

Hailu Dhufera

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EDUCATION

HARVARD T.H. CHAN SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Cambridge, MA, USA

Doctor of Public Health

May 2024

Dissertation: *Identifying Indigent Households for Subsidy and Exemption of Community Health Insurance Premium in Ethiopia: Considerations of Technical Approaches and Implementation Challenges*

Committee: Profs. Peter Berman, Stephane Verguet and William Bean

UNIVERSITY OF BERGEN

Bergen, Norway

Master of Philosophy in Global Health

October 2020

Thesis: "Out-of-pocket expenditure for road traffic trauma care in public and private hospitals in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia."

JIMMA UNIVERSITY

Jimma, Ethiopia

Degree of Doctor of Medicine

September 2014

Thesis: "Five-year retrospective review of ectopic pregnancy in Jimma University teaching hospital, Southwest Ethiopia."

RESEARCH EXPERIENCES

Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

Boston, MA

Research Associate

May 2024- Feb 2025

- Led the empirical analysis of two strategies for identifying indigent households eligible for subsidy and exemption from community health insurance premiums in Ethiopia, using secondary data and statistical modeling to inform policy recommendations and improve targeting efficiency.
- Developed innovative methods for data-driven decision-making in health financing, with a focus on enhancing equity and access to community-based health insurance for economically vulnerable populations.
- Collaborated with policymakers, local government agencies, and health economists to tailor research findings to the Ethiopian context, aligning with both federal and regional health insurance priorities.
- Co-authored policy briefs and research papers that translate complex statistical findings into actionable insights for Ethiopian health policymakers and stakeholders.

Graduate Research Assistant

July 2021 – May 2024

- Perform in-depth economic evaluation research, focusing on the impact of COVID-19 on essential service delivery and outcomes in Ethiopia and the utilization of telehealth.
- Collaborate with a team to collect and analyze relevant data, utilizing statistical tools and methodologies to derive meaningful insights.
- Assist in preparing research reports, presentations, and publications, effectively communicating research findings to diverse audiences.

Visiting Scientist

April 2019 – July 2019

- Researcher for the project "Disease Control Priorities-Ethiopia."
- Conducted economic evaluations in health disparities and equity, and cost-effectiveness analyses

ACADAMIC EXPERIENCES

Shaggar Institute of Technology

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

July 2025 – Dec 2025

President

- Provide overall strategic and executive leadership for the establishment and growth of a multidisciplinary higher-education institution, overseeing governance structures, academic vision, and institutional partnerships.
- Lead the design and rollout of academic programs and innovation pillars in priority fields including technology, health, and applied sciences, ensuring alignment with national development priorities and global standards.
- Oversee institutional setup and operations, including organizational structure, senior leadership recruitment, regulatory compliance, infrastructure planning, and financial sustainability.
- Represent the institute in high-level engagements with government bodies, regulators, donors, industry partners, and international collaborators to mobilize resources and position the institution for long-term impact.

Harvard T H Chan School of Public Health

Boston, MA

May 2024 - now

Instructor (Applied Global Health Practice for MPH-45 in Global Health students)

- Taught the Global Health Practicum course, mentoring graduate students in applying public health theories and frameworks to real-world global health challenges, emphasizing practical skills in health policy analysis, project management, and stakeholder engagement.
- Guided students through structured practicum projects, fostering their ability to analyze global health issues critically and design implementable solutions for health systems in low- and middle-income countries.
- Organized workshops on research methodology, ethical considerations in global health, and cross-cultural competence to prepare students for their fieldwork experiences and careers in global health.
- Actively contributed to curriculum development, ensuring course content remains relevant to current global health trends and responsive to student feedback.

Pedagogy Fellow

June 2023 -May 2024

Teaching Fellow (12 different courses and 10 different profs.)

Sep 2021 – May 2024

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

CLINTON HEALTH ACCESS INITIATIVE - ETHIOPIA

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Senior Technical Advisor

Feb 2025 – Now

- Provide technical leadership for the design and feasibility assessment of large-scale tertiary and quaternary hospital projects, including service scope definition, demand analysis, preliminary costing, and alignment with national referral and financing frameworks.
- Provide technical advice to the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Finance on health financing reforms, including strategic purchasing, provider payment mechanisms, and domestic resource mobilization.
- Lead design, costing, and policy analysis for major national initiatives such as CBHI and SHI reforms, capitation implementation, and multi-donor health financing compacts.
- Translate complex financial, actuarial, and health system data into actionable policy recommendations to inform government decision-making and partner investments.
- Coordinate closely with government counterparts, donors, and implementing partners to align technical assistance, support reform implementation, and strengthen institutional capacity.

