

Article Sample 2

Health Care in the Limelight: A Global Wake-up Call

Health has always been among the most vital components of human life. It is through a strong and fit physical, mental, and emotional condition that people are able to walk, run, think, decide, and succeed through life's circumstances.

In upholding the significance of health, many individuals agree that it is better to heed the warnings and tips than to suffer. To better support people in maintaining their health, various local, national, and international agencies have been established to protect, promote, and advance the health and wellness of people within their jurisdictions and territorial boundaries. Additionally, several laws are exclusively legislated to govern and protect every citizen's right and welfare based on accepted rules and standards. Governments from selected countries also allocate a bigger portion of their national budget for health care. With these laws, health care is anticipated to further improve toward achieving a healthy nation.

Despite all these good intentions, objectives, and considerations, however, there seems to be a growing problem on health in some parts of the globe. At the same time that the world is experiencing the snowballing pressures of major illnesses and non-communicable diseases, many countries continue to have very limited access to comprehensive and quality healthcare services. Just recently, the World Health Organization reports a number of low and middle income countries that are confronting severe financial constraints and are facing difficulties in increasing their access to healthcare systems. In their analysis, they are suffering predominantly because of their insufficient amount of funding and inefficient utilization of available resources.

Alarming Figures

According to the World Health Organization and as published on Global Issues.org (2011), approximately one billion people, at present, still lack access to healthcare systems. Of the said population, majority comes from many low-income nations, which obviously do not have enough the means to spend on healthcare services.

As a result of this, more and more people (children, in particular) die each year from lack of crucial healthcare services. According to the 2008 global report of Save the Children, a US-based charity, over 200 million children globally under the age of 5 do not get basic healthcare and intervention such as prenatal care, immunization, and treatments for diarrhea and pneumonia. This unfortunately leads to nearly 10 million deaths, with developing nations ranking the top spots.

In addition, many people around the world are experiencing famine. This phenomenon does not only result to mere hunger, but it also leads to a series of other health problems—malnutrition, starvation, and mortality.

As an initiative, many legislators and concerned citizens call and push for reforms on healthcare systems and services worldwide. They are immediately addressing the problem and ensuring that the alarming situation will not further aggravate in the future.

A Clamor

In the United States, the issue of reforming healthcare systems has long been a subject of debate over the past years. In fact, there are also some laws that seek to improve the availability and coverage of many health treatments.

To address the growing clamor on both the creation and modification of health policies, lawmakers have attempted to propose several measures to address various existing problems and focus on predominant subjects such as the following:

- Expansion and enhancement of healthcare providers
- Improvement of quality health care
- Reduction of healthcare costs
- Improved accessibility to healthcare practitioners and specialists
- Extension of healthcare coverage to beneficiaries through insurance

Even with legislation, still, many people remain dissatisfied with all the issues hounding it. Concerns on access, sustainability, equality, and funding continue to arise, especially in nations that do not have enough funds to support even the most basic set of health services.

Now that the problems on health care around the globe are becoming evident and are being placed in the limelight, these issues may serve as a wake-up call to all individuals, agencies, and federal governments to value health more than anything else.