Analysis on the State of Public Health care systems in S.A

Introduction

Facility levels and what to expect

Infrastructural issues

South Africa’s population is estimated to 55 million people, an estimated number of 42 million people are accessing health care services in the public health care sector, while an estimated number of 8 million people are accessing health care services in the private health care sector, there is an estimated number of 5 million people who are not accessing health care services either in public or private health care sector.

In South Africa, there are 4200 public health care facilities
- 376 Public hospitals
  - 143 In Urban areas
  - 233 in Rural areas
- 3500 Clinics
- Each clinic caters for about 13,700 people in the public health care sector, this figure exceeds the WHO guidelines of 10,000 people per clinic. An estimated number of 2,5 million people, the nearest clinic is more than 5 kilometers away from their homes.
- Each clinic caters for 280 people in the private health care sector

Human resources issues

In 2012 estimated number of 165,371 qualified health practitioners in S.A are registered with Health Professionals Council of S.A (HPCSA) for both private and public health care sector. South Africa’s public health care system has a shortage of human resources and this results to public health care users not getting adequate health care services.

S.A has 165,371 qualified health practitioners registered with Health Professional Council of SA (HPCSA) for both public and private health care sector.
- 38,236 Doctors
- 5,560 Dentist
- One Doctor for every 4,219 health care users in the public health care sector.
- One Doctor for every 243 private health care user.
- 121,575 Nurses

Each year about 1200 medical students graduates and provides two years community services.

It is estimated that in order for S.A to be able to adequately respond public health care services more professional health care practitioners has to be employed. S.A needs extra 14,351 Doctors and 44,780 extra Nurses

NHI and why we support it TAC interventions

Health care system that seeks to bridge the gap between those who can afford and those who can’t afford

- 2012-SA started piloting NHI in the 11 NHI pilot districts
  ✓ Reflections on progress made so far-little progress made
  ✓ Cadreship deployment, political patronage and corruption