



# BAUMUN'24 WHO Study Guide

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BAUMUN'24 | 3 - 5 MAY  
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# Table of Content



1. Letter from the Secretary-General
2. Letter from the Committee Board
3. Introduction to the WHO
4. Fundamental key terms
5. Agenda Item: Propagating health intervention efforts to achieve complete well-being
  - a. Introduction to the topic
  - b. Types of intervention
  - c. Preventive intervention
    - i. Vaccines
    - ii. Nutritional
    - iii. Maternal and neonatal
    - iv. Education and behavior change
    - v. Vector control
    - vi. Prophylaxis
    - vii. Injury prevention
  - d. Therapeutic intervention
    - i. Abortion
    - ii. Early interventions in chronic diseases
  - e. Other forms of intervention
    - i. Legal action, taxation, and subsidies
    - ii. Health system
    - iii. Implementation research
6. Past WHO actions
  - a. WHO and Sustainable Development Goals
  - b. WHO's main mission and vision regarding interventions.
7. Questions to be addressed
8. Further reading
9. Bibliography

# Letter from the Secretary General



Dear Participants,

On behalf of the Secretariat and the entire Organization Team, it is my honor to extend a warm welcome to you all for the BAUMUN'24. As Secretary-General, I am thrilled to see intelligent, driven people from diverse organizations come together to have fruitful discussions and diplomatic engagements.

You will have the chance to participate in inspiring debates, negotiation sessions, and social events during the conference. There is no doubt that the diverse range of experiences and perspectives that each delegate brings to the table will enhance the success and energy of this conference.

Our dedicated team has put in endless hours to make sure that every detail of the conference is well thought out to give every participant a fulfilling and unforgettable experience. Through our committees and social events, we hope to establish an atmosphere that promotes friendship, teamwork, and a profound understanding of the UN's principles.

I invite you to approach each session of this intellectual experience with an open mind, a cooperative spirit, and a dedication to finding common ground. Your enthusiastic and active participation is what will make this conference a success, and I do not doubt that your efforts will make it something remarkable.

Once again, welcome back to the BAUMUN'24 and Welcome Back to Bosphorus. May your time here be filled with meaningful discussions, lasting connections, and a sense of accomplishment as we work together to empower tomorrow.

Sincerely,

**İlgim Mina ABAT**

*Secretary-General of BAUMUN'24*

**BAUMUN'24 | 3 - 5 MAY**

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# Letter from the Chairboard

Esteemed delegates,

We welcome you to the Bahçeşehir University Model United Nations Conference 2024 as your committee board members with the utmost pleasure. We would like to extend our gratitude to our secretary-general İlgim Mina Abat and her deputies for giving us this opportunity.

Our goal for this conference is to push you to think beyond the textbook and engage with real-world problems as future leaders. You'll negotiate, collaborate, and perhaps even disagree as you draft resolutions. These discussions will be tough but rewarding, and we hope you'll find yourself inspired by the challenges.

Please read this document carefully and do your own extra research about your state because the purpose of this guide is to create an idea to do your own research.

Please do not hesitate to communicate with us through the e-mail written below about your questions about the study guide. We are looking forward to seeing you on May 3-5 at Bahçeşehir University.

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Best Regards,

**Ata Arın Öz & Doğa İnce**

BAUMUN'24 | 3 - 5 MAY

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# Introduction to WHO

Established in 1948, the World Health Organization (WHO) operates with the support and provision of the United Nations (UN) and is dedicated to international public health. It serves as the leading global authority on health-related matters, coordinating efforts to address health challenges and promote well-being worldwide.

The World Health Assembly (WHA) is the supreme decision-making body of the WHO, composed of representatives from all member states. Initially comprising 51 member states, the WHO has expanded over the years, and as of 2024, it includes 194 member states. Members are elected to serve for a term of three years, with membership allocated based on geographical representation. Currently, WHO member states are categorised into six regions: African Region, Region of the Americas, South-East Asia Region, European Region, Eastern Mediterranean Region, and Western Pacific Region. The WHA meets annually, typically in May, to discuss key health issues and set priorities for WHO's work.

WHO's funding primarily comes from member states' contributions, assessed based on their respective gross national income and adjusted for wealth and population size. The main source of revenue for WHO is the contributions made by its member states, which are determined by subtracting population size and wealth from each nation's gross national income.

