

An Essential Package of Care
for mothers and children in South
Africa – the role of NHI

Why, What, and How

Tony Westwood (*Paediatrician*)



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An Essential Package of Care
for mothers and children in South
Africa – the role of NHI

“NHI will provide a comprehensive package of personal health services. As resources are limited, the delivery of a comprehensive package will take into account the need to **progressively realise** the personal health benefits whilst undertaking priority setting.”



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WHY?

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WHY?

Essential Package of Care

Health Rights & Health Services

No 'progressive
realisation'

Section 28 1(c): Every child has the right
to....basic health care services.....

.....children must receive those health care services that are essential
to protect them from commonest and greatest threats to their health
and to restore them to health when those threats produce disease or
injury.

Westwood, Shung King, Lake 2010

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WHY?

**Ministerial Advisory Committee:
Committee for Mortality and
Morbidity among children in South
Africa**

An Essential Package of Care



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National Health Insurance Bill

An Essential Package of Care
for mothers and children

An Essential Opportunity



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Why an Essential Package of Care?

A well-crafted and targeted package of care is an established means of improving health outcomes through:

- improving access to healthcare
- improving health outcomes
- **enhancing equity in health outcomes**
- prioritising interventions
- providing standardised pathways of quality care that are maximally effective for a target population at reasonable cost.

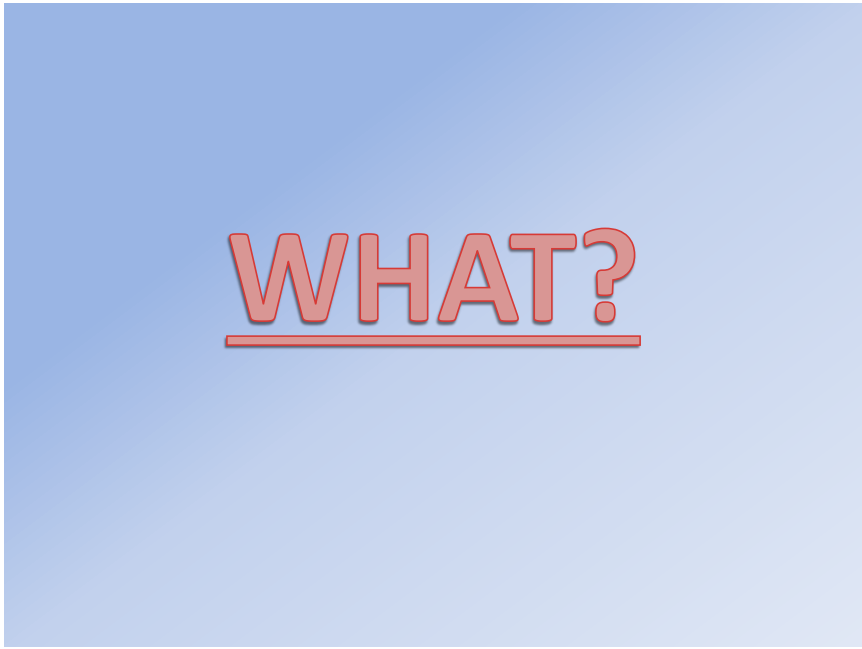
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Why an Essential Package of Care?



Packages of care for mothers' and children's health are particularly important because:



- **major gains in life-long outcomes can be achieved with relatively simple interventions**
- **mothers and children have special healthcare needs that are not always optimally met in systems that mainly serve adults.**

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The scope of the EPaCC: WHAT?

- ✓ Essential content areas 
- ✓ Promotive to Palliative 

Note: children with long-term conditions and disabilities
- ✓ Comprehensive Pathway packages 
- ✓ Covers 'vertical' and 'horizontal' service delivery 

Promotive, Preventative, Early Recognition of Disease/Disability, Diagnostic/Therapeutic ("Curative"), (Re)habilitative, Palliative, Supervisory/Oversight, Supportive, Coordinating

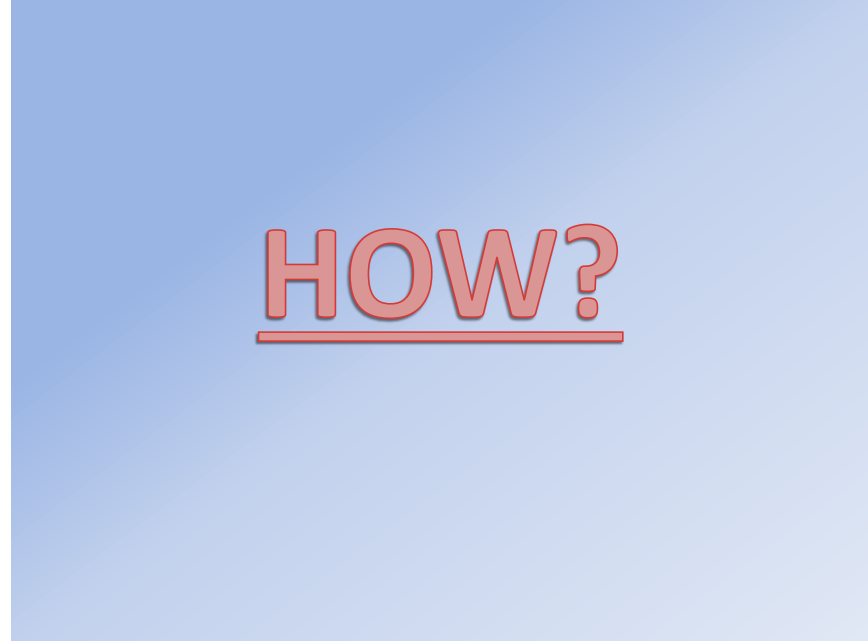


EPaCC Framework WHAT?

Content Areas

FRAMEWORK FOR A PACKAGE OF ESSENTIAL HEALTH CARE FOR CHILDREN IN SOUTH AFRICA		
PRINCIPLES	CONTENT AREAS	CORE REQUIREMENTS/INPUTS
Equity	Preventive & promotive care for under 5 year olds	to be defined for each Content Area and Level of Care
Child/mother/family friendliness	Priority diseases	Service Packages, including pathways to care
Affordability	Neonatal Care	Programmes
Child Rights-based	Primary Clinical Child Care	Clinical Guidelines
	General Paediatric Care	Staffing Norms
	Long Term Health Conditions	Competencies and Skills (including training programmes)
ENABLERS	Emergency Care	Infrastructure
Care Pathways	Trauma and Surgical	Equipment/Consumables
Support Services	Preventive & promotive care for older children including School Health	Information leaflets etc.
Health System Efficacy	Adolescent Care	Tools/Resources/Stationery
		Audit tools

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HOW?

National Health Insurance Bill

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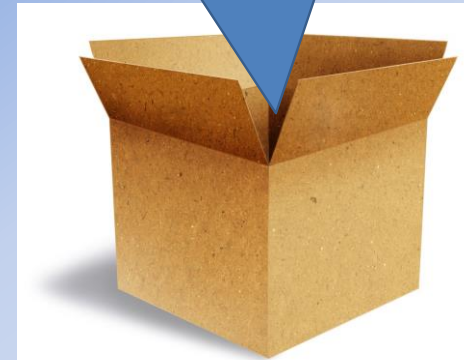
An Essential Opportunity



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HOW?

Constructing an
Essential Package of Care?



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An Essential Package of Care HOW?

Maternal and Child health (MCH)
SPECIFICALLY represented on the
Benefits Advisory Committee by
experts in MCH
- Regulation under Section 25(2)



An Essential Opportunity



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THANK YOU

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