

Propositions supplement to the dissertation

Improving decision-making for drug reimbursement in Iran

- 1- The principle of concurrently improving the overall goals (quality of care, population health, and affordability) is likely unattainable within the current Iranian drug reimbursement decision-making framework. (This dissertation, chapter 1)
- 2- It will be difficult to improve quality of care and population health by a complex, time-consuming, and non-transparent drug reimbursement decision-making process. (This dissertation, chapters 2 and 9)
- 3- Affordability in healthcare cannot be improved by a national guideline that tells doctors to prescribe cheaper strategies despite limited evidence supporting its recommendations. (This dissertation, chapter 3)
- 4- Proper use of available information is a step forward to fill important gaps in the knowledge needed to improve drug reimbursement decision-making. (This dissertation, chapter 4)
- 5- Inadequate financial resources and lower life expectancy are two important obstacles that limit the cost-effectiveness of expensive drugs in middle-income countries. (This dissertation, chapter 5)
- 6- Since widespread use of external price referencing limits the ability of individual countries to adjust drug prices, middle-income countries are condemned to pay high prices because of the willingness-to-pay in high-income countries. (This dissertation, chapter 7)
- 7- The enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is one of the fundamental rights of every human being without distinction of race, religion, political belief, economic or social condition. (WHO Constitution)
- 8- Let's face it. Right now, we don't have a truly free market when it comes to drug pricing, and in too many cases, that's driving prices to unaffordable levels for some patients. (Scott Gottlieb, US FDA Commissioner, May 2018)
- 9- For our system (American biopharmaceutical sector) to continue to work, innovation has to be balanced with competition and access. (Scott Gottlieb, US FDA Commissioner, May 2018)
- 10- What good is the freedom to buy the healthcare you want if you can't afford it? (Bernie Sanders)
- 11- A sick healthcare system cannot cure patients.