BEST BUYS & NCDs' National Action Plan

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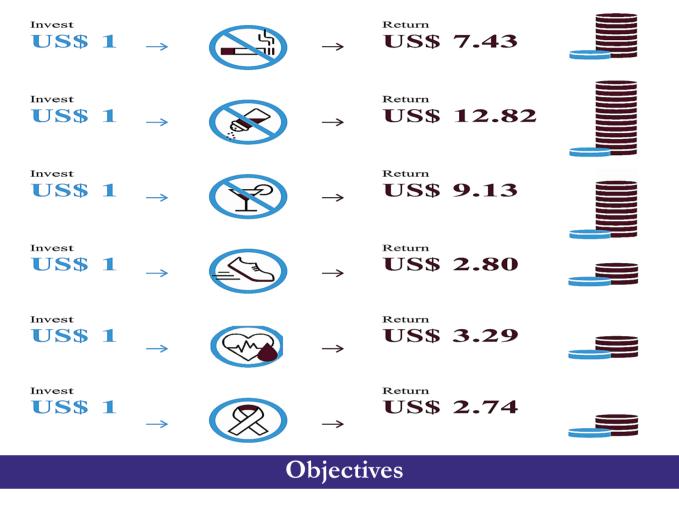The Political Economy of NCDs: A Whole of Society Approach

Multi-criteria decision analysis for setting priorities and integrating 'best buys' and other recommended interventions into the NCDs' national action plan in I.R. Iran
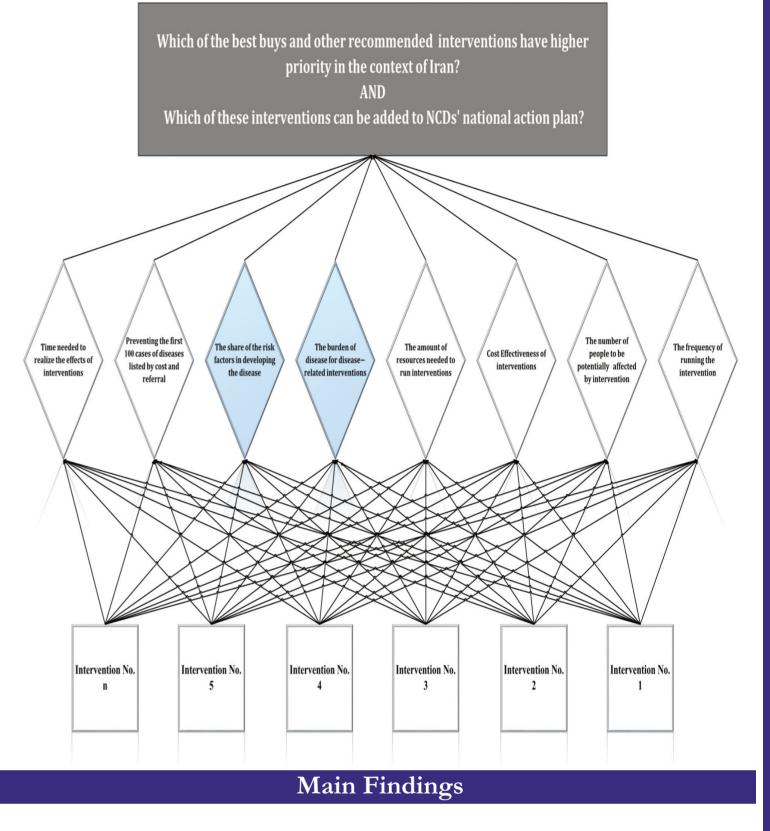
Background/Introduction

The World Health Organization (WHO) 'best buys' are considered the golden standard to reduce over 36 million annual death due to NCDs, including 15 million premature death (30-70 years old).

