

HEALTH ECONOMICS

[in OPTIONAL COURSES]

Course ID: SECS-P/01

ECTS: 2

1st Year: 2nd semester

Teacher: PROF. GIANNINI Massimo

Objectives:

- Understand the meaning and purpose of economics
- Know the major branches and approaches of economics
- Be able to identify and understand the basic instruments of microeconomic analysis
- Understand the implication of economics for business decision making and its role in changing the performance of the national economy.
- Appreciate the importance of economics to the resource allocation, planning and management of the health sector.
- To understand health as one of the social sectors with economic implication.
- To understand the specific nature of the health care service in implementing economic principles and techniques.
- To be able to know the implications of economic development to the health care services.
- To understand the effect of some economic factors on health status of society.
- To identify the ways through which improvement of the health system can create conducive conditions for economic development and vice versa.

Program:

Health economics is concerned with the alternative uses of resources in the health services sector and with the efficient utilization of economic resources such as Human resource, material and financial resources. Every health worker needs to acquaint him/herself with the basic concepts of economics and its application to the health sector in order to manage health institutions and health delivery system efficiently. Health economics is an application of Economic theories, tools and concepts of economics as a discipline to the topics of health and health care. Since health economics is concerned with issues related to the allocation of scarce resources to improve health, this includes both resource allocation within the economy to the health sector and within the health care system to different activities and individuals.

Textbooks

For an introductory level:

Introduction to Health Economics – The Carter Center, available on internet free of charge

For more advanced studies:

Health Economics, by Frank Sloan and Chee Ruey Hsieh, MIT Press.

Exam method: