

# Eye health indicators for universal health coverage: results of a global expert prioritisation process

lan McCormick , 1 Islay Mactaggart , 1 Serge Resnikoff , 2,3 Debbie Muirhead, 4 GV Murthy, 1,5 Juan Carlos Silva, 6 Andrew Bastawrous , 1 Jude Stern, 7 Karl Blanchet , 8 Ningli Wang , 9 Mayinuer Yusufu , 9 Andrew Cooper, 10 Michael Gichangi , 11 Eye Health Indicators Prioritisation Project Group, Matthew J Burton , 1,12 Jacqueline Ramke , 1,13

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For numbered affiliations see end of article.

### Correspondence to

lan McCormick, International Centre for Eye Health, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, London WC1E 7HT, UK;

lan.McCormick@lshtm.ac.uk

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# **ABSTRACT**

**Introduction** In its recent *World Report on Vision*, the WHO called for an updated approach to monitor eye health as part of universal health coverage (UHC). This project sought to develop a consensus among eye health experts from all world regions to produce a menu of indicators for countries to monitor eye health within UHC.

Methods We reviewed the literature to create a long-list of indicators aligned to the conceptual framework for monitoring outlined in WHO's World Report on Vision. We recruited a panel of 72 global eye health experts (40% women) to participate in a two-round, online prioritisation exercise. Two-hundred indicators were presented in Round 1 and participants prioritised each on a 4-point Likert scale. The highest-ranked 95 were presented in Round 2 and were (1) scored against four criteria (feasible, actionable, reliable and internationally comparable) and (2) ranked according to their suitability as a 'core' indicator for collection by all countries. The top 30 indicators ranked by these two parameters were then used as the basis for the steering group to develop a final menu.

**Results** The menu consists of 22 indicators, including 7 core indicators, that represent important concepts in eye health for 2020 and beyond, and are considered feasible, actionable, reliable and internationally comparable. **Conclusion** We believe this list can inform the development of new national eye health monitoring frameworks, monitor progress on key challenges to eye health and be considered in broader UHC monitoring indices at national and international levels.

# INTRODUCTION



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**To cite:** McCormick I, Mactaggart I, Resnikoff S, et al. Br J Ophthalmol Epub ahead of print: [please include Day Month Year]. doi:10.1136/ bjophthalmol-2020-318481 In its first World Report on Vision released in 2019, WHO included the strengthening of health information systems (HIS) among its five global priority areas for action. This recognises the critical role of HIS to provide information—from population-based surveys, facility-based sources and administrative data—to guide health policy, management and clinical care. Among WHO's recommended actions were to strengthen national capacity to collect, analyse and use data on eye health, and the creation of a global indicator menu for eye health from which countries can select relevant indicators. The control of the strength of the countries can select relevant indicators.

The priority placed on HIS in the *World Report* on *Vision* also reflects the limited progress made to date. Several lists of indicators have accompanied global eye health initiatives over the past two decades.<sup>2–5</sup> Inconsistent reporting against these lists over time may be due to under-investment in district-level HIS capacity in low-income and middle-income settings, the vertical nature of many eye health systems, variable levels of engagement from national eye care planners and limited public–private sector cooperation.<sup>6–8</sup> In addition, a lack of policy imperative may be due to an absence of eye health indicators in WHO's global health monitoring frameworks to date.<sup>9</sup> 10

Based on these and other challenges, in its *Universal Eye Health: A Global Action Plan 2014–2019*<sup>4</sup> (hereafter 'GAP') in 2013, WHO emphasised the need for eye care to be integrated into broader health planning. The *World Report on Vision* went further to state that eye health should be considered an essential component of universal health coverage (UHC). Monitoring global eye health as part of UHC and the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals<sup>11</sup> requires an updated menu of indicators aligned with the UHC dimensions of access, quality, financial risk protection and equity.

Here we report a collaborative prioritisation process to generate a menu of indicators that may be used by governments to monitor and improve eye health and eye health services at the national level, and to support progress towards achieving UHC. This work was undertaken as part of the Lancet Global Health Commission on Global Eye Health. 12

# METHODS Study design

A two-round, prioritisation exercise was undertaken between February and April 2020 using an online survey platform (www.qualtrics.com). All panellists' responses were de-identified throughout, however, individuals were provided the option to join a study authorship group.

# **Participants**

A project steering group (the co-authors) was convened to guide the development of the initial long-list of indicators, nominate panellists from a network of global eye health experts, review



| Table 1  | Round 2 response rate among | invitees by C   | Global Burden of Diseas  | e (GBD) Super Region and sex |
|----------|-----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| I able i | Mound 2 response rate amond | A III VILCES DY | dional palacii di piscas | c (dbb) Juper Negion and 3ex |

|   | Female    |         |                  | Male      |         |               | Total     |         |                  |
|---|-----------|---------|------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|-----------|---------|------------------|
|   | Completed | Invited | Response<br>rate | Completed | Invited | Response rate | Completed | Invited | Response<br>rate |
| GBD Super Region                                | N         | N       | %                | N         | N       | %             | N         | N       | %                |
| Sub-Saharan Africa                              | 4         | 5       | 80.0             | 12        | 13      | 92.3          | 16        | 18      | 88.9             |
| South East Asia, East Asia and Oceania          | 7         | 9       | 77.8             | 4         | 6       | 66.7          | 11        | 15      | 73.3             |
| Latin America and Caribbean                     | 6         | 8       | 75.0             | 6         | 6       | 100.0         | 12        | 14      | 85.7             |
| South Asia                                      | 3         | 3       | 100.0            | 9         | 10      | 90.0          | 12        | 13      | 92.3             |
| North Africa and Middle East                    | 1         | 2       | 50.0             | 5         | 6       | 83.3          | 6         | 8       | 75.0             |
| High Income                                     | 3         | 3       | 100.0            | 3         | 4       | 75.0          | 6         | 7       | 85.7             |
| Central Europe, Eastern Europe and Central Asia | 2         | 2       | 100.0            | 2         | 2       | 100.0         | 4         | 4       | 100.0            |
| 'Global perspective'                            | 3         | 3       | 100.0            | 2         | 2       | 100.0         | 5         | 5       | 100.0            |
| Total   | 29        | 35      | 82.6             | 43        | 49      | 87.8          | 72        | 84      | 85.7             |

indicator scoring and develop the final menu. We aimed to recruit panellists from all Global Burden of Disease (GBD) Super Regions, <sup>13</sup> with equal numbers of men and women per region. In total 74 out of 84 invited panellists participated in Round 1 and 72 went on to complete Round 2 (response rate after Round 2, 85.7%). Men were 59.7% of the Round 2 panel, similar to the proportion among all invitees. Eleven members of the steering group participated, five from a 'global' (non-Regional) perspective. Thirty-nine countries and all GBD Super Regions had participants in both rounds and 85% of the Round 2 panel represented low-income or middle-income countries (table 1). Round 2 panellists most frequently reported their roles within eye health as 'management/leadership' (25.0%), 'epidemiology' (12.5%), 'clinician/practitioner' (12.5%), 'eye health services research' (9.7%), 'government/Ministry of Health', 'clinical research' and 'international institution' (all 6.9%).

