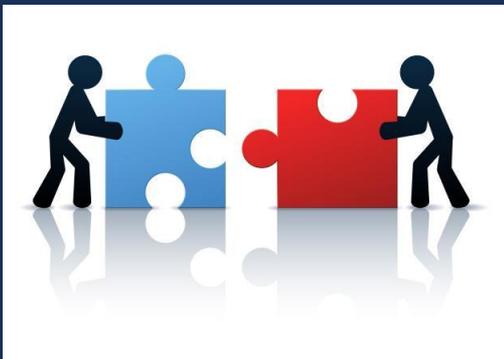




**HEALTH
SYSTEMS
TRUST**

The policy puzzle: making sense of it all

Jackie Smith



Overview

- Introduction
- Current national strategies and policies
- How it all fits together

Introduction

- ❑ The health system has undergone a complete transformation since 1994
- ❑ Unification of fragmented independent health systems into a District Health System, with defined geographical boundaries, implementing a primary health care-based service

Achievements and challenges

- ❑ By 2010 numerous achievements had been made, although ...
- ❑ Equally daunting challenges had surfaced
- ❑ Summarised by David Harrison in 2010

Accomplishments	Shortcomings
Legislation and gazetted policy	Insufficient prevention and control of epidemics
1. Free primary health care	1. Limited effort to curtail HIV and AIDS
2. Essential drugs programme	2. Emergence of MDR-TB and XDR-TB
3. Choice on termination of pregnancy	3. Lack of attention to the epidemic of alcohol abuse
4. Anti-tobacco legislation	Persistently skewed allocation of resources between public and private sectors
5. Community service for graduating health professionals	4. Inequitable spending patterns compared to health needs
Better health systems management	5. Insufficient health professionals in public sector
6. Greater parity in district expenditure	Weaknesses in health systems management
7. Clinic expansion and improvement	6. Poor quality of care in key programmes
8. Hospital revitalisation programme	7. Operational inefficiencies
9. Improved immunisation programme	8. Insufficient delegation of authority
10. Improved malaria control	9. Persistently low health worker morale
	10. Insufficient leadership and innovation

So what next?

- Core national strategies/initiatives
 - National Health Insurance – National Core Standards
 - National Strategic Plan – District Health Plan
 - PHC re-engineering – WBOT, School Health, DCST
 - TB/HIV Integration
 - Ideal Clinic Realisation and Maintenance – ICSM
 - 90-90-90 implementation
 - National Adherence strategy – fast queues, Chronic clubs, CCMDD

National Health Insurance

- ❑ Moving the country towards quality health coverage for all citizens
- ❑ Depends on core quality standards
- ❑ Piloted in 10 districts
- ❑ Standards originally hospital-centred, so some difficulty in application to PHC

Ideal Clinic Realisation, Maintenance

- ❑ Seeks to create clinics with a platform “ideal” for the delivery of good quality services
- ❑ Closely aligned to Core Standards
- ❑ Re-organisation of services (ICSM) requires mindshift among staff

Integrated Clinical Services Management

The re-organisation aspect of ICRM requires

- re-organisation within the facility into three patient streams:
 - Chronic care (incl. HIV and TB)
 - Minor ailments
 - MCWH
- multi-skilled nurses
- appointment system
- community participation and buy in
- change management interventions

90-90-90 / District Implementation Plans

- ❑ South Africa adopted the UNAIDS 90-90-90 targets
- ❑ The DIP operationalises the TB and HIV section of the District Health Plan
- ❑ The strategy has devolved to facility level, resulting in every facility having its own 90-90-90 plan