The mandate of the World Health Organisation (WHO), the world's leading health authority, encompasses a wide range of health issues, including mental health, nutrition, noncommunicable illnesses, maternal-child health, and environmental health. It conducts research, creates norms and standards, provides technical support and direction to countries, and coordinates global initiatives to improve health outcomes and promote health equity. WHO collaborates with governments, external partners, and civil society to solve global health issues and strengthen healthcare systems as a whole.

# Agenda Item: Propagating Health Intervention Efforts to Achieve Complete Well-Being

## Fundamental key terms

- **Health promotion:** It is a behavioural social science that aims to improve health and avoid illness by educating, influencing behaviour, and making changes to the environment. It is to improve health knowledge, attitudes, skills, and behaviours both on an individual basis and on a community basis.
- **Health Equity:** The concept that everyone should have the opportunity to achieve their best health status is referred to as "health equity." It involves closing the gap in health outcomes and healthcare access among different groups, especially those who have faced barriers to care in the past due to factors such as economic status, race, ethnicity, gender or geographic location.
- **Health behaviour:** It can be simplified as the actions of individuals or habits of communities that may alter the health outcomes such as increased obesity rates in low-income countries as a result of carbohydrate-based diets or lack of knowledge about the prevention of Sexually transmitted diseases (STDs)
- **Evidence-based medicine:** Making interventions based on the outcome of medical research instead of conventional methods. For example, if we were about to implement a new vaccination program, such as malaria, in a community, firstly we have to acquire data about malaria cases in that community to decide whether it will be beneficial or not.
- **Prophylaxis:** implementations of drugs, dental cleaning, vaccines, birth control or other medical procedures such as surgery to prevent a disease from spreading or progressing. For example, after a surgical operation, an antibiotic is given to the patient to prevent any possible infections.
- **Epidemiology:** It is a science field that studies the distribution and dispersion of diseases, epidemics, accidents, and situations about health in a population. Scientists should apply to this field to improve treatments or decrease disease occurrence.
- **Intervention:** application of any policy or method undertaken to improve human health by preventing disease, by curing or reducing the severity or duration of an existing disease, or by restoring function lost through disease or injury
- **Complication:** worsening of a disease. If a new symptom occurs due to the disease itself, treatment or surgery the medical word refers to the condition as a complication.



## Introduction to Agenda Item

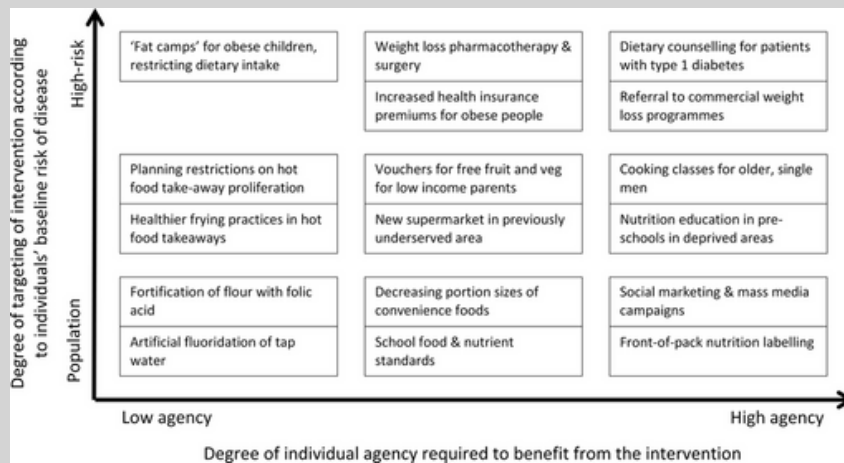
Medicine itself branches into multiple disciplines such as cardiology, public pediatrics, and general surgery. Health intervention methods are the study field of public health, and it is the main discipline that aims to support all of these other disciplines to prevent a disease from spreading or conclude epidemiology research, such as childbirth rates in a population. Public health stands a crucial ground for medicine as modern medicine depends on evidence. The doctors must have data in order to update a treatment or implement new treatment methods.

Other than doctors the pharmaceutical industry depends on such research to create a new type of drugs. For example, there are dozens of types of antibiotics and the main reason for such diversity is that over-usage of an antibiotic leads bacteria to develop resistance to that specific antibiotic. After the resistance is developed, the maximum effect of that antibiotic drops and thus results in the development of new types of antibiotics. In order to decide whether there is a need for a new antibiotic or not the public health discipline conducts trials for antibiotic resistance.