# Initial indicator selection

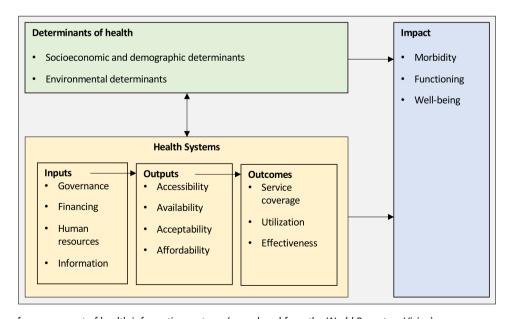
A long-list of indicators was compiled with reference to previously proposed eye health indicators and existing international health and health systems indicator lists, adapted for relevance to the eye health sector where necessary. This long-list was mapped to the domains of measurement of HIS used in the *World Report* 

on Vision (adapted from the 2012 WHO Framework and standards for country health information systems) (figure 1). When panellists were invited to participate, they were asked to suggest additional indicators for consideration. The steering group reviewed all indicators identified, only excluding obvious duplicates in order to avoid biassing the pool of potential indicators. At the end of this process 200 indicators were included (online supplemental appendix 1).

# The prioritisation exercise: round 1

Panellists scored the indicators based on perceived priority in their context. Priority was scored from 1 to 4 on a Likert scale, with 1 representing the lowest priority ('no need to collect') and 4 the highest priority ('essential to collect') (online supplemental appendices 2 and 3). A fifth option, (0 = 'redundant') was included to allow for the fact that the long-list had not been heavily edited and some overlap of indicator concepts was possible. A *priority score* for each indicator was calculated by summing the products of two dimensions: the Likert scale score (1–4) x the number times each indicator received that score.

At the end of Round 1, an initial threshold for continued inclusion was set at or above the median score. Indicators scoring in the top half were merged where there was sufficient overlap in



**Figure 1** Domains of measurement of health information systems (reproduced from the *World Report on Vision*).

| Table 2 Cr                    | iteria used to score Round 2 indicators  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Criteria                      | Definition   |
| Feasible                      | The indicator can be derived using either available data (eg, routine monitoring) or purposeful data collection (eg, population-based survey, clinic-based study) without substantial additional resources   |
| Actionable                    | The indicator measures an aspect of eye health within health<br>systems that may be used at a national level to create change<br>through policymaking or strategy development  |
| Reliable                      | The indicator returns similar results when measuring a stable phenomenon (eg, measurement has a sufficient degree of objectivity)  |
| Internationally<br>comparable | Reporting countries can comply with the relevant data definition;<br>any differences in the indicator values between countries reflect<br>issues in health systems rather than differences in data collection<br>methodologies, coding or measurements |

concepts to do so. Indicators not scoring in the top half were reviewed to determine if any concepts deemed essential to score in Round 2 had been omitted and should be included to ensure representation (online supplemental appendices 2 and 3). In total, 95 indicators were forwarded to Round 2.

### The prioritisation exercise: round 2

Each of the 95 indicators were scored against four new criteria. The panel were asked to indicate their agreement on a 4-point Likert scale (1 = 'strongly disagree', 2 = 'disagree', 3 = 'agree', 4 = 'strongly agree') as to whether each indicator was feasible, actionable, reliable and internationally comparable (table 2). In addition, the panel selected 10 indicators they considered to be 'core' indicators, described as those which all countries could be encouraged to adopt. These were ranked 1 (most important) to 10.

Scores were calculated in the same way as Round 1. Each indicator was scored on the criteria separately and a *composite score* of all four was calculated, with all criteria weighted equally. Each indicator was assigned a rank position from 1 to 95 for each of the four criterion and the overall composite score. The ranking of indicators 1 to 10 as core indicators was calculated in a similar way: a vote for first place awarded 10 points, second place awarded 9 points and so on. Points were multiplied by the number of times an indicator received that vote position for an overall *core score* (online supplemental appendices 2 and 3). A ranking of 1 to 95 was given based on this scoring and this ranking was used in all subsequent analysis. Indicators with the same score were ranked equal.

We arrived at a list of 30 priority eye health indicators by ranking the Round 2 selections using two metrics:

- 1. The rank of the indicator based on the *core score*.
- 2. The rank of the indicator based on the composite score

We plotted the *core* and *composite* scores against each other and selected the 30 indicators that scored most highly by both ranking methods, by expanding the 'gating' equally along both axes until the selected area included 30 indicators (online supplemental appendices 2 and 3). The selected indicators, therefore, scored relatively highly for both.

### Development of the indicator menu

Starting with the top 30 indicators from Round 2, we developed the detailed indicator menu presented in box 1. In this step we aimed to:

► Ensure alignment with UHC dimensions of access, quality, financial protection and equity

- Avoid repetition or misclassification of themes within and across domains
- Avoid over-representation or under-representation of domains
- ▶ Identify any omissions related to the five most prevalent causes of vision impairment globally (cataract, uncorrected refractive error, glaucoma, age-related macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy). 14

No major edits to key concepts were undertaken. This process is summarised in figure 2.

### **RESULTS**

Twenty-two distinct eye health indicator concepts were identified (box 1). In compiling the menu, we articulated broader concepts by specifying 39 'sub-indicators' (see bullet points under indicator titles). It is anticipated that these could be used in support of defining the broader indicators, for example, whether or not eye health is integrated into national health planning. Sub-indicators for the concept of eye health financing integration are not yet developed and, once included, will increase the scope of the menu in this domain.

The steering group selected seven core indicators for monitoring eye health as part of countries' progress towards UHC. These are set out in table 3.

# **DISCUSSION**

This process engaged a large panel of global eye health experts representing all GBD Super Regions and developed a quantitative approach to prioritise existing indicators. The steering group refined the highest ranked selections to produce a menu of indicators for governments to monitor and improve eye health and eye health services, aligned with UHC and the Sustainable Development Goal on health and in keeping with WHO's call for such a menu in the World Report on Vision. We believe the core indicators highlighted here, if collected by all countries, could allow governments, and supranational organisations, to track progress on key challenges within eye health and UHC. Otherwise, the menu is not intended to be prescriptive; countries could select indicators according to priorities based on population need. We recognise that some countries will likely benefit from collecting and reporting fewer, more important eye health indicators as accurately as possible.

The core indicators include two candidate WHO UHC service coverage indicators: effective cataract surgical coverage (eCSC) and effective refractive error coverage (eREC). <sup>15</sup> <sup>16</sup> Effective coverage has been acknowledged as a useful measure of progress towards UHC as it includes dimensions of quality, access and, where disaggregated, equity. Both eCSC and eREC were omitted from a recent global UHC analysis because of limited data availability, <sup>17</sup> an issue which must be addressed.

The standard UHC financial risk protection indicators (catastrophic and impoverishing expenditure) adapted to eye health scored lowest among the 95 indicators in Round 2. This likely reflects anticipated complexities in data collection and the possibility that, for non-emergency healthcare, they may not be sufficiently discriminatory. Instead, we have proposed two new proxy measures for financial risk protection. These are not intended as direct replacements for catastrophic and impoverishing expenditure indicators, rather what might be achievable within the constraints of eye health data availability. They will require additional work to develop a full metadata description but provide a way to track eye health insurance coverage (for multiple conditions) and out-of-pocket (OOP) payments for

Box 1 Consolidated indicators menu, integrating global panel indicator preferences with a conceptual framework for monitoring eye health as part of universal health coverage.

