



COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS

The Big Four Agenda – Frequently Asked Questions of the Universal Health Care program

The Big Four Agenda is characterised by measures the Jubilee administration will focus on by dedicating energy, time and resources to over the next 5 years on improving the quality of life for all Kenyans. Through universal health coverage food security, affordable housing, manufacturing and universal healthcare, both levels of Government will catapult the achievement of Vision 2030.




The Big 4 Action Plan

- **Provide Quality Universal Health Coverage**
- Enhance Food and Nutrition Security
- Enhance Manufacturing
- Provide Affordable Housing

1. What is UHC?

The Universal Health Coverage (UHC) is a measure by the government to provide essential health care and improve the overall quality of health services for all Kenyans by 2022. The overall aspirations of the universal health coverage are;

“ By 2022, all persons in Kenya can use the essential services they need for their health and well being through a health benefit package without the risk of getting into financial hardship ”

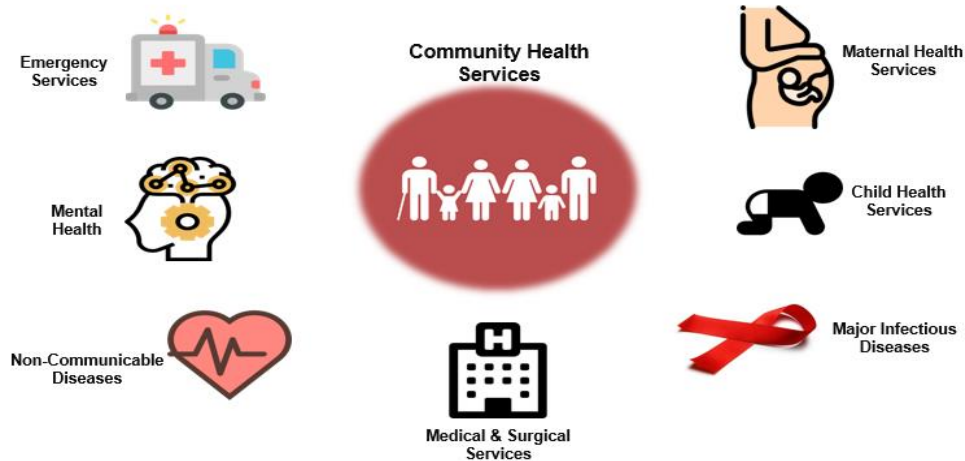
-  Each Kenyan can access a benefit package that addresses their health needs
-  Essential health interventions are provided to all areas of the country including hard-to-reach areas
-  All Kenyans are protected from potential financial catastrophe arising from the use of health services

2. What health services will be provided under UHC?

To provide all Kenyans with 100% coverage by 2022, the health benefit package has been designed to provide essential health services that will address health needs to all areas of the country including hard-to-reach areas. The UHC program will focus on a Primary Health

Care Approach and will include scaling up Immunization Services; Maternal and Child Health Services, family planning, antenatal and postnatal care services; Prevention of water borne, vector borne, TB and HIV and sexually transmitted diseases and improving nutrition of women who conceive and follow this through to the first five years of a child's life.

Essential Health Benefits Package

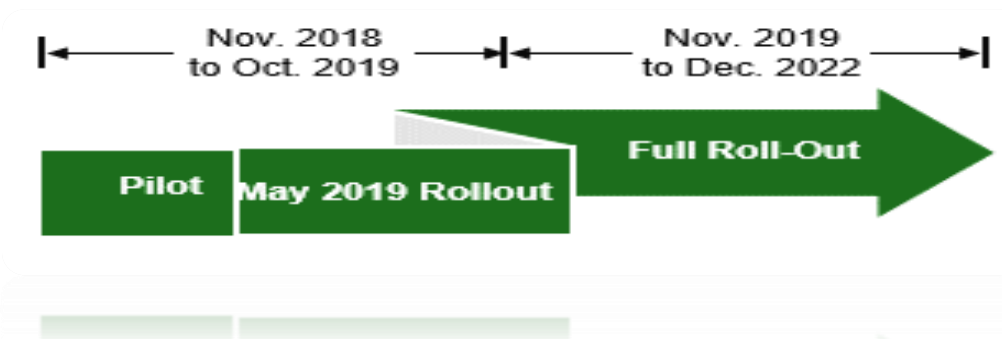


Source: Kenya MOH

3. Can I access UHC today?

Yes you can access the services, but not at the moment. Implementation of UHC will be through a phased approach whereby four counties, Nyeri, Machakos, Kisumu and Isiolo will participate in a pilot with a view to use the lessons learnt in eventual scale up to the rest of the 43 Counties.

