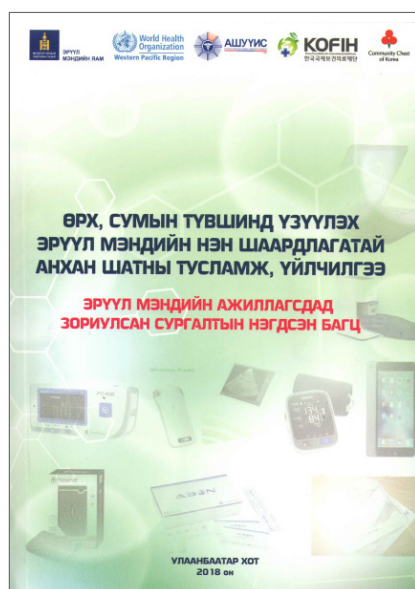


The Essential Primary Health Care in Soum and Family Health Centers 4th Edition (Training package for health care providers)

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Editors: Altaisaikhan Kh, Maygmartsersen D, Altanzagas B, Oyun Ch,

Year: 2018

Publisher: Khukh Mongol Printing

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“The essential primary health care in Soum and Family Medicine Level” book is printed as a student manual for serial trainings with direct supervision and support by the World Health Organization (WHO). Originally, the book was developed by a group of lecturers of Mongolian National University of Medical Sciences (MNUMS), WHO officials and doctors from the main hospitals and was published in 2010.

The book came about as part of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in which a renewed commitment to Universal Health Coverage whereby all people and communities to have access to essential quality health services without risk of financial hardship [1]. The WHO articulates a vision of “universal health coverage (UHC) for better health outcomes” as “Strong health systems based on the values of primary health care (PHC) and focused on a vision of providing universal coverage for quality health services can be an efficient and effective way to contribute to improved and equitable health outcomes” [2]. This book reflects that agenda.

Applying the principle of “Leaving no one behind” and to accelerate progress towards UHC, the government of Mongolia with the WHO technical and financial support started to implement the project “Scaling up the use of mobile health technology at the primary health care and community levels in Mongolia-2017” beginning in 2017 [2]. In framework of this project, 25 types of mobile health (mHealth) technologies, essential medical and IT equipment, rapid tests, and devices were provided to support the target Soum health centers (SHC) and Family health centers (FHC). According to the implementation of new technology at the PHC level, the Mongolian government’s Ministry of Health and WHO country office organized a multipurpose building and capacity strengthening training sessions with strong emphasis on integrated, people centered health services.

The essential primary health care in Soum and Family Medicine Level book was printed as a student manual for above trainings with direct supervision and support by WHO. The latest 4th edition of this book is addressed to PHC providers and practitioners, and as well as undergraduate and graduate students of school of medicine and public health.

This book divided into 7 modules:

Module 1: Public health care and services

Module 2: Healthcare on maternal, neonatal, child and adolescent

Module 3: Non-communicable diseases

Module 4: Communicable diseases

Module 5: Health of elder's and palliative care

Module 6: Essential emergency care

Module 7: Screening and early detection of noncommunicable diseases (NCDs), introduction of health technology

The authors with multi professional backgrounds published this book to promote and improve capacity of PHC providers to deliver people-centered integrated health services. They followed the WHO vision of "Integrated health services" as health services that are managed and delivered so that people receive a continuum of health promotion, disease prevention, diagnosis, treatment and management, rehabilitation and palliative care services in PHC and coordinated across the different levels and sites of care [3]. The PHC should be an integrated approach to provide preventative and curative services as well as promotive health care services for both the community and the individual.

Each module of this book is a part of integrated package of case-mix, and caseload service categories for SHCs and FHCs. These chapters provide evidence based guidelines, prioritized on the health care setting and specialty based on consensus with SHC doctors. These modules cover a NCD's prevention, early detection and treatment, management issues like integrated management of childhood illness, safe obstetric and pediatric services, prevention and detection of common NCD's (e.g. arterial hypertension, diabetes, stroke and acute and chronic coronary syndromes, cancers).

Mongolia health care experiences several challenges and potential gaps related to the sparse population, geographical location and infrastructure, urban and rural settings, and different socio-economic groups of the population. Introduction of mHealth technology with appropriate essential medical

equipment, rapid tests and in the PHC and increased the screening among target populations is one way to improve accessibility and quality health care, especially the vulnerable, rural population.

The current 4th edition of this book added new modules and contents, for example the introduction of mHealth. Such innovative, compact, mobile health technology introduced in the PHC enables providers to deliver more competent and resourceful package of integrated services for their target population, especially, disadvantaged groups of people residing in remote areas of Mongolia.

This 4th edition of the book includes an updated e-Health applications introduction and a section on improved capacity of PHC providers including the Visiting home services (VHS) application found in module 7. In this chapter it outlines the importance of a comprehensive set of people-centered integrated health care services through the scaling up and utilization of mHealth care and e-Health applications and expanding services to reach out the disadvantaged groups of the population where accessibility of care services is limited. The introduction of VHS mobile application in PHC will enable direct digital data entry and will replace the paper forms previously used as tools to manage communicable and non-communicable diseases and their screening and diagnosis. The mobile application introduced in this book will be a significant step forward in creating a health database that will permit storing and retrieving an individual's data and analyzing disease in the Mongolian population. This will contribute to reforming the health information management system in Mongolia in the near future.

The goal of publishing this book was to contribute to the health of rural population through improved access and quality of PHC level services with introduction of mHealth and eHealth approaches. After reading this book and completing its training materials, leaders should be able to better evaluate the case-mixes of SHCs and FHCs through the regular and early screening gathered by VHS using mHealth technologies better deliver their organization's services.

A suggestion for the authors and editors, it needs to be published with an International Standard Book Number (ISBN) in the next edition.

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