



Kenya Health Financing Strategy 2020-2030: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What is the goal of the Kenya Health Financing Strategy about?

1 Answer: The Kenya Health Financing Strategy will ensure adequacy, efficiency and fairness in financing of health services in a manner that guarantees all Kenyans access to the essential high quality health services that they need

How is this Kenya Health Financing Strategy going to alter the current health financing situation?

2 The KHFS will help mobilize sustainable, predictable, and sufficient domestic resources to provide the necessary services for good health and by pooling and distributing those resources in an equitable and efficient manner that ensures everyone can access care without financial burden. With this, the KHFS will achieve the following targets by 2030:

- Reduce out of pocket expenditure from 23.3 percent of total Health expenditure to 10 percent of total health expenditure.
- Increase annual per capita spending from \$76 to \$357.
- Increase health insurance coverage for Kenyans from 19 percent to 85 percent.
- Increase percentage of government budget allocated to health from 11 to 15 percent.

What will the KHFS achieve?

3 Answer: The KHFS seeks to address emerging issues and challenges which include putting in mechanisms which will increase expenditure in health in light of increased allocations, provide an innovate financing arrangements that will tap into citizens employed in the informal sector with the aim of providing a social safety net for the citizens including the poor and vulnerable. The KHFS also promotes efficiency in managing the limited government resources available for health funding as well as cushion citizens from risk of becoming poor or poorer upon experiencing an instances of illness.

What specific reforms will the KHFS institute?

4 Answer: Revenue mobilization reforms will promote availability of more resources for health through government tax revenues, mandatory and voluntary prepayment contributions and funding from development partners. Pooling and management of revenues reform will ensure that funds are utilized in the most efficient and equitable manner. It is proposed that the KHFS will establish a Social Health Insurance Fund, County health funds, National health funds and an institutional mechanism to ensure that private insurance is complementary to the Social Health insurance.

Purchasing of services reform will ensure fairness in access and efficiency in delivery of quality services, through the ensuring that citizens access a progressive harmonized benefit package for UHC, more efficient claims management, controlling the escalation of medical costs, medicine affordability and price setting advisory committee and establishing functional primary care networks.

What benefits will citizens enjoy upon enrollment into the social health insurance?

5 Answer: Citizens will have access to essential quality health services which will be expanded progressively until attainment of all health services as envisioned by the UHC agenda. The essential benefits package will include access to preventive and promotive health services as well as curative, rehabilitative and palliative services.

How does the new strategy link to other government health policies and current development agenda, and how is it going to facilitate their achievement?

6

i) Universal Health Coverage?
Answer: The reforms in the KHFS seek to establish a responsive health financing system that efficiently and equitably facilitates delivery of services needed to attain UHC.

ii) National Health Insurance Fund reforms?
Answer: The KHFS supports the ongoing NHIF reforms including social health protection reforms for the poor and vulnerable. The subsidy programs include the Linda Mama program, health insurance subsidy program for orphans and vulnerable children, older persons and persons with severe disability and the Inua Jamii 70+ program. Some of the policy measures included in the KHFS have already been legislated through the recent presidential accent of NHIF Amendment Act 2011, for example, the amendment that mandates NHIF to expand membership to cover larger segments of the population, while exempting those who would have challenges in making contributions.

How does the new strategy help to improve health services in Kenya?

7 Answer: The reorganization of the health financing landscape, will ensure improved access and utilization of health services for the citizens. For the system, the proposals in the KHFS will ensure efficiency in service delivery through removing barriers to access care, increased utilization and better and equitable health outcomes for all.

What is the role of different actors in the implementation of KHFS

8 Answer: (a) Ministry of Health will ensure an adequate policy, legal and regulatory environment for the implementation of the KHFS., while providing overall leadership in the implementation of UHC. (b) County governments will continue to provide quality health services : operate a network of county health facilities while providing oversight to primary care networks by providing critical input for health service delivery. (c) Development partners will provide technical and financial support for strengthening health systems. (d) Civil society and communities will participate in the health system governance and management to ensure adequate responsiveness to the health needs of the population. In addition, civil society organizations will be major players in efforts to enhance consumerism within the health service delivery system. (e) Health insurers will operate within the legal and institutional frameworks to be instituted under the KHFS reforms, and (f) the citizen (Mwananchi) will embrace the reforms including utilization of health services as packaged under Essential Benefits Package and will have the willingness to make the mandated contributions.

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