# **Equity statement**

All indicators summarising population-based and eye care facility-based data should report metrics disaggregated by key equitydimensions of sex, place of residence (PoR), socioeconomic position (SEP) and disability status, where available. Additional options, suchethnicity or marital status, can be recorded by countries as appropriate.

# Inputs and processes

### Governance

- G1 Eye health is integrated into the national health strategy/plan (or the relevant specific plan, for example, non-communicable diseases)
  - ► G1.1 National health plan includes human resources for eye care (Y/N)
  - ► G1.2 Eye health is integrated into the plans, policies and budget of other initiatives such as:
    - G1.2.1 National essential package of health services (Y/N)
    - G1.2.2 Primary healthcare (Y/N)
    - G1.2.3 Maternal and child healthcare (Y/N)
    - G1.2.4 Diabetes care (Y/N)
    - G1.2.5 School health programmes (Y/N)
    - G1.2.6 Healthy ageing programmes (Y/N)
  - ► G1.3 National eye health policies, plans and programmes refer to a multisectoral approach/engagement with other sectors (Y/N)
    - If a national eye health strategy/ plan is unavailable or not up-to-date, record as N
- G2 Is the national eye health plan informed by recent evidence (Y/N):
  - ► G2.1 Time since cited population-based data was collected (in months/years)
  - ► G2.2 Time since cited Eye Care Service Assessment Tool (ECSAT) data was collected (in months/years)

### **Finance**

- **F1** Eye health is integrated into the national health budget (Y/N)
  - Requires a working group to develop sub-indicators and metadata
- **F2** Eye health is included in national health finance pooling mechanism (Y/N)
  - Scaled response based on scoring outcomes of sub-indicators in 'checklist'

If yes, the range/number/list of services addressing leading causes of vision impairment (VI) included:

- ► F2.1 Outpatient consultation (Full/Partial/No)
- ► F2.2 Cataract (Full/Partial/No)
- ► F2.3 Refraction services (Full/Partial/No)
- ► F2.4 Glaucoma medication/surgery (Full/Partial/No)
- ► F2.5 Diabetic retinopathy laser/anti-vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) (Full/Partial/No)
- F3 Proportion of population covered via national health finance pooling mechanisms that includes eye care services:
  - ► F3.1 Proportion covered for: Outpatient consultation
  - ► F3.2 Proportion covered for: Cataract
  - ► F3.3 Proportion covered for: Refraction services
  - ► F3.4 Proportion covered for: Glaucoma medication/surgery
  - ► F3.5 Proportion covered for: Diabetic retinopathy laser/anti-VEGF

# Infrastructure

**I1** Eye health facility density and distribution, disaggregated by:

- ► I1.1 Primary
- ► I1.2 Secondary
- ► I1.3 Tertiary
- ► I1.4 Low vision services
  - By PoR (urban/rural), total numbers (public and private) per million population
  - Additional subnational administrative or geographical divisions as relevant to setting
- Additional dimension: Access to primary eye care and cataract surgery via global positioning system data and geospatial modelling
- 12 Percentage of neonatal units providing screening for retinopathy of prematurity nationally

# Supply chain

SC1 Pharmaceuticals specifically for eye care on the National Essential Medicines List

- Total number and proportion compared with a normative standard for eye health pharmaceuticals (eg, WHO or International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness list)

### Information

INFO1 Existence of a National Health Information System that includes eye care service data (Y/N)

# Eye health workforce

HR1 Eye health worker density and distribution, disaggregated by:

- ► HR1.1 Ophthalmologist
- ► HR1.2 Optometrist
- ► HR1.3 Ophthalmic nurse

Continued

# Box 1 Continued

- ► HR1.4 Other allied ophthalmic personnel (as relevant to country)
  - By PoR (urban/rural), total number per million population, and by age groups and sex
  - Additional subnational administrative or geographical divisions as relevant to setting
  - Additional dimension: 5-year trends per cadre

HR2 Is Primary Eye Care integrated into the national Primary Healthcare training (if applicable)? (Y/N)

### **Outputs**

### Access

AC1 Cataract surgical rate

- Total number per million population and including variation in rate across urban/rural or districts
- Additional dimension: 5-year trend in cataract surgical rate
- Additional dimension: Surgical case-mix in terms of preoperative visual acuity

# Quality and safety

- Q1 Cataract surgical outcome (visual acuity)
  - Proportion of eyes with a 'good' outcome (6/18 or better)
  - Proportion of eyes with a 'poor' outcome (worse than 6/60)
- Q2 Number of priority eye conditions with quality of care/clinical practice guidelines endorsed by relevant regulatory bodies
  - ► Q2.1 Cataract (Y/N)
  - ► Q2.2 Refractive error (Y/N)
  - ► Q2.3 Glaucoma (Y/N)
  - ► Q2.4 Age-related macular degeneration (Y/N)
  - ► Q2.5 Diabetic retinopathy (Y/N)
  - ► Q2.6 Child eye health (Y/N)

# Responsiveness/affordability

AF1 Median (range) of out-of-pocket payment made for cataract surgery as a proportion of median monthly household (or individual) income

- Report median and mean payment made at point of service (excluding transport, accommodation, sustenance)
- Disaggregated by provider type (government/public, private for profit, private non-governmental organisation/charity)
- Additional dimension: proportion reported for poorest vs wealthiest quintiles

# **Outcomes**

### Coverage

- C1 Cataract surgical coverage and effective cataract surgical coverage
  - CSC (cataract surgical coverage), eCSC (effective CSC), 'quality gap' reported, disaggregated by age, sex, SEP, PoR as available
- **C2** Refractive error coverage and effective refractive error coverage
  - REC (refractive error coverage), eREC (effective REC), 'quality gap' reported, disaggregated by age, sex, SEP, PoR as available
- C3 Coverage of diabetic retinopathy screening of all people with diabetes (at the frequency recommended in national guidelines)
  - Requires a working group to develop complete indicator metadata
  - Disaggregated by age, sex, SEP, PoR as available
- C4 Coverage of school eye health programmes for schools nationally
  - Proportion of schools receiving screening in the past 12 months
  - Disaggregated by primary and secondary schools

### **Impact**

# Improved outcomes

# P1 Prevalence of VI

- ▶ P1.1 Distance VI prevalence, by WHO categories
- ► P1.2 Near VI prevalence, by WHO definition
  - From population-based surveys, disaggregated by age, sex, SEP, PoR as available

