



# The Urgency of Universal Health Coverage Policy for the Implementation of Public Health Services During the Covid-19 Pandemic

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**Abstract.** Health services are a basic need that is included in the Mandatory Government Affairs relating to Basic Services. Hospitals, puskesmas or similar institutions carry out health services as a form of interpretation of the duties and authorities of local governments. With the supervision process, the implementation of health services is expected to run optimally and in accordance with the target provisions that have been established.

**Keyword:** health services

## 1 Introduction

The state is the only foundation and hope for the community during the Covid-19 pandemic which has claimed many lives at this time. As the purpose of the formation of the state, individuals and communities have the right to obtain security guarantees, safety of life and property from natural threats and opponents who come from outside their community. The state gains authority and legitimacy from society to maintain harmony, protect private and community rights and realize shared wellbeing, or *bonum commune*.

In the practice of the state, state administrators have an obligation to fulfill all basic human needs in accordance with the essence of a complete human being, namely the entire human person consisting of body and soul. Aristotle stated about the obligations of this state in his writings known as the *Nicomachean Ethics*, in his book, *The Republic* [1]. In the modern society, the state must fully guarantee the rights to the freedom of individuals and communities of citizens, the safety and security of their property, as well as their body and soul [1]. These rights are known as basic rights that are given, which in the context of the development of a modern state are then referred to as fundamental rights or human rights. Likewise, during the COVID-19 pandemic that hit almost all countries in the world today, health is a primary need for every individual and society. The state as the person in charge of the safety of all its citizens is required to ensure and protect the health of the body and soul of all citizens and residents in its territory. In the terms of public service implementation, the government as the executor of the function, responsibilities, and duties of the state must work hard to overcome the pandemic outbreak. [2].

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In the practice of living as a state in Indonesia, service facilities and financial support for the fulfillment of guarantees for the implementation of public health are one of the responsibilities of the state in realizing general welfare [2]. As a means of supporting the fulfillment of public health, the Government has established the National Social Security System-Healthy Indonesia Card (SJSN-KIS) with the Social Security Administering Body (BPJS), as an institution that manages the implementation of health insurance and services for the community.

## 2 Discussion

Universal Health Coverage (UHC) has emerged since the last thirteen years, triggered by the growing understanding of the relationship between barriers to population access to essential and quality health services and the impoverishment of families due to spending on health services. The Ministers of Health of the Member States of the United Nations (UN) agreed at the World Health Assembly (WHA) meeting initiated by the United Nations in 2005, to promote UHC in national development policies in their respective countries.

Universal Health Coverage (UHC) is actually not a new concept. The United Nations has driven various efforts to urge its member states to guarantee health services for their population. Starting from the Declaration of Human Rights in 1948, the United Nations has continued to lead the health service movements for the population. All residents of developed and developing countries members of the United Nations [3]. The 1948 United Nations Declaration on Human Rights, in Article 25 paragraph 1 states that everyone have the right for living adequately in health and well-being condition. They also have the right for himself and his family of food, housing and health-care. The rights also count in necessary social services, and event which make an unemployment such as illness, disability, widow or widower, or any other condition outside control.

Another fundamental statement related to human rights, which guarantees basic rights in the field of health is the ILO Convention Number 130 of 1969 Chapter 130 concerning Medical Care and Sickness Benefits Convention, 1969. This convention regulates the principles of health protection, minimum participation guarantee, basic benefits, and health facilities for workers in each member country that ratifies this provision. Support for efforts to ensure the right to health is also expressed in the 1978 Alma Ata Declaration on Primary Health Care. The 1978 Alma Ata Declaration is a joint agreement between 140 countries, as a result of the International Conference on Primary Health Care, which was held in Alma Ata City, Kazakhstan [4]. This conference was held in September 1978 in collaboration between the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nation's Children Fund (UNICEF) on 6–12. The main formulation of the 1978 Alma Ata Declaration adopted by the countries participating in the Conference was the statement that Primary Health Services is the main strategy for achieving health for all, as a form of embodiment of human rights [5].

Based on this Alma Ata Declaration, UN member countries agree that to realize the implementation of public services in the health sector by providing facilities and guarantees for basic health services which include health education, increased food and nutrition provision, maternal and child health services, clean water, sanitation provision,

family planning, immunization, prevention and eradication of endemic diseases, treatment of common diseases, and provision of essential medicines. The points of basic health care guarantees that had been formulated in the 1978 Alma Ata Declaration were strengthened again through WHA Resolution 58.33 in 2005 concerning Universal Health Coverage [6]. The theme Sustainable Health Financing by WHA Resolution 58.33 bring up seven urgings for UN member countries mainly to reform the health funding system by considering UHC (Universal Health Coverage) to ensure both the availability of essential health service and financial risks on health utilization when someone feels unwell [7].

### 3 Conclusion

Based on the results of the discussion of the formulation of the problem in this article, it can be concluded that the urgency of the Universal Health Coverage (UHC) policy from the perspective of health care for the community is the fulfillment of health insurance that is affordable by all levels of society fairly and equitably to achieve prosperity and happiness. as much as possible in accordance with the constitutional mandate. The Universal Health Coverage (UHC) system scheme for public health is a public health policy in the form of JKN. This policy has a different scope from UHC. The UHC system has been modified by the Government in accordance with the conditions and objectives of the national health administration, which is part of efforts to achieve the goals of UHC.

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