

# Economic Evaluations for Global Health Equity

Olivia Martin\*

Department of Global Health, University of Toronto, Canada

## Corresponding Authors\*

Olivia Martin  
Department of Global Health, University of Toronto, Canada  
E-mail: olivia.martin@email.com

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## Introduction

The intricate nexus of global health and economic evaluation is a burgeoning field, essential for understanding and improving healthcare access worldwide. Cost-effectiveness analyses are paramount in guiding resource allocation, particularly within low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), where demands often outstrip available resources. This approach helps policymakers prioritize interventions that yield the greatest health benefits for a given expenditure, a critical consideration in achieving equitable health outcomes. This paper delves into the innovative financing mechanisms being explored to broaden healthcare access in settings with limited financial capacity, with a particular focus on sub-Saharan Africa. The economic ramifications of public-private partnerships and various insurance schemes are scrutinized, assessing their viability and their influence on health service delivery and overall health status of populations. Furthermore, the substantial economic burden imposed by neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) is examined, alongside the cost-effectiveness of strategies aimed at their control and eventual elimination. This analysis underscores the significant societal and economic advantages that accrue from strategic investments in NTD control programs, presenting a compelling economic justification for their prioritization. The impact of universal health coverage (UHC) reforms on how individuals utilize healthcare services and their protection against catastrophic health expenditures is systematically reviewed. This research explores how diverse UHC models shape equitable access to essential health services and contribute to reducing out-of-pocket spending by households. In the realm of global health security, the economic evaluation of interventions targeting infectious diseases is of critical importance. The cost-effectiveness of vaccination campaigns, diagnostic tools, and therapeutic strategies is explored, emphasizing their dual role in disease prevention and in mitigating the severe economic disruptions that outbreaks can precipitate. The economic considerations surrounding mental health services in LMICs are also brought to the forefront. This work scrutinizes the cost-effectiveness of various treatment modalities for prevalent mental health conditions, advocating for a substantial increase in investment in mental healthcare as an indispensable element

of comprehensive global health strategies. Digital health technologies are emerging as powerful tools for enhancing healthcare access and promoting equity, especially in remote and underserved geographical areas. The cost-effectiveness of implementing telemedicine, mobile health applications, and electronic health records is analyzed in the context of delivering essential health services efficiently. Health system strengthening initiatives, particularly within fragile and conflict-affected states, carry significant economic implications. This research assesses the cost-effectiveness of interventions aimed at improving primary healthcare infrastructure, supply chain efficiency, and health workforce development, all of which are foundational for expanding healthcare access in challenging operational environments. The profound economic repercussions of climate change on global health are dissected, with an emphasis on the escalating burden of climate-sensitive diseases and the financial demands of both adaptation and mitigation measures. This underscores the urgent necessity for integrated strategies that concurrently address environmental and health challenges. Finally, the cost-effectiveness of interventions designed to enhance maternal and child health outcomes in low-income countries is investigated. This study evaluates diverse strategies, including the provision of skilled birth attendance, widespread immunization programs, and targeted nutritional interventions, assessing their collective impact on reducing mortality rates and improving overall population health.

## Description

The critical intersection of global health initiatives and economic evaluation frameworks is explored, with a focus on how cost-effectiveness analyses can strategically inform resource allocation for healthcare access in low- and middle-income countries. The challenges inherent in valuing health interventions are highlighted, alongside the crucial importance of integrating equity considerations with efficiency metrics when formulating policy decisions related to healthcare. Innovative financing mechanisms are being examined as key strategies to expand healthcare access in resource-constrained settings, particularly within sub-Saharan Africa. The economic implications derived from public-private partnerships and the implementation of insurance schemes are thoroughly analyzed, with an assessment of their sustainability and their tangible impact on health outcomes for the target populations. This work dissects the economic burden associated with neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) and meticulously evaluates the cost-effectiveness of interventions designed for their control and ultimate elimination. It offers a comprehensive rationale for investing in NTD programs, substantiating their significant societal and economic benefits through robust economic analysis. The impact of universal health coverage (UHC) reforms on healthcare utilization patterns and the extent of financial protection afforded to populations is assessed across various global contexts. The research investigates how different conceptualizations and implementations of UHC influence equitable access to essential health services and contribute to reducing the financial burden of healthcare costs on individuals and families. Economic evaluations of interventions specifically designed to combat infectious diseases are presented from a global health

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security perspective. The cost-effectiveness of critical interventions such as vaccination programs, diagnostic tools, and therapeutic strategies is explored, underscoring their vital role in preventing disease outbreaks and mitigating their associated economic disruptions. The economic arguments for prioritizing mental health services in low- and middle-income countries are rigorously examined. This paper scrutinizes the cost-effectiveness of diverse treatment modalities for common mental disorders and strongly advocates for increased financial investment in mental healthcare, recognizing its indispensable role within the broader spectrum of global health priorities. Digital health technologies are analyzed for their potential to significantly improve healthcare access and equity, particularly in remote and underserved regions. The cost-effectiveness of implementing telemedicine, mobile health applications, and electronic health records is critically assessed as a means of efficiently delivering essential health services to populations facing geographical barriers. Economic implications of health system strengthening initiatives within fragile states are investigated, with a focus on cost-effectiveness. The research evaluates various interventions aimed at enhancing primary healthcare delivery, optimizing supply chain management, and developing a robust health workforce, all of which are vital for expanding access in challenging and unstable environments. The far-reaching economic consequences of climate change on global health are explored, concentrating on the mounting burden of climate-sensitive diseases and the substantial costs associated with implementing adaptation and mitigation strategies. The paper stresses the imperative for integrated approaches that address both health and environmental challenges in a coordinated manner. Finally, the cost-effectiveness of interventions designed to improve maternal and child health in low-income countries is examined. This study evaluates a range of strategies, including the promotion of skilled birth attendance, the expansion of immunization coverage, and the implementation of nutritional programs, assessing their combined impact on reducing mortality rates and enhancing overall health outcomes.

## Conclusion

This collection of research explores the critical role of economic evaluations in global health. It highlights the cost-effectiveness of various health interventions, including those for neglected tropical diseases, infectious diseases, mental health, and maternal and child health. The studies also examine innovative financing mechanisms, the impact of universal health coverage, and the utilization of digital health technologies to improve healthcare access and equity in resource-constrained settings. The

economic implications of climate change and health system strengthening in fragile states are also discussed, underscoring the need for integrated approaches and strategic investments to achieve better health outcomes worldwide.

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