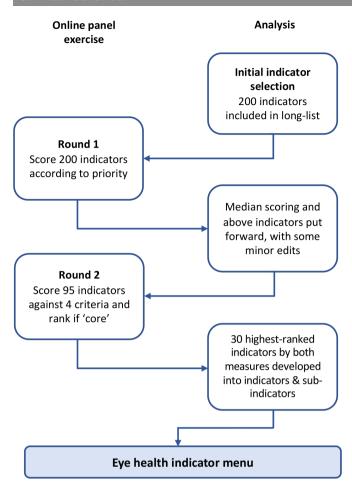
# P2 Cause-specific prevalence of VI

- Prevalence of vision-impairing priority eye conditions from population-based surveys, disaggregated by age, sex, SEP, PoR as available
- ▶ P2.1 Avoidable blindness/severe VI/moderate VI/mild VI prevalence disaggregated by age, sex, SEP, PoR as available
- Aggregated from VI causes assigned in surveys
- P3 Prevalence of childhood VI and blindness
- Blindness/severe VI/moderate VI/mild VI from population-based or key-informant surveys, disaggregated by age, sex, SEP, PoR as available

treatment of cataract, the most common cause of blindness globally. The WHO has acknowledged that monitoring the intersection between service coverage and OOP expenditure is key to assessing progress towards UHC. <sup>18</sup> There may be value in expanding this OOP payment indicator to include refractive error correction and a pilot test for one or both of these will be undertaken in the near future within the Rapid Assessment

of Avoidable Blindness (RAAB), a well-established population-based survey method. <sup>19</sup> We acknowledge that relying on OOP payment data obscures those people who do not present to care due to unaffordable cost, an essential group to identify and reach for UHC to be realised. <sup>20</sup>

Place of residence should not be a barrier to accessing care, however, human resources for eye care are skewed towards



**Figure 2** Flowchart describing the process undertaken to develop the eye health indicator menu.

urban settings.<sup>21 22</sup> We have included two provider-side measures of access: human resources and infrastructure for eye care per capita. These can be reported more frequently than service coverage estimates and at little cost. The density of eye health workers (by cadre) features in all previous eye health indicator lists. In order to be UHC-aligned, countries must expand beyond aggregate numbers of personnel, and monitor their distribution by rural/urban and public/private settings. Disaggregation should also be applied to the monitoring of eye care facility density and distribution. This metric could be enhanced by geocoding infrastructure and integrating geographical coverage with other population data to apply a spatial component to eye health planning.<sup>23</sup>

The final concept represented in the core indicators selection is the impact of countries' eye health systems on population health in terms of the prevalence of vision impairment. Vision impairment affects individuals' quality of life but is also a broader development issue affecting education and employment.<sup>24</sup> Vision impairment prevalence has been the key measure of eye health for decades and continues to be useful at the national level for monitoring and planning and at the global level for advocacy.

Beyond the core indicators, key concepts represented in the menu include the integration of eye health into national health planning and financing. We acknowledge that defining and measuring the degree of integration in these areas requires further discussion, particularly for health financing. The integration of primary eye care into primary healthcare planning, financing and training programmes is also included, along with integration of eye health into HIS.

The importance of data disaggregation to monitor eye care equity across the menu should not be understated. We have included an equity statement for consideration across the list and believe equity-relevant monitoring is essential to ensure the most gains are made among population groups with the most need.

Our menu has substantial overlap with WHO's *GAP* indicator list, including its six key indicators on vision impairment, human resources for eye care and cataract surgical services. New concepts in our list include eye care insurance coverage and affordability, the UHC dimensions of quality and equity, eye health infrastructure and information systems, primary eye care, child eye health, refractive error and diabetic retinopathy. Our proposed indicators are not only UHC-aligned but also address many areas of global eye health prioritised in a recent 'grand challenges' global Delphi process. <sup>12</sup>

There are some notable absences from the final menu. The concept of 'people-centred' eye care proposed in the World Report on Vision is not represented. We presented 13 'responsiveness' indicators in Round 1, including 7 patient-reported outcome indicators, but the panel prioritised none; this will require further study. Disease-specific indicators for glaucoma and age-related macular degeneration were potentially underrepresented in the initial long-list and not prioritised by the panel, despite their prominence as causes of vision loss globally. 14 This may be because the natural history of these conditions make monitoring more complex than for cataract or refractive error. Appropriate coverage indicators for these conditions will require further investigation, and as the menu evolves, more 'difficultto-measure' concepts would ideally be included. 12 Trachoma and onchocerciasis were not prioritised, likely reflecting the progress made in these areas in recent years. However, we expect endemic countries would continue to report against indicators aligned with their elimination programmes. Unilateral vision impairment, associated with, for example, infectious corneal ulcers, is not included in the menu but was identified as a knowledge gap in the World Report on Vision and could be included in future as it gains priority in eye health planning. The GAP indicator for evidence of research on the cost-effectiveness of eye health programmes was not prioritised, but more evidence of costeffectiveness may strengthen the case for resource allocation. Finally, broader health and financing indicators potentially relevant to eye health (demographics, non-communicable diseases, water and sanitation, government health spending) were not prioritised but could be obtained from other national reporting mechanisms to support eye care planning as appropriate.

We recognise that generating this list is insufficient in isolation, and several challenges must be addressed for these indicators to be successfully integrated into countries' HIS and monitoring frameworks. Fortunately, the priority given to HIS in the World Report on Vision and the potential inclusion of eCSC and eREC in the next list of WHO UHC indicators provides impetus for action. In addition, countries will benefit from the ongoing refinement of tools such as WHO's Eye Care Services Assessment Tool<sup>25</sup> and RAAB and its Planning Module.<sup>19</sup> These tools strengthen national HIS capacity by providing guidance on data collection and interpretation for a range of indicators included in our list. Several of the new indicators proposed here require indicator metadata which would ideally be generated by subject-specific expert working groups working collaboratively with countries. Alongside indicator development, appropriate target-setting also requires consultation. Further, there are financial and logistical challenges for countries to routinely collect

Table 3 Core indicators to monitor universal access to quality, affordable eye care services when needed Responsible Indicator Definition Rationale Data sources entity Comments Accessibility of eye health services Eye health facility density By place of residence (urban/rural), Place of residence should not Facility records, Health ministry Informs policy and planning about and distribution total numbers (public and private) be a barrier to accessing eye population data location of eye health services in of primary, secondary, tertiary and health services relation to population density. low vision services per million Outreach programmes may be planned according to gaps in population Additional subnational geographical access to static administrative or geographical services divisions as relevant to setting Eye health worker By place of residence (urban/rural), Facility records, data Health ministry Availability and accessibility Informs policy and planning on density and distribution total numbers of ophthalmologist, of eye health workers dictates from professional or recruitment and distribution of optometrist, ophthalmic nurses and regulatory bodies, human resources for eye health. access to care other allied ophthalmic personnel population data Known disparities exist in the number and distribution of trained per million population Additional subnational eye care personnel between administrative or geographical countries and by urban and rural divisions as relevant to setting settings within countries Affordability of eye health services Coverage of national Proportion of population covered Cost should not be a barrier to Health finance Health ministry Informs policy about eye health health finance pooling with health finance pooling accessing eve care. scheme reports and financing and affordability. mechanisms that include mechanisms that include eye care Proxy for WHO/World Bank questionnaires Coverage within the lowest eye care services services (considered individually): UHC financial risk protection wealth quintile should be reported indicators; catastrophic and/or alongside the total population to Outpatient care impoverishing OOP payments monitor equitable coverage of eye Cataract Refractive error services unlikely to be discriminatory health financing Glaucoma treatment for monitoring affordability of Diabetic retinopathy treatment elective eye care services OOP payments for Median (and range) of OOP Cost should not be a barrier to Population-based Health ministry Informs policy about eye health accessing eye care. (Surveys may be financing and affordability. cataract surgery payment made for cataract surgery surveys as a proportion of median monthly Proxy for WHO/World Bank commissioned Additional services could be household (or individual) income in collaboration UHC financial risk protection monitored in the same way indicators; catastrophic and/or with other impoverishing OOP payments stakeholders) unlikely to be discriminatory for monitoring affordability of elective eye care services Effective coverage of cataract and refractive error services Health ministry Informs policy and planning about Effective cataract Among the population aged Sex-disaggregated effective Population-based surgical coverage 50 years and older, people with coverage measures the UHC surveys (Surveys may be the met and unmet need for cataract surgical services; candidate operated cataract and good dimensions of access, quality commissioned postoperative presenting visual and equity for the leading in collaboration WHO UHC tracer indicator acuity as a proportion of all people cause of blindness globally with other with operated cataract or operable stakeholders) cataract Disaggregated by sex Effective refractive error Adults with refractive error Sex-disaggregated effective Population-based Health ministry Informs policy and planning about corrected to a pre-defined visual coverage coverage measures the UHC surveys (Surveys may be the met and unmet need for acuity threshold with habitual dimensions of access, quality commissioned refractive error services; candidate correction as a proportion of and equity for the leading in collaboration WHO UHC tracer indicator all people with corrected and cause of vision impairment with other uncorrected refractive error globally stakeholders) Disaggregated by sex Prevalence of vision impairment Prevalence of VI The prevalence of all cause distance Proxy measure of eye health; Population-based Health ministry Disaggregated VI prevalence and near VI (according to WHO a measure of programmatic (Surveys may be estimates inform policy makers survevs success in journey towards eye commissioned about the impact of eye health definitions) health as part of UHC in collaboration systems on eye health among Disaggregation by key equity measures with other population subgroups Disaggregation by avoidable vs stakeholders) non-avoidable