However, conducting trials is not the only aim of public health. It also must design strategies or policies to improve mental and physical health on a population level. Mainly the health ministries control such actions and implement new policies. Some non-governmental organisations also work on the matter such as the United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS.

The term 'intervention' is used to apply to any policy or method undertaken to improve human health by preventing disease, curing or reducing the severity or duration of an existing disease, or restoring function lost through disease or injury. There are a wide variety of interventions such as governments implementing guidelines for salt companies to add iodine to table salt to reduce the rate of goiter which is a condition of enlargement of the thyroid gland in the lack of iodine mineral.

Also, new strategies must be developed to prevent any uprising of disease, especially in low- and mid-income countries. These include both public health and clinical care measures and include drugs for acute and chronic conditions, vaccines, vector control, health education, behavior change strategies, injury prevention, and better health planning and management methods that improve a spectrum of health-related activities. Research involving a wide range of disciplines is needed to develop, and assess these interventions, ranging from molecular biology and immunology to social sciences, epidemiology, and statistics..



## Types of Intervention

### Preventive interventions

Disease prevention, which helps reduce healthcare costs by reducing new case incidences and potentially eradicating diseases like smallpox, is another important focus of preventive intervention activities. These interventions seek to identify risk factors, reduce causes, and promote factors that improve well-being and adaptive functioning in individuals, groups, and larger social systems.

### Vaccines

Vaccines, medications, and health supplies are easily accessible. The provision of affordable, high-quality pharmaceuticals, vaccinations, and other health goods (including diagnostics, gadgets, blood, and blood products) is an essential component of universal health coverage. Costs associated with paying for medications out of pocket is a major source of stress for many people.



According to the World Health Organization's (WHO) global strategy and plan of action on public health, innovation, and intellectual property, policies should be put in place to promote appropriate access to health products. These policies should address issues such as fair pricing, corruption-free procurement and supply chains, quality assurance of products through effective regulation, domestic investment in coverage schemes that reduce out-of-pocket payments, and access to generic medicines and innovation. Additionally, they should promote appropriate use.

With vaccines at the forefront, there will be a push to better coordinate R&D, with a focus on health needs, in order to increase access to pharmaceuticals, natural health products, and alternative treatment. The member states will use tools like routine claims data and spending surveys to empower systems and countries in analyzing and adjusting to developing health demands. Data and monitoring are crucial. The enhancement of local health product production and the facilitation of knowledge transfer through regulatory support and regional development activities will be the primary goals of any collaborative endeavours with stakeholders and partners.

BAUMUN'24 | 3 - 5 MAY

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## Nutritional

An intervention is a targeted programme of actions and supporting resources used to resolve a nutrition-related issue, as discussed in earlier chapters.

Individuals, groups, or communities can benefit from nutrition interventions when they are well-thought-out and implemented with the goal of



modifying a behaviour, risk factor, environmental condition, or health status item (1). To address the nutrition demands of clients, this stage entails a) making a selection, b) making a plan, and c) carrying out the plan. The nutrition diagnostic acts as a foundation for measuring and evaluating results, and it also drives the selection of nutrition interventions.

Enforcement of legislation, provision of food aid, regulation, public education, and encouragement of a healthy diet are all ways in which member states might influence nutritional interventions. The treatments may vary from country to country because of variations in diet, lifestyle, and economics. For example, in 2020, the CDC predicted that 42.4% of American adults would be overweight or obese, and the World Food Programme (WFP) of the UN estimates that 5.9 million Somalis are food insecure and in need of humanitarian aid. So, it's reasonable to expect these member states' nutritional programmes to vary. U.S. efforts should centre on promoting healthy lifestyles through exercise and diet, while Somali relief efforts should prioritise the distribution of emergency food supplies, potable water, and sanitation infrastructure.

The promotion of good eating habits, together with dietary assistance programmes, school nutrition efforts, rules, and regulations, can be used to conduct nutritional interventions.

## Educational and Behavioral Change Intervention

Understanding, assessing, and gathering information are among humanity's most important skills. Education is vital not just for tackling the many challenges of the modern world, but also for improving the health of the people of member countries. Misinformation transmitted through word of mouth can have serious consequences for others and can be fatal. Individuals can make a number of choices, but the geographical location in which they live with others, from their families to their countries, can influence their history. To stop the cycle, educational and behavioural adjustments are needed.

Smoking cessation programmes are an excellent example of Educational and behavioural Change Intervention (EBC).

