With the support of the Rockefeller Foundation, the Centre of Excellence for Health Systems and Universal Health Coverage (CoE-HS&UHC) was launched jointly by the BRAC JPGSPH and icddr,b in April 2011. Working with key stakeholders in the government, private and NGO sectors, the Centre aims to accelerate evidence-informed, equitable and sustainable action towards UHC.

The Centre has three core activities:

- Generating Essential Evidence
- Developing Core Competencies
- Advocacy

www.coe-uhc.org
Generating Essential Evidence
- Policy briefs and systematic reviews on key determinants of coverage including workforce, governance, and information system
- Identifying irregularities and informal practices and its effect on health systems performance
- Measures of coverage for financial protection and service delivery
- Studying models and key functions of insurance systems including service provider networks, service packages, premiums, benefits and claims management
- Implementing research on UHC initiatives with real-time monitoring and evaluation

Developing Core Competencies
- Conduct comprehensive needs assessment with key implementing institutions
- Provide new training opportunities for UHC: customized short courses on specific topics, e.g. introductory course on UHC, health care financing, claims management, purchaser-provider split, scientific writing
- Bangladesh flagship course on health systems and Universal health coverage
- Develop accredited training programmes and short courses
- Expand opportunities for Faculty in doctoral and postdoctoral studies

Advocacy
- Build a forum for advancing UHC
- Joint learning dissemination with local, global, and development partners
- Convening national and international workshops, seminars, and dialogues on key UHC issues
- Develop links with peer institutions

“Universal health coverage (UHC) means that every person, everywhere, has access to quality health services without suffering financial hardship”
- UniversalHealthCoverageDay.org
Why Bangladesh Needs Universal Health Coverage?

• “Health is more of an investment than a cost.”- WHO
• Government’s global commitment for UHC by 2030
• High out-of-pocket (OOP) expenditures

Challenges
• Mobilising resources for UHC
• Inadequate health workforce and skill-mix imbalance
• Rapid rise of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs)
• Lack of responsiveness in health system

Opportunities
• MDGs related to health are achieved
• Global commitment for achieving SDG 3 (target 3.8) which endorses Universal Health Coverage
• Consensus growing around UHC in the region and globally (World Health Assembly Resolution 2011)
• The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Bangladesh drafted Health, Nutrition and Population Strategic Investment Plan (HNPSIP) which aims to ensure that quality health services are delivered and key services are provided more effectively, focusing on equity, efficiency and quality
• The Government of Bangladesh set UHC as one of the targets in its 7th Five-Year Plan (FY2016 – FY2020) for the health, nutrition and population sector to achieve its Vision 2021

BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health (JPGSPH) was founded with a distinctive mission to address the unmet public health challenges particular to Asia, Africa and South America. Located in Dhaka, Bangladesh, the School was established in 2004 as part of BRAC University, in partnership with BRAC and icddr,b.

A vital institute of higher education that aims to produce creative leaders and new knowledge in the broader area of science, social science, humanities, business, development, governance, and law.

Institutional Partners

The world’s largest NGO renowned for pioneering pro-poor programmes in microfinance, education, legal rights, water, sanitation and health working in 11 developing countries in Africa, Asia, and America.

A leading international health research institution which fosters innovation in the development and delivery of global life saving solutions.

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