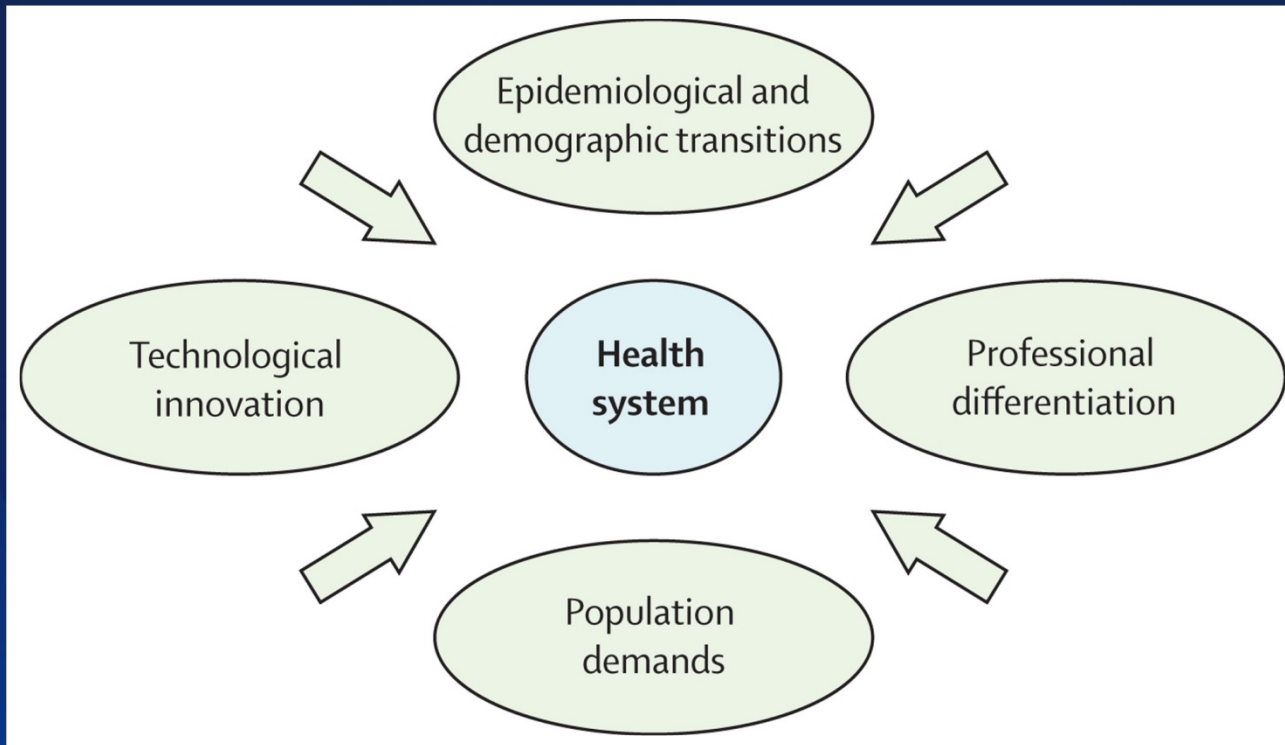


Nursing Challenges, Obstacles and Possibilities to Achieve Universal Health Coverage



Emerging challenges to health systems

Source: [The Lancet 2010; 376:1923-1958](#) (DOI:10.1016/S0140-6736(10)61854-5)
Frenk, J & Chen, L (2010)



Universal Health Coverage

ACCESS

COST

Can address any 2 if
you ignore the 3rd

QUALITY



ACCESS

- Widening of the inequity
- Need differential investment in those individuals and countries that don't have access
- Nurses can mobilize those less able
- Promotion, prevention, treatment and rehabilitation the essence of nursing care results in better health outcomes and universal coverage



WHAT IS NEEDED?

- Creation of an evidence based document outlining the population needs and which provider can best meet them
- Remove barriers so nurses can practice to full scope
- Support of Government and policy makers to achieve these actions



Policy & Practice

- Government Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officers at policy tables
- Active seeking of nursing input
- Patient centered team based approach in education and care delivery
- Conversion of research into action



COST

- Currently short-term focus without long-term sustainability
- Long-term vision needed within a short-term political agenda
- 5 year convergence opportunity?
- Mobilization of stakeholders



WHAT IS NEEDED?

- Problematic recognition that health expenditures will need to increase as the workforce is scaled up
- Enhancement of strategic planning and management capacity
- Continuous assessment of effect of interventions
- Sound information bases and improved data systems both in terms of accuracy and comprehensiveness



Nursing Workforce Management

- Workforce distribution imbalances remain
- Increasing migration issues
- Self sustaining production of nurses at the country level required
- Performance management through nursing leadership, supportive supervision, continuous education, career development, performance appraisals including ongoing recognition of a job well done



QUALITY

- Public demands increased quality
- Increased productivity
- Work pressures = nurse depersonalization
- Workload must be addressed
- Recruitment and Retention crucial



WHAT IS NEEDED?

- Make best use of nurses in the health system- encouraged and supported to perform at their highest potential
- Proper work / positive practice environment
- Appropriate compensation
- Health and safety standards and practices
- Clearly articulated regulations



Partnerships for Nursing & Midwifery Services

- Maximize the contribution of nurses to health and development goals through multisectoral and interprofessional collaboration
- Global Network of WHO Collaborating Centres (44 centres world-wide)
- ICN Leadership programs
- Partnerships to sustain investments



UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE

While there is no quick fix Nursing and Midwifery with their evidence based knowledge are key to achieving universal access and improving health outcomes through engagement at the leadership level within Member States governments

