

Research Prioritization

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WHY IT SHOULD BE DONE?

- RESEARCH prioritization is a dynamic process.
- Research priorities need to be established because research planning also confronts a scarcity of human and financial resources.
- Another reason is that determinants and pattern of diseases or conditions and their effect on the population at large are constantly changing. This leads to inequality in the health status of the people.
- The final aim of research prioritization is “how best well balanced research can support and complement the health system to achieve the national goals for health”.

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF PRIORITY AREAS :-

- 1) The research area should relate to a **priority health problem** in the countries.
- 2) The problem should be of major importance in terms of relationship to the **socio-economic development** of the countries.
- 3) **Impact—the extent of the burden— disability, mortality, and economic costs—imposed by a condition, including effects on patients, families, communities, and societies.**
- 4) The problem should have a **demonstrable potential for solution**, and there should be strong probability of the solution’s being applied within a reasonable **time** and at reasonable **cost**.
- 5) The solution or clarification of the problem would lead to the **development or improvement of a broad national health programme** destined ultimately to strengthen national and/or international health development involving **large number of people**.
- 6) The research would lead to the **development of new scientific knowledge** and/or **adaptation** in various national contexts.
- 7) The problem would require *regional collaborative efforts* for its solution, e.g.
 - (a) **Variations** in the **frequency** and **distribution** of a disease in different geographic areas.
 - (b) **Differences** in ecological settings that influence manifestations of a Disease and **response** to health interventions, and
 - (c) the opportunity it would provide to pool together the resources of the Countries of the *region* in studying **common problems**.
- 8) The issue to be addressed have a significant impact on the current and future health status of the people with respect to mortality, morbidity, quality of life, cost of health service.