

Global Health made simple: history, global burden of disease, determinants, SDGs and global governance

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The importance of global health is rapidly increasing worldwide. Creating awareness of health and implications of decisions taken in sectors as diverse as medicine, economics, social, legal, veterinarian, agricultural, livestock, engineering, urban planning, architectural, political will result in a healthier and more effective society. Global health addresses health issues through an ethical perspective of eliminating inequities towards an ideal of social justice with special attention to the most vulnerable. Health, according to the Constitution of WHO, is the "*state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease*". Based also on those principles, global health can be defined as a cross-discipline prioritizing improvement of health while achieving equitable access for all people worldwide. It emphasizes trans-national health issues, determinants, and solutions and involves many disciplines within and beyond health sciences promoting collaboration. Emphasis is placed on ecological and multidisciplinary dimensions towards sustainable solutions. The study of global health covers the understanding of its evolution; analysis of the global burden of disease, epidemiological transition and progress in health outcomes; understanding of social and economic determinants of health; relationship between health and development and the importance of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG); its governance and WHO role; and assessment of big challenges such as pandemic preparedness and impact of migration and climate change.

GLOBAL HEALTH & WELL BEING



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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Mario C. Raviglione is Full Professor of Global Health at the University of Milan, Italy, where is a founding director of the Centre for Multidisciplinary Research on Health Science (MACH) and coordinates the first Master in Global Health online in Italy and EU. Until 2017, he worked at WHO where, starting in 2003, he was Director of the Global Tuberculosis (TB) Programme. In that role he was responsible for setting norms, policies and standards on global TB care, control and research, monitoring the global situation, and supporting country efforts. He directed the development of the global TB strategies, including the current End TB strategy in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). He served as WHO focal point for the health agenda at the G8 Summit in Italy in 2009. A graduate from Turin University, he trained in internal medicine and infectious diseases at Cabrini Medical Centre, New York, and on infectious diseases and AIDS at Beth Israel Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Boston. He has worked with over 50 countries worldwide and has received international awards. He has been visiting professor and teacher at top universities worldwide. He is Honorary Professor at the Queen Mary University of London, UK, and was Professeur Titulaire at the Global Studies Institute, University of Geneva, until 2020.