



Integrated Program on Health Economics and Policy

4 – 15 January 2027
Vienna (Austria)



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Introduction:

The Integrated Program on Health Economics and Policy provides a comprehensive understanding of the global economic principles and policy frameworks shaping healthcare systems. Participants will explore the intersection of economics and healthcare, focusing on cost-effectiveness, resource allocation, and the impact of health policies on population well-being.

This Health Economics and Policy course equips professionals with the tools to analyze economic trends, assess policy implications, and design strategies to improve healthcare delivery and sustainability. Whether they are policymakers, healthcare managers, or researchers, this training offers essential insights to navigate the complex challenges of modern healthcare systems.

Participants in this Integrated Program on Health Economics and Policy will understand health economics and health policy, integrating key principles in health economics and policy with applied practices. It delves into the intersection of health economics and health policy, exploring topics such as health policy economics and management, health economics policy and law, and the broader scope of health economics policy and management.

Drawing from leading research at the Center for Health Economics and Policy Analysis and the Center for Health Economics and Policy Studies, participants understand the dynamic relationship between health policy and economics. This program is ideal for those aspiring to pursue advanced studies, such as a Master of Health Economics and Policy, or for professionals aiming to enhance their expertise in applied health economics and policy.

Targeted Groups:

- Healthcare policymakers and regulators.
- Health system administrators and managers.
- Public health professionals.
- Health economists and researchers.
- Insurance and healthcare financing professionals.
- Medical and pharmaceutical industry leaders.
- Academics and students in health-related fields.
- Non-governmental and international organization representatives.

Course Objectives:

At the end of this Health Economics and Policy course, the participants will be able to:

- Understand core principles of health economics and policy.
- Analyze healthcare systems and their economic implications.
- Evaluate cost-effectiveness and resource allocation in healthcare.
- Explore health financing mechanisms and insurance models.
- Assess the impact of policies on healthcare access and quality.
- Develop strategies for sustainable healthcare delivery.
- Interpret and utilize data for informed decision-making.
- Strengthen skills in designing and implementing health policies.
- Enhance communication with stakeholders in the health sector.
- Address global health challenges through economic frameworks.

Targeted Competencies:

By the end of this Health Economics and Policy training, the participant's competencies will:

- Economic analysis in healthcare.
- Policy evaluation and development.
- Cost-effectiveness analysis.
- Resource allocation and budgeting.
- Health financing strategies.
- Understanding health insurance models.
- Critical thinking in health policy decisions.
- Data interpretation for health economics.
- Stakeholder engagement and communication.
- Strategic decision-making in healthcare systems.

Course Content:

Unit 1: Foundations of Health Economics:

- Introduction to health economics and its significance.
- Key economic concepts and principles in healthcare.
- Overview of supply and demand in the healthcare market.
- Economic evaluation methods in healthcare.
- The role of opportunity cost in health decision-making.

Unit 2: Healthcare Financing and Insurance Models:

- Understanding healthcare financing systems globally.
- Public vs. private healthcare funding models.
- Principles and design of health insurance systems.
- Risk pooling and its impact on financial sustainability.
- Challenges in healthcare financing in low-income settings.

Unit 3: Policy Development and Evaluation:

- Frameworks for developing effective health policies.
- Steps in health policy formulation and implementation.
- Methods for evaluating the impact of health policies.
- Case studies of successful and unsuccessful health policies.
- Engaging stakeholders in policy processes.

Unit 4: Cost-Effectiveness and Resource Allocation:

- Techniques for conducting cost-effectiveness analysis.
- Understanding cost-utility and cost-benefit analyses.
- Methods for prioritizing healthcare interventions.
- Balancing equity and efficiency in resource allocation.
- Practical tools for decision-making in resource-limited settings.

Unit 5: Global Health Economics and Emerging Challenges:

- Economic impacts of global health challenges.
- The role of international organizations in health policy.
- Addressing health inequities through economic approaches.
- Implications of pandemics and public health emergencies.
- The future of health economics in a changing world.

Unit 6: Health Policy and Population Health:

- Exploring the relationship between health policy and population health outcomes.
- The role of public health interventions in improving population health.
- Policies to address social determinants of health.
- Addressing health disparities and promoting equity through policy.
- Evaluating the effectiveness of population health programs.

Unit 7: Health Technology Assessment HTA:

- Understanding the role of HTA in decision-making.
- Methods of assessing health technologies, treatments, and interventions.
- Economic modeling in HTA: cost-effectiveness and budget impact analysis.
- Evaluating the impact of new medical technologies on healthcare costs.
- The role of HTA in policy and regulatory decisions.

Unit 8: Healthcare Systems and Reform:

- Overview of different healthcare system models worldwide.
- Key features of publicly funded vs. privately funded systems.
- Health system performance metrics and evaluation.
- The need for healthcare reform: drivers and challenges.
- Case studies of healthcare system reforms and their economic implications.

Unit 9: Ethical Issues in Health Economics and Policy:

- Ethical principles in health economics and policy decision-making.
- Balancing cost-efficiency with patient care and equity.
- Ethical dilemmas in healthcare resource allocation.
- The role of ethics in policy development and implementation.
- Addressing public trust and transparency in health policy.

Unit 10: Future Trends in Health Economics and Policy:

- Innovations shaping the future of health economics and policy.
- The role of digital health and data analytics in decision-making.
- Global health challenges: aging populations, chronic diseases, and pandemics.
- The impact of artificial intelligence and machine learning in healthcare.
- Preparing for future policy challenges in a rapidly evolving healthcare landscape.