

# Benefit entitlements for Universal Health Coverage

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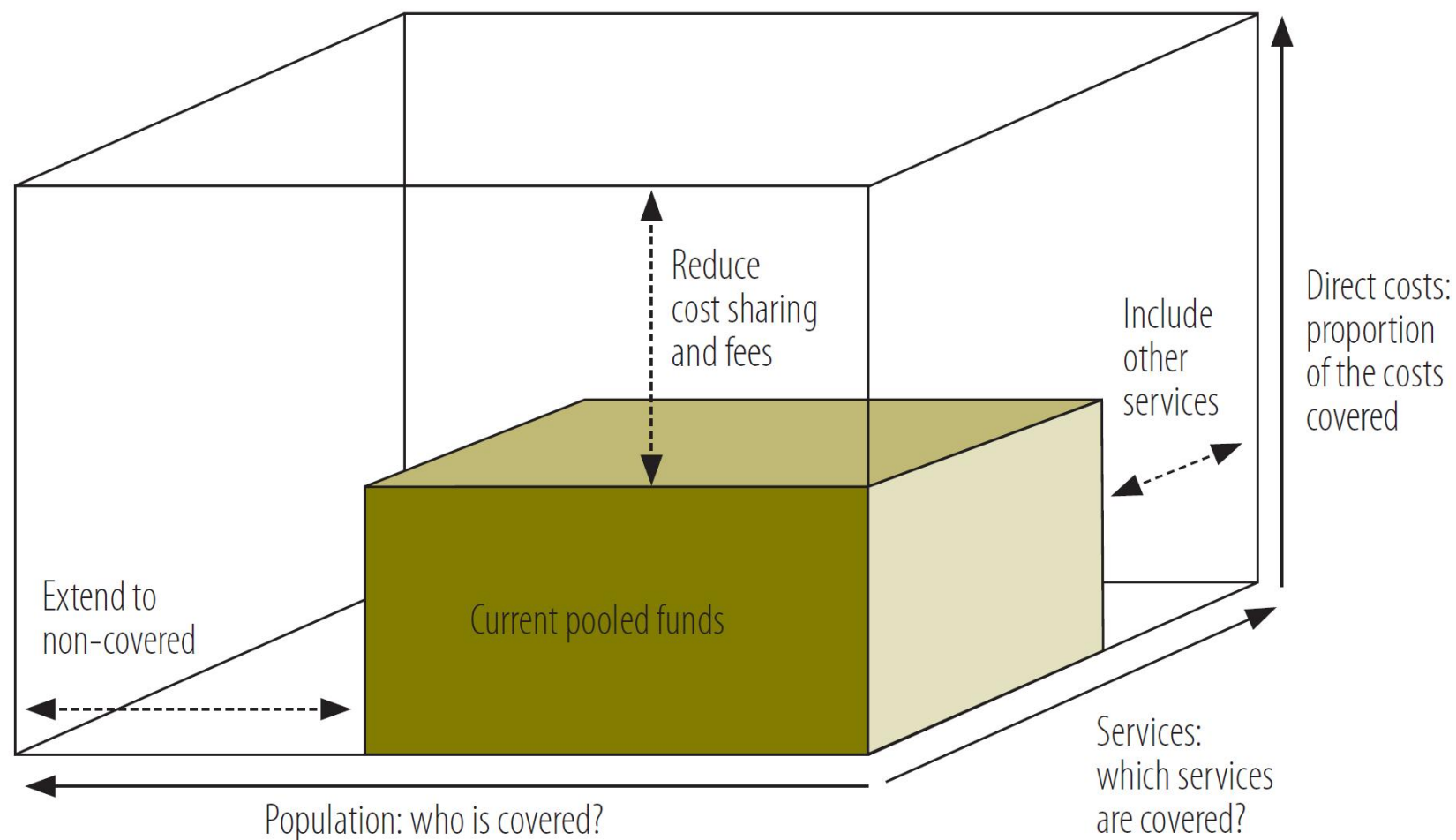
**World Health  
Organization**

# Universal Health Coverage

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“...all people receiving quality health services that meet their needs, without being exposed to financial hardship in paying for the services.”