These activities, such as

anti-smoking campaigns and breastfeeding promotions, seek to prevent disease by altering human behaviour. Almost all health interventions require an educational component to be carried out properly. The quantity of instructional effort required varies, ranging from just giving basic data to striving to improve knowledge and change habits.

**Table 2: Prevalence of cigarette smoking by sex (GLS/OPN/APS), 1974-2022, Great Britain & UK (%)**

%	1974	1978	1982	1986	1990	1994	1998	2002	2006	2010	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Men	51	45	38	35	31	28	28	27	23	21	20.4	19.3	17.7	17.0	16.5	15.9	15.9	15.1	14.6
Women	41	37	33	31	29	26	26	25	21	20	16.0	15.3	14.1	13.3	13.0	12.5	12.3	11.5	11.2
All	46	40	35	33	30	27	27	26	22	20	18.1	17.2	15.8	15.1	14.7	14.1	14.0	13.3	12.9

NB: Since 2000 data have been weighted. 1974-2010 figures are from the GLS/OPN surveys and are for age 16+ in Great Britain. Data from 2014 onwards is from the Annual Population Survey and is for age 18+ in the UK.<sup>2,3,4</sup>

The educational components of disease control programmes include educating children or mothers about the causes of diseases such as diarrhoea and how to prevent them, encouraging adherence to long-term treatments such as HIV or tuberculosis, and developing effective participation in programmes that require widespread coverage, such as immunisation or drug distribution. These therapies may also include community-based environmental initiatives, such as the building and upkeep of improved water sources or better waste disposal systems.

It is difficult to organise trials of behaviour modification therapy, and attaining long-term behavioural change usually requires concerted, multidimensional efforts. For example, changing the population's tobacco smoking habits requires decades of effort. However, significant results have been reported in attempts to reduce diarrhoea and respiratory infections using soap-based handwashing.

## Vector and intermediate host control

Transmission of infectious diseases in underdeveloped nations is often dependent on intermediary hosts and vectors. Some examples of insects that can transmit disease are triatomine bugs, sandflies, ticks, and snails. By targeting the disease-carrying insects or other potential reservoirs of infection, several management measures have been developed to lessen the spread of these illnesses.

A thorough familiarity with the organism's life cycle, its habitat, and its role as a vector or intermediate host is essential for most interventions. The application of insecticides or larvicides is one tactic for control. Engineering techniques to reduce vector habitats, community involvement to eradicate breeding sites and set traps, housing and screening improvements to decrease human-vector contact, and so on are all part of combination strategies that aim to decrease or delay insecticide resistance.

BAUMUN'24 | 3 - 5 MAY

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In addition to using intermediate process indicators, like a decrease in vector density, it is occasionally required to quantify the effect on the health status of the population in order to evaluate the efficacy of these therapies. The malaria vector control approach is one of several that target particular phases of the mosquito life cycle in an effort to lower mosquito populations. There are several ways to control mosquito populations, including using insecticide-treated bednets (ITNs) or spraying the inside walls of houses with residual insecticides (such as dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane, or DDT) to kill and repel mosquitoes that are looking for a blood meal. Engineered drainage, waterways, biological agents, and specific larvicides can help lower vector densities. Mosquito netting, screens, and repellents can protect humans from bites, and aerosol distribution of insecticides can lower adult mosquito populations.

Communities, not people, are typically used as the unit of randomization in trials of these interventions. The possibility of "contaminating" intervention areas with outside vectors, such as mosquitoes or other long-distance flying vectors, presents distinct obstacles to trial design.

	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING	4 QUALITY EDUCATION	6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION	10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION	13 CLIMATE ACTION	15 LIFE ON LAND
<b>Dengue</b>	<p><b>3.3</b> By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases</p> <p><b>3.D</b> Strengthen the capacity of all countries, in particular developing countries, for early warning, risk reduction and management of national and global health risks</p>	<p><b>4.3</b> By 2030, ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university</p>	<p><b>6.1</b> By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all</p>	<p><b>10.1</b> By 2030, progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40 per cent of the population at a rate higher than the national average</p>	<p><b>11.6</b> By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management</p>	<p><b>12.4</b> By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment</p>	<p><b>13.1</b> Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries</p>	<p><b>15.8</b> By 2020, introduce measures to prevent the introduction and significantly reduce the impact of invasive alien species on land and water ecosystems and control or eradicate the priority species</p>
<b>Lyme</b>	<p><b>3.3</b> By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases</p> <p><b>3.4</b> By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being</p>				<p><b>11.7</b> By 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities</p>		<p><b>13.1</b> Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries</p> <p><b>13.2</b> Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning.</p>	<p><b>15.2</b> By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally.</p>