Nonetheless, limited resource, inter-sectional resistance, flawed existing policies and inappropriate executive mechanisms hinder countries' pathway to implement many interventions. Therefore, to achieve 30% NCDs related mortality reduction by 2030, it would be crucial that each country designs an evidence-base and robust mechanisms for prioritizing customized and feasible interventions within their national action plan.
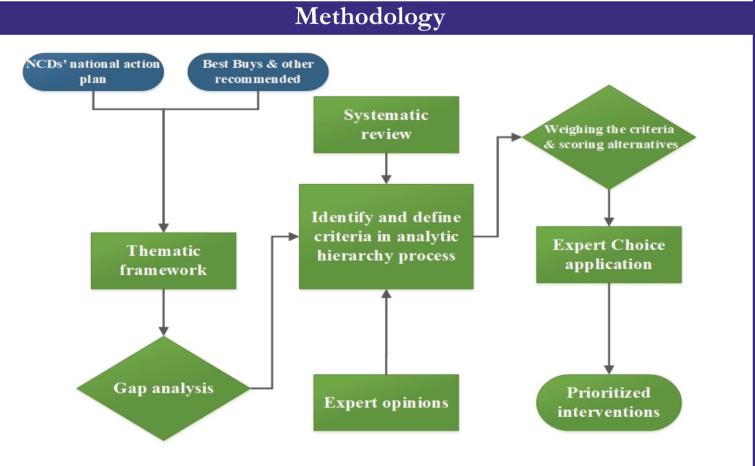
Invest US$ 1 → → Return US$ 7.43

Invest US$ 1 → → Return US$ 12.82

Invest US$ 1 → → Return US$ 9.13

Invest US$ 1 → → Return US$ 2.80

Invest US$ 1 → → Return US$ 3.29

Invest US$ 1 → → Return US$ 2.74

Which of the best buys and other recommended interventions have higher priority in the context of Iran?
AND
Which of these interventions can be added to NCDs' national action plan?

Time needed to realize the effects of interventions

Preventing the first 100 cases of diseases listed by cost and referral

The share of the risk factors in developing the disease

The burden of disease for disease-related interventions

The amount of resources needed to run interventions

Cost Effectiveness of interventions

The number of people to be potentially affected by intervention

The frequency of running the intervention

Intervention No. n

Intervention No. 5

Intervention No. 4

Intervention No. 3

Intervention No. 2

Intervention No. 1

Objectives

- Identify Best Buys and other recommended interventions not included in the NCDs' national action plan in Iran.

- Prioritize Best Buys' interventions for the Iranian context.

- Increase politicians' awareness about the gap between national policies and Best Buys and other recommended interventions to reach 30% mortality reduction attributed to NCDs in Iran.

Methodology

NCDs' national action plan

Best Buys & other recommended

Systematic review

Weighing the criteria & scoring alternatives

Thematic framework

Identify and define criteria in analytic hierarchy process

Expert Choice application

Gap analysis

Expert opinions

Prioritized interventions

First, we compared the NCDs' national action plan with Best Buys and other recommended interventions based on a thematic framework.

Second, we used a Multi-Criteria Decision Analysis-Analytic Hierarchy Process (MCDA-AHP) model, to prioritize best buys and other recommended interventions through a systematic review to determine the list of criteria to be used in MCDA-AHP, and with the expert's opinions, we completing and weighing these criteria.

Finally, after scoring the interventions and normalizing them, we entered the data into the Expert Choice application.

Main Findings

The national action plan has considered all Best Buys interventions related to the risk factors of NCDs in Iran. 42 out of 49 recommended interventions related to NCD's risk factors have been addressed in upstream national policies. Out of 37 Best Buys and other recommended interventions, 20 were not included in the NCDs' national action plan. Nevertheless, most services are being provided to the Iranian citizens as in worth by the relevant policy.

After removing some specific overarching/enabling policy interventions as recommended by WHO, we identified the priorities among WHO 'best buys' and other recommended interventions in the areas of disease-related & risk factors-related interventions.

Policy Recommendation

Comparing national plan with WHO 'best buys' and other recommended interventions can reveal the existing gaps. Focusing on single criteria decision analysis to prioritize the feasible best buys and other relevant interventions might be misleading. MCDA-AHP can help create a rational priority setting process to inform national policymakers about the reliable ways to choose actions that can lead to meaningful outcomes in NCD's prevention and control, which are tailored to their settings.

Contact Information

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