Milestones in the Implementation of the National Health Insurance

At present, the system is divided into three major components, namely the Graphical Information System (GIS), the Web-Report & Information Visualization component as well as the data ware were used simultaneously for the purpose of this research. Together these components make up the NHIRD.

Web-based access to this data and information is offered to managers at national, provincial and district levels. The NHIRD is established by the National Department of Health and with the Health Information Systems Programme (HISP-SA) as technical partners. The NHIRD currently provides up-to-date information on only national Information/ Data Sets (NIDS) and indicators, but also to provide a unified and integrated repository for data such as the National Data Base, Health Monitoring and Survey, Demography and Health Surveys, Child Health and ICT campaigns. It is envisaged that the NHIRD will also offer aggregated financial data from the Basic Accounting System and municipal financial systems. Human Resource data from MHCSA, and municipal HR systems, and a range of data sets from other government departments (e.g StatsSA, Rural Development, Housing, etc), the HSRC, NMG and national/international development partners. The NHIRD is in reality a “data warehouse” integrating data from the various specialist information systems that exist so as to be able to develop composite indicators (eg staffing levels, HR cost per patient year, etc).

Information Management and Systems Support

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NHIRD Conditional Grant to Support Piloting of Initial Work in 10 Districts

The NHIRD Conditional Grant was established in February 2012 for health systems strengthening initiatives, including for conducting GPS in pro-clinic sites and for the Clinical Oncology Programme (COP), and Distribution Programme (COMID). The COP has 500 000 patients, with 200 000 patients currently registered through 421 facilities.

GP contracting has been undertaken as an essential step in strengthening PHC and ensuring integrated services through contracting private GPs into our public health facilities at the PHC level to provide general, oral health services, as well as eye health services. This has been used to improve the quality of care and treatment of patients in the state of our health facilities will have greater influence on their quality. Their concerns are being addressed through the National Clinical Initiative, and an increasing number are providing positive feedback on the conditions in many clinics. At the end of March 2015, the Department had 119 GPS working to complement permanent staff in public health facilities. This number has since increased to 250 by the end of March 2015.

Information, Communication and Technology

The Department has developed norms and standards for ICT. To standardize the systems, Human Resource data from PERSAL and municipal HR systems, and a range of data sets from other government departments (e.g StatsSA, Rural Development, Housing, etc), the HSRC and National Health Insuranc

The information management system (IMS) was designed to be used as an integrated information system, with a database, warehouse and repository that allows for the display of data and information in the form of tables, graphs and thematic health maps demonstrating the current status of the South African population’s health - including social determinants of health - and the status of health services and health-related initiatives.