## Prophylaxis

The term refers to the treatment of a possible disease that may occur, instead of an ongoing disease. Some drugs can be used for the prevention of infectious diseases or to obstruct a complications. For example, the antibiotic 'isoniazid' is used in HIV-infected tuberculosis-negative individuals to reduce their increased risk of developing tuberculosis. Normally Isoniazid is used for tuberculosis-positive patients. Sometimes, prophylaxis may be implemented in a community instead of individuals. For that to be possible community diagnostics is required to identify the groups that should receive the treatment. For example, some kinds of infections are common in public areas such as military camps or schools. If an infection occurs in those areas all members of that community receive treatment whether they are positive or not. In the previous example, the diagnostics are made by checking the group but the treatment is given individually since these kinds of groups are limited to a number. Sometimes prophylactic agents can be distributed to everyone in the community through water supply or food (for example, city water is often entreated to prevent infections, or chloroquine is added to medical salt to prevent malaria.)

If the disease prevalence is increased and the treatment is cheap. A prophylactic treatment for all populations can be more cost-effective than screening everyone and then giving drugs to only infected ones.

## Injury Prevention

The young are disproportionately hit by injuries, which are costly and cause many problems (disability and death). In low and middle-income countries (LMICs), this is especially true. Despite being major health hazards, injuries from fires, drownings, interpersonal aggression, disputes, and poisonings are often ignored in public health discussions. Reduce the number of injuries that cause death or disability by implementing specific measures.

One way to deal with the problem of motor vehicle injuries, especially in heavily populated urban areas, is to implement traffic calming measures and enhance infrastructure to separate people from fast-moving automobiles. It is especially crucial to reduce the number of drowning accidents involving vulnerable groups like children, which can be achieved by making water sources safer.

These efforts, however, would fail without strong legislative frameworks and enforcement procedures to ensure that all individuals comply with the safety requirements. The lack of thorough safety regulations and enforcement procedures puts workers in numerous low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) such as Bangladesh, Nigeria, South Africa, and India at serious risk from occupational risks.

BAUMUN'24 | 3 - 5 MAY

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As an example, owing to a lack of strict safety rules, the building, mining, and petroleum sectors in Nigeria see an abnormally high rate of occupational accidents. The textile industry in Bangladesh is prone to building collapses and industrial fires, which are partly caused by inadequate safety regulations. Farmworkers in India face several dangers as a result of inadequate safety standards, while their South African mining counterparts face dangerous working conditions and a lack of enforcement of safety rules.

To overcome these obstacles, there has to be a coordinated effort to improve safety regulations and enforcement procedures in the workplace. Communities and workplaces can be made safer and injury impacts reduced if governments and stakeholders prioritize solutions backed by evidence and work together on an international level.

## **Therapeutic interventions**

The term 'therapeutic' refers to medical treatment performed in a medical center. You might have the question 'are vaccinations not performed in medical centers'. Yes, generally they do but therapeutic interventions involve supervision from medical experts. However, a simple vaccination can be done in a small medical facility such as a primary health clinic.

The term we are discussing also is a synonym for a psychiatric method. In psychiatry, therapeutic interventions are being used to improve the client's behaviors, feelings and thoughts.

## **Abortion**

Abortion is a procedure to end the pregnancy. This can happen by natural causes such as a miscarriage. During pregnancy, if a medical emergency occurs the doctor has to perform an induced abortion to save the mother's life. This type of abortion is called therapeutic termination of abortion thus leaving a traumatic burden to the family.

Also, the mother or the family itself can choose to terminate the pregnancy willingly which means voluntary termination of pregnancy therapeutic agents are still being used for termination of pregnancy and considered as an intervention since it may affect the mother's mental status in a positive way or not. Socio-cultural and economic determinants may lead to family planning in couples and they may choose to not have children. This is where the contraception methods are put in place. Contraception methods vary, it can be separated into two main headlines such as pre-coitus and post-coitus. Pre-coitus means before sexual intercourse and it consists of methods like combined oral contraceptives, condoms, intrauterine devices, etc... Post-coital contraception consists of after-pills and therapeutic abortion.

**BAUMUN'24 | 3 - 5 MAY**

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Women over the age of 35, divorced or unmarried with a higher education level, but low socio-economic status and low monthly income tend to choose therapeutic abortion. They usually have higher children count and live in urban areas. They also do not carry strong religious beliefs. The reasons do not vary much, it is generally linked to personal and social issues that might impede the provision of quality child care. This demonstrates how crucial social assistance is in helping women who have such characteristics.