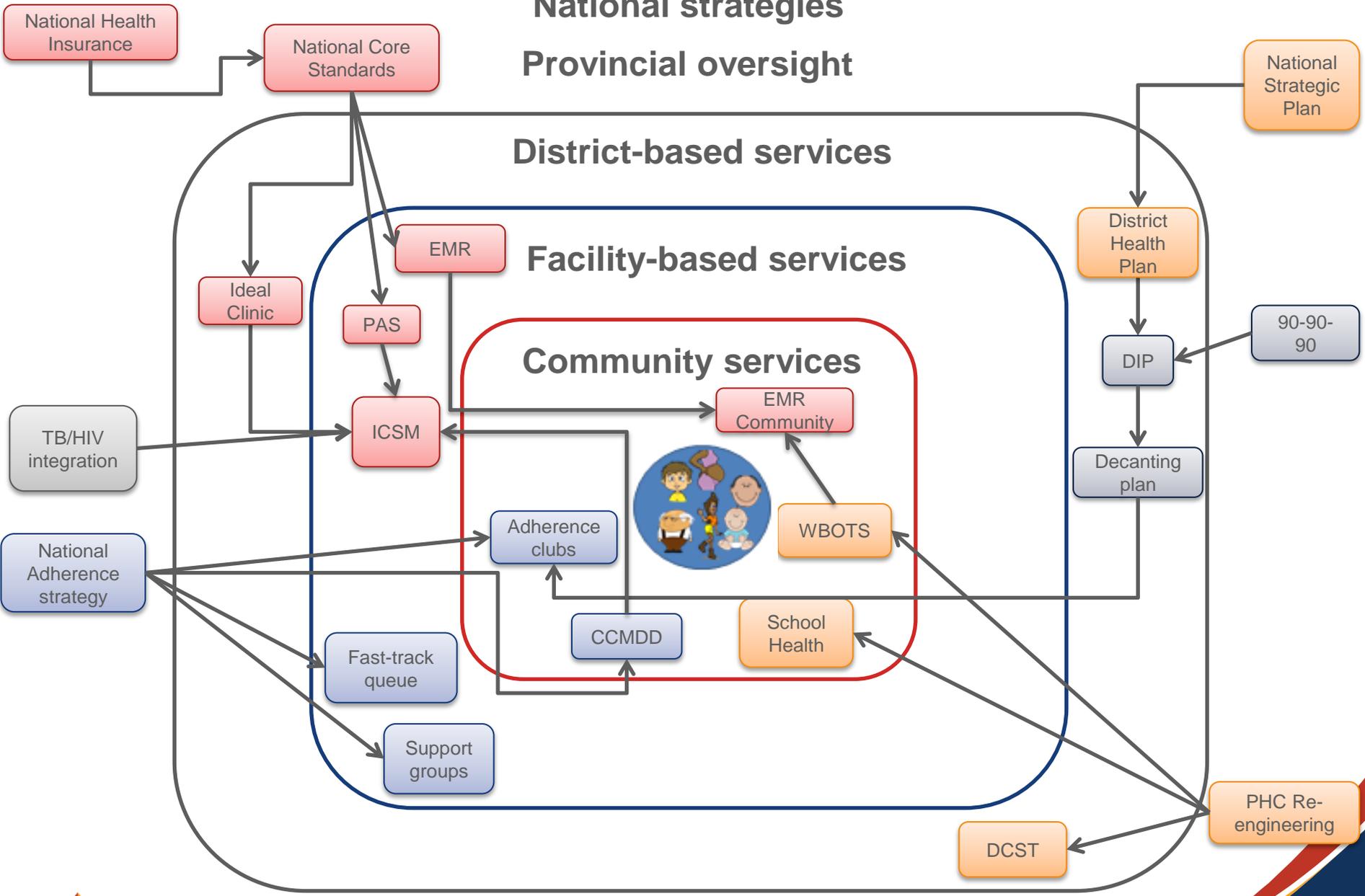
Adherence Guidelines roll-out

The National Adherence Guidelines give structure to the process of decanting stable chronic clients in order to decongest PHC facilities, which in turn

- ❑ form part of the strategy for ICRM re-organisation of services
- ❑ improve adherence as clients don't have to wait at the clinic every month
- ❑ improve waiting times at clinics
- ❑ improve psychosocial support for chronic clients

National strategies

Provincial oversight



Combined objectives

The successful implementation of the national strategies, depicted by

- ❑ improved infrastructure in health facilities
- ❑ improved management of systems and clients
- ❑ integrated quality patient management

will assist the country to reach the 90-90-90 targets, with the resultant better health outcomes

References

- Harrison D. 2009. *An Overview of Health and Health care in South Africa 1994 – 2010: Priorities, Progress and Prospects for New Gains.*