# Moving toward UHC



# Which services should be covered?

- We work in a resource constrained environment
- All health systems apply rationing – implicit or explicit
- Explicit criteria can be a way to encourage transparency and improve access to care
- Countries want to institutionalise a mechanism for transparent and fair decision making processes
- There is no one-size fits all approach

# Incorporating local values

- Resource allocation decisions are rife with moral disagreements
- Different individuals and groups will have different values, for good reason
- Need stakeholder buy-in of the values incorporated in the decision making process
- Some values which may be considered:

**Doing the greatest good for the greatest number of people**

**Pursuing principles of solidarity, fairness, financial protection**

# Gathering the evidence

**Is it safe and effective?**

**Is it cost-effective and affordable?**

**Does it target those who are disadvantaged or vulnerable?**

**Will it improve financial protection?**

**Are there other ethical considerations?**



# Inclusive dialogue

**Brings all stakeholders together,  
including interest groups and citizens**

**Discusses the evidence in a deliberative  
manner**

**Drives transparency and accountability**



# Political decision making

**Decision making across institutions**

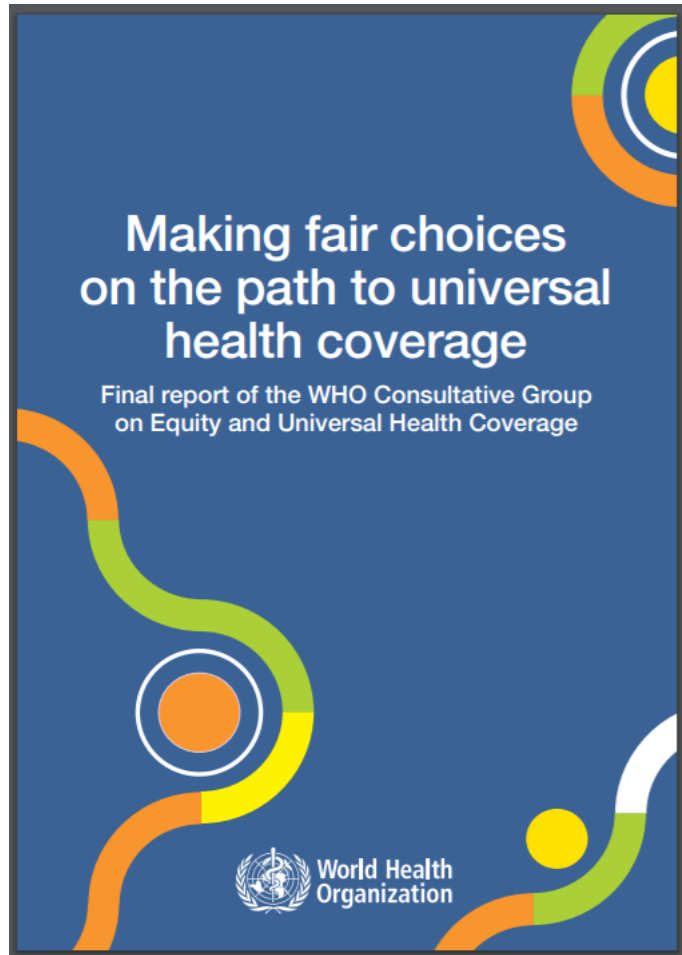
**All citizens have their say through voting**

**Within a clearly defined legal framework**





# Progressive realisation



**Categorise services into priority classes**

**Cost-effectiveness**

**Priority to the worst off**

**Financial risk protection**

**First expand high priority services to everyone**

**Whilst doing so ensure access for disadvantaged populations**

# Conclusions

**Many factors – evidence, values and politics - need to be balanced in developing benefit entitlements**



**Appropriate stakeholder engagement ensures responsiveness to population needs**

**Transparency and fairness are key underlying principles for UHC**