Women who undergo a therapeutic abortion report a notable improvement in their prior symptoms of psychological distress, depression, and anxiety. Therapeutic abortion usually comes with difficult negative thoughts like guilt and sadness. However, some women tend to find that the challenges of raising a child with sickness and other difficulties that come with a lower income are significantly tougher.

The legalization of abortion varies across the globe. Some countries banned the procedure completely while some limited the week of voluntary termination of pregnancy. This number also varies but generally after 10 weeks of pregnancy, it is banned unless a medical emergency occurs for the mother.

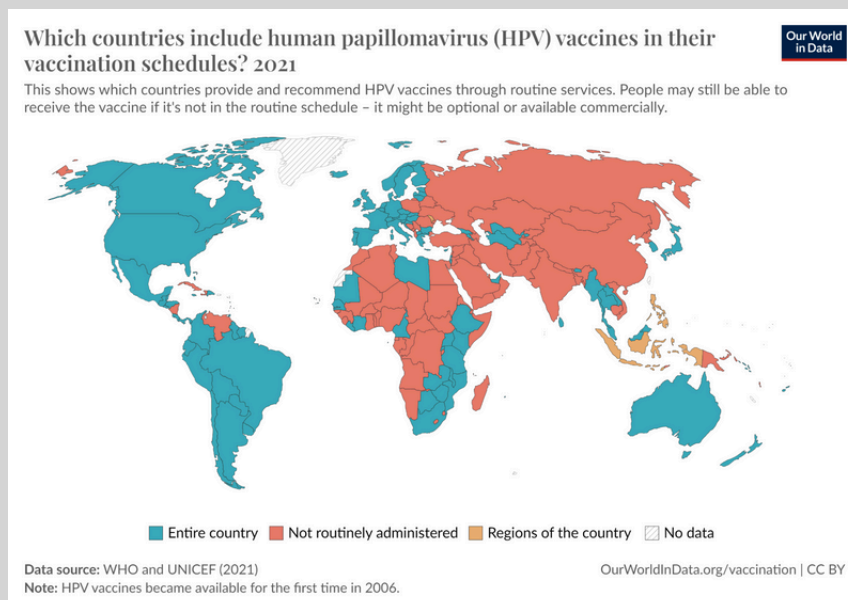


## Early intervention in chronic diseases

The psychological and economic effects of a chronic disease are enormous. Chronic means 'persistent and over long-term'. Having to use medication and going to a doctor's appointment frequently usually puts stress on people's minds and wallets. This is why an early diagnosis and intervention is significantly important to secure both the person's wealth and the load on the health system.

Research from the New York School of Public Health shows that chronic diseases such as heart disease, cancer, hypertension, stroke, and diabetes mellitus account for 80% of deaths in the US and 75% of health care costs. Young populations such as children and young adults have a growing rate of obesity and asthma (the results of a sedentary life and increased air pollution) which significantly increases the risk of having chronic diseases.

The Human papillomavirus (HPV) has a significant role in developing cervical neoplasia in women which may lead to a chronic condition; cervix cancer. The smear test is used for cervical screening and it is advised that every woman over 21 should undergo a cervical smear screening test every 3 years to diagnose any early cervical cell changes. Many countries added HPV vaccines to their national vaccination programs completely free to anyone.



## **Other Types of Intervention**

### **Legalisation, legal action, taxation and subsidies**

Public health is greatly improved by rules and regulations that prevent pollution and establish standards for food labelling. The way people act can be greatly affected by laws. The use of tobacco and alcohol, for example, can be effectively reduced by increasing the prices of these items and services. It is challenging to obtain a competent control group when conducting randomised trials of these treatments since they frequently require national deployment.

Subsidising people in an attempt to change their health-related habits is one component of conditional cash transfers, which have recently gained popularity. To get people to perform things like show up to class or give first-rate medical treatment, you can consider offering them incentives. Some of these treatments have already been tested in RCTs, so we can leverage their findings going forward.

Tobacco and alcoholic beverage tariff increases have reduced consumption in many countries. Tobacco product taxes were raised in the UK, leading to a dramatic decline in cigarette consumption, according to one study (HM Revenue & Customs, 2019).

