

## PRIMARY HEALTH CARE: MEANING AND OPPORTUNITIES

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In the world today, there is a growing number of chronic conditions, and assurance of good primary health care for all persons requires constant improvement in organization, as well as harmonization with the fast development of medical technologies. The growth of welfare states has brought about new organization in health care systems in order to re-evaluate the costs. There are many benefits of a well managed primary health care system, because it results in fewer visits to emergency departments and less hospitalizations. Scientific evidence is making a great contribution to the measurement and accountability of Primary Health Care, and this evidence could inform and sustain choices that can be made at different levels of health care decision-making (the macro-policy level, the meso level, meaning the organizational model of providers, the micro level of professional interactions and the nano level, which refers to patient and care-giver collaboration with the providers).

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