OOP, out-of-pocket; UHC, universal health coverage; VI, vision impairment.

national-level population health data, so rapid surveys of vision impairment and eye care services have often been carried out at the subnational level to aid local planning. In the absence of

increased national-level data collection, modelled estimates will be required to provide data for global estimates and regional and national comparisons with any degree of regularity.

# Clinical science

We propose that new indicators in this menu be field-tested in several contrasting settings, and that the menu be regularly reviewed and updated according to user feedback. Such reviews would ideally assess whether data collection and indicator usage are viable and valuable for both national and subnational planning, as well as for generating global eye health estimates. These steps require ongoing engagement and resourcing to develop and maintain the utility of the menu. This may be encouraged by a centralised eye health data repository.

### Limitations

This study has several limitations. First, inherent in a study that recruits experts, the indicators prioritised reflect the preferences of those invited to participate. We aimed to be as geographically representative as possible, however, the North Africa and Middle East, High Income and Central Europe, Eastern Europe and Central Asia Super Regions had few panellists. Further, despite aiming for gender parity, only 40% of the panel were women. A more diverse panel may have generated a different set of indicators. Second, the online exercise was only available in English, however, no nominated panel members were unable to participate due to language constraints. Third, personal interests and familiarity with some concepts over others may have led to confirmation bias in scoring by panel members. The overlap with existing GAP indicators may be a reflection of this, however, the menu does include many new concepts. Finally, detailed explanations of new concepts are required which was beyond the scope of this prioritisation project.

# CONCLUSION

This process sought a broad consensus from 72 eye health experts from all world regions to produce a menu of indicators for countries to monitor eye health as part of UHC. From a long-list of 200, the final menu consists of 22 indicators that represent important concepts in eye health for 2020 and beyond, and are relatively feasible, actionable, reliable and internationally comparable. The new direction in global eye health set by the World Report on Vision must be supported with investment in HIS that include eye health data collection and data monitoring via internationally acceptable indicators. We believe this list is well-placed to inform the development of new national eye health monitoring frameworks and shows where eye health metrics might be incorporated into broader UHC monitoring indices at national and international levels.

### **Author affiliations**

<sup>1</sup>International Centre for Eye Health, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, London, UK

<sup>2</sup>Brien Holden Vision Institute, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia

<sup>3</sup>School of Optometry and Vision Science, University of New South Wales, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia

<sup>4</sup>The Fred Hollows Foundation Melbourne, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

<sup>5</sup>Indian Institutes of Public Health, Hyderabad, India

<sup>6</sup>Pan American Health Organization, Bogota, Colombia

<sup>7</sup>International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness, London, UK

<sup>8</sup>Faculty of Medicine, University of Geneva, Geneva, Switzerland

<sup>9</sup>Beijing Institute of Ophthalmology, Beijing Tongren Eye Center, Beijing Tongren Hospital, Capital Medical University, Beijing, China

<sup>10</sup>Vision Catalyst Fund, London, UK

<sup>11</sup>Ophthalmic Services Unit, Kenya Ministry of Health, Nairobi, Kenya

<sup>12</sup>Moorfields Eye Hospital, London, UK

<sup>13</sup>School of Optometry and Vision Science, The University of Auckland, Auckland, New Zealand

**Collaborators** The Eye Health Indicators Prioritisation Project Group: Haroon UR Awan; Andrew Bastawrous; Ileana R Brea; John C Buchan; Matthew J Burton; Miriam R Cano; Chimgee Chuluunkhuu; Colin Cook; Sarity Dodson; Rainald Duerksen;

Gamal E Elarab; Daniel Etya'ale; João M Furtado; Tatiana Ghidirimschi; Michael Gichangi; Emily W Gower; Andrzej Grzybowski; Reeta Gurung; Esmael Habtamu; Aldiana Halim; Prut Hanutsaha; Isabelle Jalbert; Marzieh Katibeh; Lisa Keay; Amir B Kello; Rajiv B Khandakar; Rohit C Khanna; Elizabeth Kurian; Fatima Kyari; Van C Lansingh; Alberto D Lazo Legua; Shi-Ming Li; Yuanbo Liang; Islay Mactaggart; Kelvin RJ Maelihato; Elenoa Matoto; Sailesh K Mishra; Seyed F Mohammadi; Lizette Mowatt; GV Murthy; Richard K Musaazi; Nyawira Mwangi; Nor F Ngah; Jeremiah Ngondi; Jason P Nirwoth; Phanindra B Nukella; Rebecca B Oenga; Prabhath Piyasena; Mansur M Rabiu; Jacqueline Ramke; Serge Resnikoff; Solange R Salomão; Mohammad S Shalaby; Juan Carlos Silva; Jude Stern; Sandra L Talero; Hugh R Taylor; Ningli Wang; Sumrana Yasmin; Sangchul Yoon; Mayinuer Yusufu; Siyan Zhan; Fengju Zhanq.