CLINTON HEALTH ACCESS INITIATIVE - ETHIOPIA

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

COVID Case Management National Taskforce Co-Lead

May 2020 – June 2021

- Led and organized the national case management response to COVID-19
- Trained and coordinated the clinical management of COVID-19 cases

- Designed and prepared national telehealth guidelines for maintaining essential services under COVID-19
- Analyzed the impact of the pandemic on essential services including MCH, TB, HIV, malaria, and NCD care

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Oromia, Ethiopia
Oct 2020 – Feb 2021

Case Management Officer

- Provided technical support on case management of COVID-19 to Oromia Regional Health Bureau
- Provided leadership and guidance on case management priorities, preparedness, and response in outbreak settings
- Provided onsite technical support and mentorship to health workers regarding quality patient care and infection prevention and control practices
- Strengthened support systems for emergency triage at health facilities
- Coordinated with other response actors and clinical partners on the ground to provide technical guidance on case management in outbreak settings and post-outbreak recovery efforts

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Sep 2018 – March 2019

Specialty Services Advisor

- Organized and led the national specialty services survey (gathered service directory in different specialty)
- Led the national specialty and subspecialty roadmap development
- Designed evidence synthesis through consultative workshops with professional associations

ALERT CENTER

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Dec 2017 – August 2018

Medical Director

- Set standards of care and followed their implementation
- Guided implementation of medical policies
- Led the hospital services per the national hospital service transformation guide
- Introduced a quality management system in the clinical units
- Liaised with external board of governance

Director of Clinical Governance and Quality Management

June 2017 – October 2017

- Established the clinical governance and quality management unit of the center
- Led staff recruitment and orientation
- Developed a five-year strategic plan for the unit
- Initiated and led in implementation of 10+ quality improvement projects

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
February 2016 – May 2017

Specialty Services Officer

- Chaired the national clinical services improvement strategic document and its working group
- Instituted development of the national strategic plan in oncology, forensic medicine, and rehabilitation
- Directed design and implementation of clinical good governance monitoring and evaluation framework
- Designed monitoring and evaluation of health facilities
- Led numerous trainings for health program reform and implementation (hospital service transformation, patient safety, quality improvement, risk reporting and management)

SHANAN GIBE HOSPITAL

Jimma, Ethiopia
Jan 2015 – Feb 2016

General Medical Practitioner

- Oversaw the clinical activities at hospital outpatient units
- Directed clinical activities at outpatient and inpatient units
- Led community outreach programs for national HIV and TB programs

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

1. **Dhufera HT**, 2024. Identifying Indigent Households for Subsidy and Exemption of Community Health Insurance Premium in Ethiopia: Considerations of Technical Approaches and Implementation Challenges (Doctoral dissertation).
2. **Dhufera, H.T.**, Jbaily, A., Verguet, S., Tolla, M.T., Johansson, K.A. and Memirie, S.T., 2022. Financial risk of road traffic trauma care in public and private hospitals in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia: A cross-sectional observational study. *Injury*, 53(1), pp.23-29.
3. Kifle, F., Belihu, K.D., Beljege, B.Z., **Dhufera, H.T.**, Keno, F.B., Taye, D.B., Teklehaimanot, M.G., Weldesenbet, E.B., Gemechu, T.B. and Moore, J., 2021. Perioperative care capacity in East Africa: results of an Ethiopian national cross-sectional survey. *IJS Global Health*, 4(3), p.e57.
4. Kifle, F., Boru, Y., **Tamiru, H.D.**, Sultan, M., Walelign, Y., Demelash, A., Beane, A., Haniffa, R., Gebreyesus, A. and Moore, J., 2021. Intensive Care in Sub-Saharan Africa: A National Review of the Service Status in Ethiopia. *Anesthesia & Analgesia*, pp.10-1213.
5. Biccard, B.M., Gopalan, P.D., Miller, M., Michell, W.L., Thomson, D., Ademuyiwa, A., Aniteye, E., Calligaro, G., Chaibou, M.S., **Dhufera, H.T.** and Elfagieh, M., 2021. Patient care and clinical outcomes for patients with COVID-19 infection admitted to African high-care or intensive care units (ACCCOS): a multicentre, prospective, observational cohort study. *The Lancet*, 397(10288), pp.1885-1894.

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- Pedagogy Fellow, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health 2023-24
- Global Mental Health Fellowship Award, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health 2023
- Rose Service-Learning Fellowship Award, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health Spring 2023
- Tessa Jowell Fellow, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, 2022/2023
- Harvey Fellow, The 28twelve foundation, 2022/2023
- Prajna Leadership Fellow, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, 2021-2024
- Disease Control Priorities-Ethiopia Student Scholarship Award, 2018-2020

SKILLS

Software: STATA, SPSS, EPiData, R

Languages: English (fluent), Afan Oromo (native), Amharic (native)