Horizon Scanning Global Panel

Update on second global panel: 26 August 2020

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Reminder…

- Global horizon-scanning panel, comprised of diverse strategic and ‘out-of-the-box’ thinkers and doers, to proactively identify both long-term and emergent issues that need to be prioritized in efforts to synthesize the best available research evidence to support decision-making about COVID-19
  - Diverse in their coverage across the parts of the taxonomy and the four key target audiences (citizens, providers, policymakers and researchers)
  - Diversity in terms of WHO region and primary language
- Main focus is to identify priorities for living reviews on recurring priorities (and full or rapid reviews on one-off priorities) as we transition from a sprint to a marathon
Panel Membership

- 48 invitations sent → 36 confirmed participants (so far)
- 4 types of participants: citizens, service providers, policy makers, researchers
- WHO regional spread (of those who have accepted)

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Panel 1: Example issues for consideration

1) Public-health measures
   - Preventing the resurgence of other infectious diseases (such as HIV/AIDS, malaria and TB)
   - Challenges related to creating an effective vaccine for culturally and ethnically diverse citizens across the world

2) Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related conditions
   - Rising global concerns of long-COVID

3) Health-system arrangements
   - Improvements to weaknesses exposed by the pandemic to governance, financial and delivery arrangements (e.g. insurance coverage, adjust payment models, etc.)
   - Lessons learned on public procurement from first wave of pandemic to establish transparency and better relationships with suppliers and technology

4) Economic and social responses
   - Challenges faced by youth and promoting youth services as a vehicle for health, education, nutrition and social and emotional well-being
   - Recognition of the risks that the pandemic has placed on global food security by disrupting availability, access, utilization and stability
   - Rethinking disaster preparedness and response plans to incorporate COVID-19 considerations
Panel 1 – Examples of insights shared

Public-health measures
- Using scenario-based planning for future pandemic responses
- Examining benefits, harms and trade-offs of border closures/re-opening
- Examining innovations in testing technology
- Leveraging insights from behavioural sciences

Clinical management
- Understanding the intersections of mental health, service delivery and COVID-19
- Examining the best approaches to restoring non-COVID services that have faced reduced operational capacity

Health-system arrangements
- Accommodating the needs for triage testing
- Managing the emergence of promising vaccines across different country contexts
- Examining the effectiveness of virtual models of healthcare delivery

Economic and social responses
- Managing the re-opening process of schools and university institutions
- Shifting the focus to emerging environmental crises
- Identifying frameworks for global governments’ resource allocation to make cost-effective decisions

Evidence use & citizen engagement
- Ensuring that evidence syntheses explore the heterogeneity of intervention effects on vulnerable populations