, McGuire D, de Savigny D: **Quick Wins Versus Sustainability: Options for the Upscaling of Insecticide-Treated Nets**. *Am J Trop Med Hyg* 2007, **77**: 222-226.
- De Savigny D., Adam T: **Systems thinking – for health systems strengthening**. 105pp, World Health Organization, Geneva; 2009

The Swiss Tropical & Public Health Institute is an associated institute of the University of Basel and is a leading centre for international health development, research and post-graduate training.