The pilot specifically involves 100% provision of health insurance premiums subsidy to all households in the informal sector in the four (4) pilot counties, 3.2 million Kenyans in the four pilot counties, for a period of one year (12) months.



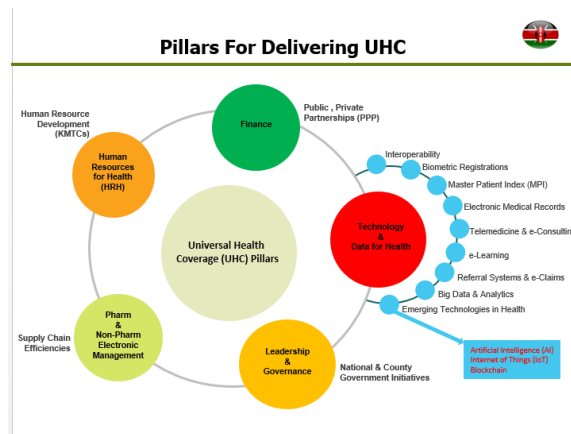
4. Why those 4 Counties? Why wasn't my County picked?

Piloting the health coverage program in a controlled population ensures less chances of failure and risks can be minimized when the programme is eventually scaled up to the whole population. The decision to pilot the programme in these counties was evidence-based on disease burden in the significant areas:

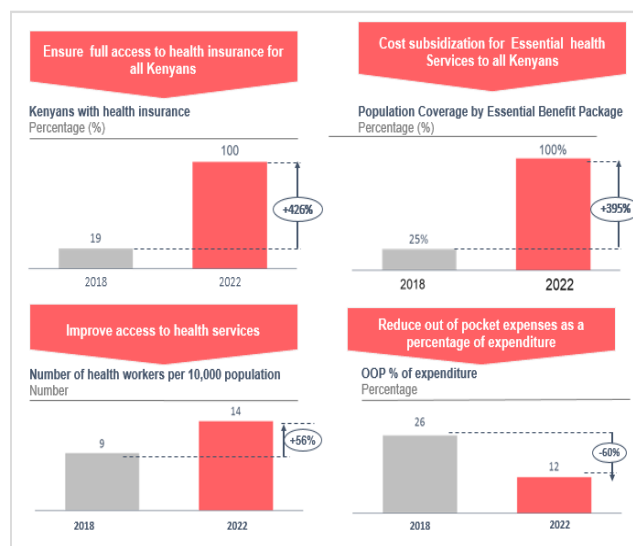
- Kisumu, it is because it leads in the high number of infectious diseases like HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis;
- Machakos hospital visits are mostly because of accidents and injuries;
- Nyeri is leading in cases of non-communicable diseases, particularly diabetes; and
- Isiolo is ideally meant to assess how the package will work among the nomadic population.

5. Is it possible to achieve 100% coverage by 2022?

Yes it is very possible. Through the leadership of National and County Governments, adequate human resources, Public, private partnerships (PPs) to drive financing among others, as a country we will move from the current 19% coverage to 100%.



Our Universal Healthcare 2022 Commitments



Source: Kenya MOH Health

6. What role will the Counties play

Did you know that counties have the mandate to initiate, expand and implement social health insurance programs in-line with the Constitution and the Kenya Vision 2030?

Universal Health Coverage is more than just ensuring access to quality health care, it is also about eliminating the out-of-pocket expenditure. The program aspires to reduce out of pocket costs from 26% to 12%, a reduction of 60%.

In order to attain our aspirations within the Kenya Vision 2030, it is vital that all counties should focus on creating partnerships with the Private Sector, NGOs and Civil Society groups so as to increase funding and sustain some of the health programs that will aid in achieving the Social Pillar. This will go a long way in providing the health system with infrastructure, medical equipment, research and development and capacity building and training through which the National Government can directly collaborate with each County Government thereby touching each and every Kenyan.

7. Ok, I'm sold. How do I register?

Every Kenyan must register for the UHC before receiving health care services. The government has already embarked on increasing enrolment to NHIF to enable access to affordable universal health care.

Registration will be done by at the household level by community health volunteers. To register, you need an ID card, a birth certificate for children or a letter from the area chief.

Every household will be issued with one UHC card to cover children below 18 years while children aged above 18 will each get their own UHC card. The UHC card is what will be used to identify patients at health facilities. Other initiatives like Linda Mama free maternity care programme and health subsidies for the elderly and the poor have all been part of UHC.

After registration, patients will be treated free of charge, including referrals.

Useful links

<https://big4.president.go.ke/>

<https://vision2030.go.ke/county-governments-at-the-centre-of-achieving-universal-health-care/>

<http://www.health.go.ke>

<http://www.nhif.or.ke/healthinsurance/>