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# ORCID iDs

lan McCormick http://orcid.org/0000-0002-7360-3844
Islay Mactaggart http://orcid.org/0000-0001-6287-0384
Serge Resnikoff http://orcid.org/0000-0002-5866-4446
Andrew Bastawrous http://orcid.org/0000-0001-8179-556X
Karl Blanchet http://orcid.org/0000-0003-0498-8020
Ningli Wang http://orcid.org/0000-0001-7705-7943
Mayinuer Yusufu http://orcid.org/0000-0002-4860-0318
Michael Gichangi http://orcid.org/0000-0002-7655-3416
Matthew J Burton http://orcid.org/0000-0003-1872-9169
Jacqueline Ramke http://orcid.org/0000-0002-5764-1306

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# Appendix 1. Initial long-list of 200 eye health indicators

# **Inputs and Processes**

### Governance

Eye health is integrated into the national health plan (Y/N)

Is eye health integrated into the plans, policies and budget of other initiatives such as maternal and child care, diabetes care, school health programs, healthy aging (Y/N)

Does the country have a national eye care coordinator/focal person for eye health? (Y/N)

Does the country have a National Prevention of Blindness/Eye Health committee? (Y/N)

Is there a National Prevention of Blindness/Eye Health plan (endorsed by the Ministry of Health?) (Y/N)

If yes, is the National Prevention of Blindness/Eye Health plan implemented at country level? (Y/N)

If yes, does the National Prevention of Blindness/Eye Health plan include a budget? (Y/N)

If yes, is the National Prevention of Blindness/Eye Health plan based on evidence of eye health need gathered in the last ten years (quality of plan)

Ability to influence policy: Number of degrees of reporting separation from national eye health officer and key decision makers / Ministers and Permanent Secraries or equivalent

Number of meetings of the Prevention of Blindness/Eye Health committee, led by Ministry of Health or with the participation of MoH representative, and held in the previous year

The number of national (or sub-national) eye care status and monitoring reports developed over the previous 2 years (and proportion of planned reported actually completed)

National eye health policies, plans and programmes refer to a multisectoral approach (Y/N)

Are there any eye health programs being led and implemented by other sectors such as education or labor? (Y/N)

Eye health is incorporated into relevant poverty-reduction strategies, initiatives and wider socioeconomic policies (Y/N)

National health plan includes human resources for eye care (Y/N)

Do stakeholder groups include representatives from disabled people's organisations (DPOs) or specific disease associations (e.g. diabetes associations)? (Y/N)

Is there eye health service user (e.g. disabled people's organisations (DPOs) or disease-specific patient groups) engagement in governance? (Y/N)

Is there a regulatory framework for the privatization, commercialization and marketization of eye health services? (Y/N)

Is there legislation that makes specific eye care services such as screening for retinopathy of prematurity mandatory (Y/N)

# **Financing**

Eye health is integrated into the national health budget (Y/N)

Proportion of population covered with health insurance (with breakdown by type of insurance)

Proportion of population covered with health insurance that includes eye care (with breakdown by type of insurance)

The percentage of defined eye health services (e.g. cataract surgery, glaucoma meds, DR laser, antiVEGF) covered by national health insurance

Total (public and private) national eye health expenditure as the percentage of total (public and private) national health expenditure

Public (government) spending on eye health as % of total health expenditure

Publically funded spending (as taxes, social contributions, compulsory private insurance contributions or other government revenues) on eye health as a percentage of current eye health expenditure

Externally funded spending (financing flows from external sources that provide the funds to public and private financing schemes) on eye health as a percentage of current eye health expenditure

Central and local council budget allocations for eye health in decentralised systems

Percent of government health budget spent on outpatient vs inpatient eye care

Is user fee revenue generated from eye care ring-fenced for eye health at facility and district level? (Y/N)

Proportion of annual national expenditure on eye care medicines by government budget, donors, charities and private patients

Share of population eligible for a defined set of eye health care goods and services funded under public programmes.

Proportion of eye care services delivered with user fee exemptions and/or waivers to access

### Infrastructure

Number of tertiary (specialised/teaching/no onward referral) ophthalmology centres per million population

Number of secondary (district level) ophthalmology/eye care centres per million population

Number of facilities providing refraction & dispense spectacles (by private & public) per million population

Number of primary care facilities with eye health capacity (optometrists/ ophthalmic nurses/health workers trained in eye care stationed at facility) in health system per million population

Is there an active national programme for descentralisation of eye care services (Y/N)

The number and proportion of hospital beds allocated to eye care nationally

Number of tertiary centres providing specialised child eye care per million population

Number (and percentage) of neonatal units providing screening for retinopathy of prematurity nationally

Number of centres for medical management of retinal causes of vision loss (including DR) per million population

Number of centres for surgical management of retinal causes of vision loss (including DR) per million population

Number of centres providing laser treatment for diabetic retinopathy per million population

Number of centres providing glaucoma surgery per million population

Number of centres which have a functioning visual field perimeter for glaucoma services

At national level, proportion of health administrative areas with permanent (i.e. staffed full-time) eye-care services

At national level, proportion of health administrative areas with cataract surgical services

Number of low vision centres nationally (secondary and tertiary) per million population

 $Proportion\ of\ secondary\ and\ tertiary\ level\ centres\ with\ trained\ and\ functional\ units\ for\ equipment\ maintenance$ 

 $Numbers\ of\ equipment\ training\ programmes\ and\ numbers\ of\ technician\ personnel\ trained$ 

# Eye health workforce

Ophthalmologist density and distribution (per million population and by urban/rural or districts), by age and sex

The proportion of ophthalmologists (as described by distribution and density) actively performing eye surgery (in the past year)

Optometrists are recognised (and regulated) by authorities and governmental structure (Y/N)

Optometrist density and distribution (per million population and by urban/rural or districts), by age and sex

Allied ophthalmic personnel (per million population and by urban/rural or districts), by age and sex

Cataract surgeons (non-ophthalmologist) are recognised by relevant government departments? (Y/N)

Number of cataract surgeons (non-ophthalmologist) (per million population and by urban/rural or districts), by age and sex

Population served by one ophthalmologist/one cataract surgeon (rural/urban)

Trends in eye care workers (by public and private sector) over the past 5 years; percentage increase/decrease in number per million population, by cadre

Ratio of urban to rural eye health workers per million population, by cadre

Are there incentives for ophthalmologists to work in poor or rural areas? (Y/N)

Ratio of private to public sector eye health workers, by cadre

Number of paediatric ophthalmologists and other sub-specialty trained providers (such as retina, cornea, glaucoma and low vision) per population (ratio)

Median remuneration of eye health workers, by cadre

Foreign-trained eye health workers as a percentage of total, by cadre

Number of graduates from eye health education and training programmes in the past academic year per million population, by age and sex

Number of training positions available (by cadre) that include clinical exposure of trainees or internship (e.g. ophthalmologists, refractionists/optometrists, nurses)

Techniques taught in residency programs are responsive to available infrastructure (Phaco - SICS - ECCE) (Y/N)

Is Primary Eye Care integrated into the national Primary Health Care programme? (Y/N)

Is Primary Eye Care integrated into the national Primary Health Care training? (Y/N)

Does the national programme for Community Health Workers include eye health? (Y/N)

Does the human resources for health strategic plan include eye care? (Y/N)

Do human resources for health collection systems include information on eye care staff? (Y/N)

Are human resources for health policies relevant to eye care staff and followed by eye care providers? (Y/N)

Proportion of secondary and tertiary eye care centres with trained eye care management personnel

# Supply chain

Total number of pharmaceuticals specifically for eye care on the National Essential Medicines List

Does national procurement data collected include information on pharmaceutical products specifically for eye care? (Y/N)

Government expenditure on pharmaceuticals (medicine and consumables) specifically for eye care (e.g. eye drops, lenses)

Private expenditure on pharmaceuticals specifically for eye care

Average availability (across facilities) of selected essential eye medicines at government eye care facilities

Average availability (across facilities) of selected affordable devices/services at government low vision eye care facilities

Median consumer price ratio of selected essential eye medicines (e.g. timolol) in public and private health facilities

Medical equipment availability (equipment to be selected)