Programmes such as Bolsa Família in Brazil are examples of conditional cash transfers that can be used to affect health-related behaviours. Through the utilisation of monetary transfers, this programme encourages families to take part in regular health screenings and increases school attendance numbers. Supported by studies (Barros et al., 2010), these interventions enhance healthcare access and school attendance.

### **Health System Interventions**

The importance of putting policies into action, expanding financing, changing the educational landscape, and improving leadership and governance in healthcare systems is now widely acknowledged. This has resulted in changes to healthcare training programs, organizational structures, decentralization, devolution, and the creation of incentive programs and personnel policies. Nevertheless, a great deal of these projects have been deployed across entire systems without receiving adequate attention for a thorough evaluation. But if the right steps are taken, especially with randomized trials, it ought to be able to evaluate these medications sufficiently. It makes sense to use the "stepped wedge" strategy. It means introducing policies bit by bit in different localities and monitoring their impact.





An example is that Cameroon is the first country in the globe to launch a free malaria vaccine for children as of 22 January 2024 to their national immunization program. Malaria is an endemic disease of Africa and may lead to epidemics occasionally. Medical experts advised the government of Cameroon to change their health system as a result of increasing cases.

## **Implementations Research**

Instead of developing whole new interventions, implementation research in field trials focuses on improving existing therapies that have been demonstrated to function better when administered correctly. The challenges of modifying interventions to fit various contexts and applying research findings in practice are examined in implementation research. An example of an implementation research trial compared the costs and benefits of prescribing antiretroviral therapy to patients who visit a central clinic or hospital versus allowing patients to receive the medication at home from non-medical professionals and only visiting the clinic when a screening questionnaire revealed issues.

## **Past WHO Actions**

### **WHO and Sustainable Development Goals**

A comprehensive and aspirational plan for world progress, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were adopted in 2015 with the backing of the worldwide community. Consistent with the World Health Organization's (WHO) goals, the SDGs provide a framework for developing health intervention strategies that aim for holistic wellness.

Ensuring that all individuals, regardless of age or socioeconomic situation, have the chance to live healthy lives and enjoy the promotion of well-being is the third Sustainable Development Goal. This goal cannot be accomplished without the global leadership and direction on health issues provided by the World Health Organisation (WHO).

The primary areas where the SDGs and the mission of the World Health Organisation are congruent are:

Assuring Universal Health Coverage: Objective No. 3 A primary objective should be the provision of affordable, high-quality healthcare to all people. This is why the World Health Organisation is fighting for UHC, or Universal Health Coverage, a program that would ensure everyone, regardless of their ability to pay, has access to cheap, high-quality healthcare.

**BAUMUN'24 | 3 - 5 MAY**

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**Promoting Health and Preventing Illness:** In order for the World Health Organisation to achieve SDG 3, it is essential to combat and manage infectious and non-communicable diseases. Among these attempts are the resolution of antibiotic resistance, the promotion of vaccination programs, and the fight against neglected tropical illnesses, HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria.

Health systems need to be fortified if healthcare is to be both efficient and accessible to all, as stated in Sustainable Development Goal 3. The World Health Organisation offers technical help to countries so that their health systems can be better prepared to handle public health crises and other unexpected events.

**Collaborating Across Sectors:** In order to improve people's health, the SDGs aim to do things like eliminate poverty, improve education, achieve gender equality, expand access to clean water and sanitation, and build more sustainable communities and cities. Addressing these interrelated concerns and advancing sustainable development requires cross-sector cooperation, according to the World Health Organisation (WHO).

Improving health outcomes and speeding up progress towards health-related SDG targets are the goals of healthcare research and innovation, which the World Health Organisation (WHO) supports. Coming up with novel vaccinations, treatments, and technology is all part of healthcare innovation.

One reason the SDGs and the WHO work together is that they both see health and well-being as cornerstones of sustainable development. Together, they can make a difference and speed up the day when everyone can afford health care and live the healthy lives they deserve.

## **WHO's main mission and vision regarding interventions**

WHO has 5 different main goals for these interventions:

### **1) Improving human capital across the life course.**

The World Health Organisation (WHO) seeks to enhance human capital through the promotion of innovation and the implementation of a life course plan, with a particular emphasis on addressing the needs of women, children, and adolescents. Their objective is to offer comprehensive services and ensure that vital information, goods, and services are readily accessible throughout an individual's whole lifespan.



