

Position on Universal Health Coverage

Background

For many people around the world, good health is not within reach because of the accessibility and affordability of healthcare services.

Universal health coverage (UHC) is a global priority, championed by the World Health Organization and promoted by governments worldwide. As part of the Sustainable Development Goals, all United Nations Member States, including the United States, have committed to achieve UHC by 2030. Doing so will build healthier communities and stronger economies.

Relevance

At Johnson & Johnson, the world's largest and most broadly based healthcare company, reaching patients and consumers each day with its medicines, consumer products and medical devices, we believe that good health is at the heart of human progress. Good health enables children to thrive, families and communities to prosper, and countries to achieve economic security. That is why we have a promise to relentlessly drive better health for all.

Guiding Principles

Johnson & Johnson's [Credo](#) states: "We believe our first responsibility is to the patients, doctors and nurses, to mothers and fathers and all others who use our products and services."

Our Position

We believe that everyone should have access to quality, affordable healthcare services that they need, regardless of where they live. We support UHC through initiatives in the following key areas:

- **Workforce and infrastructure:** A robust health system with well-trained and well-equipped health workers is foundational to achieving UHC. In particular, we believe a holistic approach ensures that:
 - (1) young people can gain the knowledge and support to enter health-related careers;
 - (2) health workers are provided with opportunities to improve their education and strengthen their skills;
 - (3) health workers and health systems are resilient and can adapt to adversity; and
 - (4) health systems are equipped with the supplies and tools they need to deliver quality care.
- **Access and affordability:** Patients and communities must have access to care, including drugs, vaccines, surgical care, and other medical technologies needed to prevent and treat diseases and address public health needs. We engage stakeholders throughout the world to achieve broad and timely access to our medicines at sustainable prices that aim to be locally affordable. Safe, authentic

medicines must be procured and in stock at the local- and primary-care levels. This holds true for many medicines that currently are available as generics, as well as newer, more innovative medicines. Ensuring access to innovative products can help individual patients and free up health system resources.

- **Sustainable financing:** While UHC is an important, unifying goal, there is no single universal approach to how UHC is financed and delivered through government, non-profit or private-sector channels. Rather, each country must tailor strategies that align to local needs, resources, market conditions, and societal values. UHC can be established through a variety of models and systems, but all require sustainable financing for both providers and patients. Financing considerations should account for the full complexity of the healthcare system, rather than addressing specific issues in isolation. We support investments in value-based care to advance the implementation of effective solutions for health systems.
- **Shared accountability:** While governments typically play a leading role in building health systems, financing and/or delivering care, the inherent complexity of healthcare requires a diverse group of stakeholders to participate in the effective design, implementation, and delivery of care for all. The public, private, and nonprofit sectors have a shared responsibility and accountability toward this goal. Appropriate, transparent ways to measure and track country-level progress toward key bellwether outcomes for health system capacity are crucial to ensuring this accountability.

Activities to Support UHC: At Johnson & Johnson, we are firmly committed to doing our part to ensure the promise of UHC becomes a reality for patients, families, and communities around the world. We partner with all stakeholders with a mix of global and country-specific policy and advocacy efforts. Around the world, we support hundreds of health-related programs and we strive to align with government priorities and advocate for quality healthcare, especially for women and children. We believe that tailored strategies that align local needs, resources and market conditions must be part of the solution.

Application

This position is relevant for the Johnson & Johnson Family of Companies, as detailed in our [governance materials](#). We provide updates relating to UHC in our annual [Health for Humanity Report](#) where relevant.

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