### Information

Existence of a National Health Information System that includes eye care data (Y/N)

Do health authorities' reports include information related to eye care? (Y/N)

Do disease surveillance reports received at the various levels of the health system include information on eyes? (Y/N)

Number of eye care indicators included in the monitoring framework of the national health strategic plan (or other health plans)

Is disaggregation of data by equity measures (e.g. sex, urban/rural) available in eye health reporting (Y/N)

The proportion of districts reporting eye care information (annually)

Proportion of public eye care facilities that measure performance indicators annually to implement improvement plans

The proportion of private eye care facilities reporting eye care information to national information system

Reports of health authorities at various levels of the health system include information on eye care

Number of prevalence/population-based VI/eye health surveys completed during the past five years

Number eye care service assessments completed over the last five years

Reported evidence of research on the cost-effectiveness of eye health programmes

Eye health is listed as a research priority by national research funding bodies (Y/N)

The total funds available for eye health research annually in the country

The total number of eye health research projects occurring annually in the country

### **Outputs**

### Service access and readiness

Number of patient consultations (episodes) for eye diseases in the country per year - ICD code, or other national health condition or care coding system, over a set period.

The mean/median number of outpatient consultations per ophthalmologist per year

The mean/median number of cataract surgeries per cataract surgeon per year

Absence rate (days missed per year) of eye health workers, by cadre

Number of ophthalmic outpatient visits per capita per year (by new and repeat): the number of outpatient visits, over the total population

Number of eye hospital discharges per 100,000 population: this indicator provides additional information on the availability and access to inpatient

Cataract surgical rate; including variation in rate across regions/districts

Trend in CSR over 5 years; percentage increase/decrease in number per million population

Number of refractions in government eye care facilities, per year

Number of prescribed corrections from refractions in government eye care facilities, per year

Number of distance vision spectacles dispensed in government eye care facilities, per year

Number of near vision spectacles dispensed in government eye care facilities, per year

Number of refractions in private eye care facilities, per year

Number of prescribed corrections from refractions in private eye care facilities, per year

Number of distance vision spectacles dispensed in private eye care facilities, per year

Number of near vision spectacles dispensed in private eye care facilities, per year

Number of patients receiving anti-VEGF DR treatment, per year

Number of patients receiving laser DR treatment, per year

Number of assistive products dispsensed to low vision/rehabilitation clients

Percentage of population living within standard distance (e.g. 20 km) of eye health facility at primary level

Proportion of cataract surgery operations that take place in the private vs public sector

Proportion of refractions that take place in the private vs public sector

Utilization of private providers for eye care services in rural vs. urban areas per type of provider

Proportion of hospitalizations (or number of hospital days) that take place in the private vs. the public sector

Number of days delay in presenting for emergency care (e.g. for trauma / corneal infection / retinal detachment)

# Service quality and safety

Cataract surgery outcome (visual acuity) - proportion of eyes with 'good' outcome (6/18 or better)

Intraocular lens implantation rate: Proportion of all cataract operations performed with intraocular lens implantation in the previous year

Percentage Posterior Capsule Rupture and vitreous loss, per surgeon/institution

Implementation of a pre and post-operative cataract surgical counseling program (Y/N)

Total number of clinical practice guidelines on priority eye diseases and eye care pathways endorsed by the national/state health and/or clinical

Are national policies for promoting quality of care followed by eye care providers? (Y/N)

Existence of national eye care quality standards adapted to local level

Clinical supervision by district level supervisor include eye care services

Do national therapeutic guides with standardized treatments include common eye health problems?

Is there eye health workforce regulation and formal CPD requirements, by cadre (Y/N)

Is the sale/supply of spectacles formally regulated? (Y/N)

Amount of funding for quality improvement research

Rate of hospital-acquired infections (in eye services)

# **Efficiency**

Average waiting time (days from referral/diagnosis) for ocular cancer treatment

Average waiting time (days from referral/diagnosis) for wet AMD treatment

Average waiting time (days from referral/diagnosis) for cataract surgery

Number of wet AMD patients with assessment/treatment within national target time

Number of ocular cancer patients with assessment/treatment within national target time

Costs per hospitalisation for cataract surgery (\$ per patient)

Costs per cataract case at different levels of care (\$ per patient)

Cataract outreach programme adherence: proportion of people with operable cataract identified through outreach who receive cataract services

School eye health programme adherence: proportion of children with referable eye/vision condition identified through school-based programme who receive services

### **Responsiveness and Patient Experiences**

Number and proportion of eye care facilities or programmes in the country that undertake a survey or questionnaire on clients' experience of care, in specified period of time

Number and propotion of eye care facilities in the country that have undertaken an audit of infrastructure accessibility

The average percentage (across facilities) of eye care appointments, treatments or follow-ups skipped due to costs

The average percentage (across facilities) of prescribed eye medicines skipped due to costs

The average percentage (across facilities) of prescribed spectacle prescriptions skipped due to costs

Price of a consultation and a cataract surgery operation compared to (national) standard of living (reported as GDP per capita)

Price of a consultation and spectacles compared to (national) standard of living (reported as GDP per capita)

Eye care professional spending enough time with patients during the consultation, by cadre

Eye care professional providing easy-to-understand explanations, by cadre

Eye care professional giving opportunity to ask questions or raise concerns, by cadre

Eye care professional involving patients in decisions about care or treatment, by cadre

Have disabled people's organisations (DPOs), specific disease associations and other groups relevant to eye care the capacity and opportunity to advocate for eye health issues? (Y/N)

Have disabled people's organisations (DPOs), specific disease associations and other groups relevant to eye care the capacity and opportunity to use, analyse and feedback to government on health sector goals, planning, budgeting, expenditure and data related to eye health (Y/N)

# Care-seeking behaviour

Number and proportion of districts with community awareness and education programmes aimed at stimulating demand for eye care services

Number of patients who received education and awareness resources/programmes for management of glaucoma

Number of patients who received education and awareness resources/programmes for management of diabetes

### Outcomes

# Coverage of interventions (Prevention and treatment?)

Cataract surgical coverage & effective cataract surgical coverage

Refractive error coverage & effective refractive error coverage

Presbyopic correction coverage & effective presbyopic correction coverage

Coverage of DR screening of all people with diabetes (at the frequency recommended in national guidelines)

Coverage of retinopathy of prematurity screening of all infants who require screening (according to national guidelines)

Coverage of school eye health programmes for schools nationally

Coverage of low-vision services (consultation/devices) for persons with functional low vision

Primary eye conditions service coverage & effective primary eye conditions service coverage

The proportion of the population with a self-reported (met and) unmet need for eye care services (during the last 12 months)

In trachoma endemic countries, proportion of endemic communities covered by the SAFE strategy

In onchocerciasis endemic countries, ivermectin coverage (%) of districts at high risk of onchocerciasis

In onchocerciasis endemic countries, therapeutic ivermectin coverage rate of total population at high risk of onchocerciasis

# Equity

eCSC/eREC for the poorest 40% of the population

Health insurance coverage for the poorest 40% of the population

Distance from clinic for poorest 40% of the population

Perception of exclusion and inclusion by the eye health system

### **Impact**

# Improved eye health outcomes and equity

Prevalence of blindness/MSVI/mild VI; by SEP, PoR, sex

Prevalence of near vision impairment; by SEP, PoR, sex

Prevalence of VI (by categories) due to avoidable causes; by SEP, PoR, sex

 $Prevalence\ of\ childhood\ vision\ impairment\ and\ blindness$ 

 $\label{lem:cause} \textbf{Cause specific prevalence of vision impairment and blindness}$ 

