
Parallel sessions – IMPLEMENTING SDGS: ACTORS AND POLICIES
18th September 2017 – 15h

#1 SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being

Health services have changed greatly in the last decades in developed countries, together with the rise of life expectancy. It is of uttermost importance to extend the latter change to poor and developing countries and break the link between disease and poverty. Countries with fewer resources are forced to fight against market laws, since they face diseases such as malaria that are not profitable for big pharma companies.

In order to improve the quality of health services, we need to carefully plan public policy where research and innovation have a central role. We need to take into account that public health systems have to face more demand and insufficient funding. They also need to meet high standards of quality. Research and innovation are, therefore, the tools by which we can achieve sustainable and efficient solutions. In health, the knowledge of diseases through research is a key factor for the implementation of preventive, diagnostic and therapeutic measures. Innovation has also provided us with an improvement and optimization of internal processes in health services, having a more efficient and sustainable system.

The new paradigm in public health is based on research and scientific evidence. It is also based on medicine and research adapted to the individual, and based also on bioethics. Research, therefore, needs to locate the person as an active agent in the decision making process, so that the needs of the patient are taken into account. Only in this way we can achieve an improvement in the quality and accessibility of health assistance for our societies.