

# PrIMHE

Programme in the Methods of Health Economics

## **‘Understanding the effects of payment for performance on health systems in low-and-middle income countries - a reflection on empirical findings and research methods.’**

### **Dr Josephine Borghi**

Josephine is a Professor in Health Economics at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, currently on sabbatical at the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis in Laxenberg. Josephine completed her MSc in Health Economics at the University of York, and her PhD at the LSHTM. Josephine was based in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania at the Ifakara Health Institute for five years, leading evaluation research on health insurance schemes and payment for performance. Josephine’s research aims at understanding the effect of financing mechanisms, such as health insurance and payment for performance schemes, on the functioning of health systems in low-and-middle income countries. Jo is currently leading research using system dynamics and agent-based modelling to study how health systems respond to health financing reforms. Jo’s research also examines international aid and domestic financing for health and how funding is allocated and its effects on health outcomes and equity. Jo leads the health financing Data Analysis Centre for the Countdown 2030.

**Date: 17 May 2022/12:00 – 13:00 CET (Virtual Webex Event)**

### **Summary**

Payment for performance (P4P), or the provision of financial rewards based on the achievement of pre-specified performance indicators, is a widely used intervention to improve the quality and use of health services. P4P has long been applied in high-income settings and is gaining increasing attention in low-and-middle income countries (LMIC) as a mechanism for strengthening health systems. This lecture provides an overview of lessons learnt from 10 years of research on P4P across a range of LMIC. I will reflect on what we know about the health system effects of P4P, and how the design of P4P schemes and the context in which they are implemented shape these, and the potential for unintended consequences. The lecture will also highlight the different methods we have used to study the health system effects of P4P, methods which can be more generally be used to study ‘mechanisms’ within the evaluation of complex interventions: including impact and process evaluations and realist approaches, together with their limitations. The lecture concludes by illustrating the use and potential value of complexity science methods such as causal loop diagrams, system dynamics and agent-based modelling in understanding the dynamic effects of interventions (or external shocks) on health systems.

*This lecture is accredited with 1 DFP-point for members of the Austrian Medical Chamber.*



CENTER FOR PUBLIC HEALTH  
MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OF VIENNA  
Department of Health Economics

For further information and registration (free) please contact:

Margit Leeb, E-mail: [primhe@meduniwien.ac.at](mailto:primhe@meduniwien.ac.at)

Telephone: +43 1 40160 34848

<http://healtheconomics.meduniwien.ac.at/primhe/>

## Webex Login

**Date and time:** Tuesday, 17 May 2022

**12:00 – 13:00**

**Europe Time (Berlin, GMT+01:00)**

### Event address for attendees

<https://meduniwien.webex.com/meduniwien/j.php?MTID=m1279dcd9f2954bd70d596674109102a4>

**Event number:** 2734 307 5184

**Event password:** PriMHE

### Join by video system

Dial 27343075184@meduniwien.webex.com

You can also dial 62.109.219.4 and enter your meeting number.

### Join by phone

+437-203-800461 Austria Toll

+44-20-7660-8149 United Kingdom Toll

Access code: 2734 307 5184

[Global call-in numbers](#)