The proportion of the population achieving 6/12 vision (UCVA or CVA)

Number (and %) of districts in the country where blinding trachoma is a public health problem

Number (and %) of districts in the country where onchocerciasis is a public health problem

# Financial (and social) risk protection

Incidence of "catastrophic" eye health expenditures

Incidence of impoverishment due to out-of-pocket eye health payments

# Well-being / Quality of life

Employment rate of people with vision impairment (following treatment and/or rehabiliation in eye health services, compared to general population employment rate

The proportion of the population 'mostly' or 'completely' satisified with their eye health

Change in health-related quality of life scores following eye care intervention

# **Eye Health Determinants**

Population age structure: What proportion of the population is of school-going age (4-18 years)

Population age structure: What proportion of the population is aged 50 years or older

Air pollution level in cities (Annual mean levels of fine particulate matter in cities, urban population (micrograms per cubic meter)) [SDG 11.6.2]

Population with primary reliance on clean fuels and technologies [SDG 7.1.2]

Measles containing vaccine second dose (MCV2) coverage amongst children by the nationally recommended age

Rubella containing vaccine coverage amongst children by the nationally recommended age

Age-standardized prevalence of current tobacco use among persons aged 18+ years

Age-standardized prevalence of raised blood glucose/diabetes among persons aged 18+ years

Population using safely managed drinking-water services [SDG 6.1.1]

Population using safely managed sanitation services [SDG 6.2.1a/6.2.1b]

# Appendix 2. Additional information on study methods.

### Round 1

Almost half the long-list indicators were input & process indicators (n=98), with fewer than 20 indicators in each of the outcome, impact and determinants domains.

# The panel were asked to:

"Please consider each indicator - and the information it aims to synthesise - and prioritise according to its relevance in your setting, keeping in mind that the feasibility, validity, reliability and comparability of priority indicators will be scrutinised in the next round.

There are five options to select from:"

| Value | Scale                    | Definition   |
|-------|--------------------------|--|
| 0     | Regulingant              | This option is for use only when another indicator within a domain adequately or           |
|       |                          | better captures the same information   |
| 1     | No need to collect       | The indicator is not relevant for monitoring eye health in your setting                    |
|       | Low priority to collect  | The indicator would not be particularly useful to allow effective monitoring of            |
|       |                          | eye health in your setting   |
| 3 H   | High priority to collect | The indicator would be useful to allow effective monitoring of eye health in your setting. |
|       |                          | setting  |
| 4     | itssential to collect    | The indicator must be collected to ensure effective monitoring of eye health in            |
|       |                          | your setting   |

A review of Round 1 scoring resulted in amendments to three groups of indicators:

- 1. Refractive error: No *refractive error*-related indictors scored in the top half of the list, though most had scored five or more '0's, where participants deemed the indicator covered by another in the list. This suggests votes were split across two or more similar options and refraction indicators were potentially underrepresented. We proposed a new *refraction rate* indicator (the refraction equivalent of the cataract surgical rate) to be added to Round 2.
- 2. Financial Risk Protection: To remain aligned with our UHC framework, both *financial risk protection* indicators the incidence of catastrophic and impoverishing spending on eye health care were retained, despite not scoring in the top half. A *health insurance coverage* indicator was maintained alongside these financial risk protection indicators despite placing just below the median score.
- 3. Governance: Three *governance* indicators that scored highly were duplicate concepts of ones retained.

Priority scoring was not consistent across the domains of HIS, with a higher proportion of input & process indicators featuring in the top half of the scoring compared to any other domain.

### Round 2

Two panelists' core ranking responses were excluded (one not completed, one incorrectly completed). Eight responses included duplication of a rank position 1-10 resulting in more than 10 choices. These were modified such that one duplicate position was selected at random and modified as 'rank + 1' and all subsequent ranking positions following the duplication were modified as 'rank + 1', the lowest scoring choice was deleted and consecutive ranks 1 through 10 were recorded.

# Appendix 3. The top 30 global eye health indicators prioritised by 72 global eye health stakeholders in Round 2

# **Inputs & processes**

### Governance

Eye health is integrated into the national health plan (or the relevant specific plan e.g. NCD plan) (Y/N)

National health plan includes human resources for eye care (Y/N)

Is the National Prevention of Blindness/Eye Health plan implemented at country level? (Y/N)

Is the National Prevention of Blindness/Eye Health plan based on evidence of eye health need gathered in the last ten years (quality of plan) [e.g. cites population-based survey and health service assessment data]

### Finance

Eye health is integrated into the national health budget (Y/N)

The percentage of defined eye health services (e.g. cataract surgery, glaucoma meds, DR laser, antiVEGF) covered by national health insurance

### Infrastructure

Number of primary care facilities with eye health capacity (by any of optometrists/ ophthalmic nurses/health workers trained in eye care) per million population

Number of secondary (district level) ophthalmology/eye care centres per million population

Number of low vision centres nationally (secondary and tertiary) per million population

Number (and percentage) of neonatal units providing screening for retinopathy of prematurity nationally

# Supply chain

Total number of pharmaceuticals specifically for eye care on the National Essential Medicines List

### Information

Existence of a National Health Information System that includes eye care data (Y/N)

Number of eye care indicators included in the monitoring framework of the national health strategic plan (or other health plans) [Reported as number and proportion of total]

Is disaggregation of data by equity measures (e.g. sex, urban/rural) available in eye health reporting (Y/N)

# Eye health workforce

Ophthalmologist density and distribution (per million population and by urban/rural or districts), by age and sex; include 5 year trend option

Is Primary Eye Care (prevention, identification, treatment, referral as appropriate per setting) integrated into the national Primary Health Care programme? (Y/N)

Is Primary Eye Care integrated into the national Primary Health Care training? (Y/N)

Does the human resources for health strategic plan include eye care? (Y/N)

# Outputs

# Access

Cataract surgical rate; including variation in rate across regions/districts & 5 year trend in CSR

# **Quality & safety**

Cataract surgical outcome (visual acuity) - proportion of eyes with 'good' outcome (6/18 or better)

# **Outcomes**

# Coverage

Cataract surgical coverage & effective cataract surgical coverage

Refractive error coverage & effective refractive error coverage

Coverage of school eye health programmes for schools nationally

Coverage of retinopathy of prematurity screening of all infants who require screening (according to national guidelines)

Coverage of DR screening of all people with diabetes (at the frequency recommended in national guidelines)

# **Equity**

Effective cataract surgical coverage & effective refractive error coverage for the poorest 40% of the population

# Impact

### Improved outcomes

Prevalence of blindness/MSVI/mild VI; by SEP, PoR, sex [equity dimensions to be reported as available]

Cause specific prevalence of vision impairment and blindness; by SEP, PoR, sex [equity dimensions to be reported as available]

Prevalence of VI (by categories) due to avoidable causes; by SEP, PoR, sex [equity dimensions to be reported as available]

Prevalence of childhood vision impairment and blindness; by SEP, PoR, sex [equity dimensions to be reported as available]