Key opportunities in life where human capacity can be enhanced by evidence-based interventions include addressing risk factors like nutrition, exclusive breastfeeding, violence, education, and recreation. This results in threefold advantages in terms of physical, social, and economic benefits for individuals, their future, and the subsequent generation. Allocating resources towards early childhood, child and adolescent health, development, family planning, pregnancy, and delivery care can yield substantial advantages, with a favorable ratio of benefits to costs.

### ***2)Accelerating action on preventing noncommunicable diseases and promoting mental health.***

Every year, 15 million individuals between the ages of 30 and 70 pass away from noncommunicable diseases (NCDs). Interventions that focus on the four primary risk factors for NCDs—poor diet, hazardous alcohol drinking, physical inactivity, and tobacco use—can avoid the majority of morbidity and early deaths associated with these conditions. Primary risk factors include alcohol and tobacco use, poor diet, physical inactivity, aggression, and injury.

Aiming to address these variables in order to minimize avoidable deaths from noncommunicable diseases (NCDs), improve mental health, and promote overall well-being. The main focus must be on lowering dangerous behaviors like drinking and smoking, increasing healthy behaviors, closing the gaps in mental health care, and campaigning for legislative changes that will enhance employment conditions.

### ***3)Accelerating elimination and eradication of high-impact communicable diseases.***

Every year, communicable diseases claim the lives of almost four million individuals globally. More concentrated efforts are required to totally eradicate diseases like polio and guinea worm, even though the campaign against them has shown some results. Addressing these diseases is even more important now that the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are being implemented. Eradication of HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis, viral hepatitis, and neglected tropical diseases is important. Harmonization of policies, outreach to disadvantaged populations, assurance of financial and investment efficiency, and expansion of creative strategies are all necessary. Outdated practices will be replaced by integrated recommendations that prioritize equity, human rights, and gender while following WHO priorities for emergencies and universal health coverage (UHC)...



#### **4) The issue of antibiotic resistance and its solution**

There will be an estimated \$3.4 trillion in lost GDP by 2030 due to antibiotic resistance, and 700,000 lives lost every year as a result. With the help of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Political Declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on antimicrobial resistance, and the Global Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance, this initiative seeks to encourage technical discourse and policymaking on the topic of antimicrobial resistance in all areas of Member States. Strategic backing for expanding thorough and long-term responses to this issue and associated particular infections will also be provided. Our top priority should be to increase public and environmental understanding of the issue, improve methods for preventing and controlling infections, find ways to make antimicrobial medications work as well as possible and support research and development efforts, especially through the Global Antibiotic Research and Development Partnership between the World Health Organisation and the Department of Natural Disasters. As outlined by the One Health movement

#### **5) Addressing health effects of climate change in small island developing States and other vulnerable States.**

In order to mitigate the effects of climate change and pollution, which disproportionately impact the world's poorest, most vulnerable people—women and children—the World Health Organisation is directing its attention to emerging nations with small island nations. There are 6.5 million fatalities a year due to noncommunicable diseases, and air pollution is a major contributor to these deaths. By 2023, the World Health Organisation hopes to have tripled funding for climate-related health initiatives. By 2030, they want to help nations cut carbon emissions worldwide and make sure that health systems can withstand climate-sensitive diseases and severe weather. On a national and international level, the group will back advocacy efforts, disseminate data, help people get their hands on climate funds, encourage climate resilience, and fortify emergency response capabilities. In addition to collaborating with other sectors, the WHO will keep an eye on air quality, plan for cleaner fuels and technology, and turn scientific findings into actionable legislation.



# Questions to be Addressed

1. What are the main barriers or challenges hindering the propagation of health intervention efforts?
2. How can existing health interventions be expanded or adapted to reach broader populations and address diverse health needs?
3. What strategies can be employed to increase public awareness and engagement in health promotion activities?
4. What role can technology, innovation, and collaborations between governments, healthcare providers, and NGOs play in enhancing the reach and impact of health interventions?
5. What can be done to improve vaccination programs?
6. What methods can be implemented in the matter of early chronic disease diagnostics?
7. What are the most effective strategies for providing comprehensive post-abortion care and counseling to ensure positive mental health outcomes for women?
8. How can healthcare systems be improved to facilitate access to safe abortion?

## Further Reading

1. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC8613757/>
2. <https://www.who.int/teams/immunization-vaccines-and-biologicals/strategies/global-vaccine-action-plan>
3. [https://www.who.int/health-topics/abortion#tab=tab\\_1](https://www.who.int/health-topics/abortion#tab=tab_1)
4. <https://www.cdc.gov/places/programs-interventions/index.html>

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