PAY-W Clinic; An example of a Human Rights-Based Approach to Universal Health Coverage

Health is a human right and Universal Health Coverage is necessary to ensure that. A human rights-based approach to health provides a set of clear principles for setting and evaluating health policy and service delivery, targeting discriminatory practices and unjust power relations that are at the heart of inequitable health outcomes. Universal health coverage (UHC) means that all people have access to the full range of quality health services they need, when and where they need them, without financial hardship. It covers the full continuum of essential health services, from health promotion to prevention, treatment, rehabilitation, and palliative care across the life course.

Inequality, discrimination, affordability, accessibility, and corruption are major factors to be overcome to achieve UHC. In 2017 we have setup a not-for-profit NGO/CSO, PAY-W Clinic to cater cancer patients and give de-addiction services free of cost to those who can hardly access them. During concept and design stage we had worked on one of the biggest barriers to UHC, accessibility issues and incorporated it into our system for implementation. Annually we monitor and evaluate our services through internal audits, patient feedbacks and external agencies.

Though our services are open to all, we specifically focus on indigenous communities and people from war affected countries. Tribal or indigenous communities stay in interiors of countries and health services hardly reach them. People in war affected country face similar issues as existing health system collapsed. As of date we had given our services in India, Pakistan, Iraq, Philippines, Kenya, Ethiopia, Kosovo, and Australia. PAY-W Clinic’s approach precisely targets accessibility issues in the downtrodden communities worldwide through non-business collaboration with not-for-profit NGOs for the delivery of health services. We are thankful to our partners for the help being offered locally. Partnership and collaboration can solve accessibility issues in achieving human rights-based approach to UHC.

Dr. Suryakanta Acharya, MD

Founder, PAY-W Clinic

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