

TRANSFORMING UHC HEALTH SERVICE DELIVERY MODELS IN THE PHILIPPINES THROUGH RESPONSIVE HOSPITAL AND HEALTH FACILITY REGULATION: THE ROLE OF REGULATORY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

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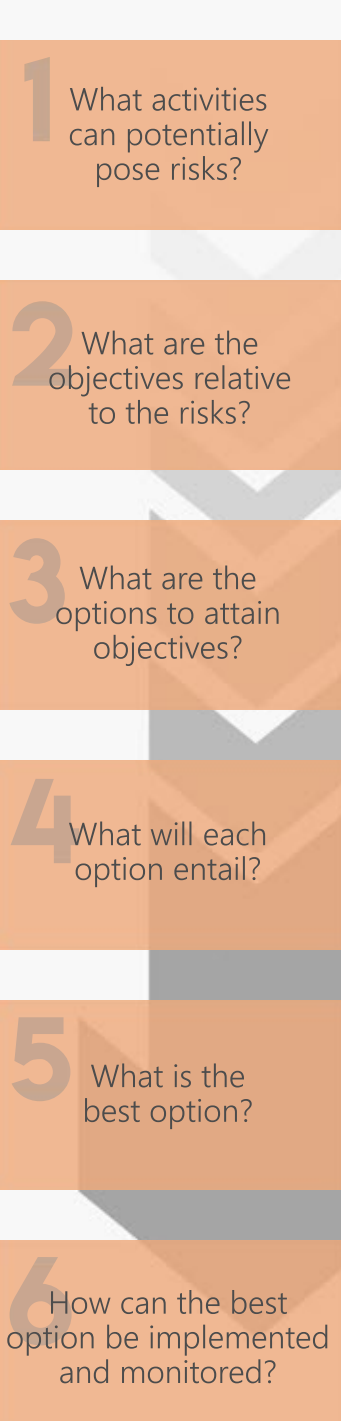
INTRODUCTION

Attainment of universal health care (UHC) in a decentralized health system, with both public and private health delivery components, requires overcoming complex access barriers. The Philippines is approaching this by mandating the formation of health care provider networks, locally recognized as service delivery networks (SDNs). SDNs are organized around populations. These are expected to harness local governance and promote collaboration between public and private providers. Regulation is a health system tool that government can use towards attainment of health outcomes. The Philippine Department of Health (DOH) is interested in determining the best regulatory approach.

OBJECTIVE

We conducted a regulatory impact assessment (RIA) of each proposed regulatory approach:
OPTION 1: individual hospital licensing,
OPTION 2: SDN-based licensing, and
OPTION 3: individual hospital licensing with certification for SDN membership

METHODS

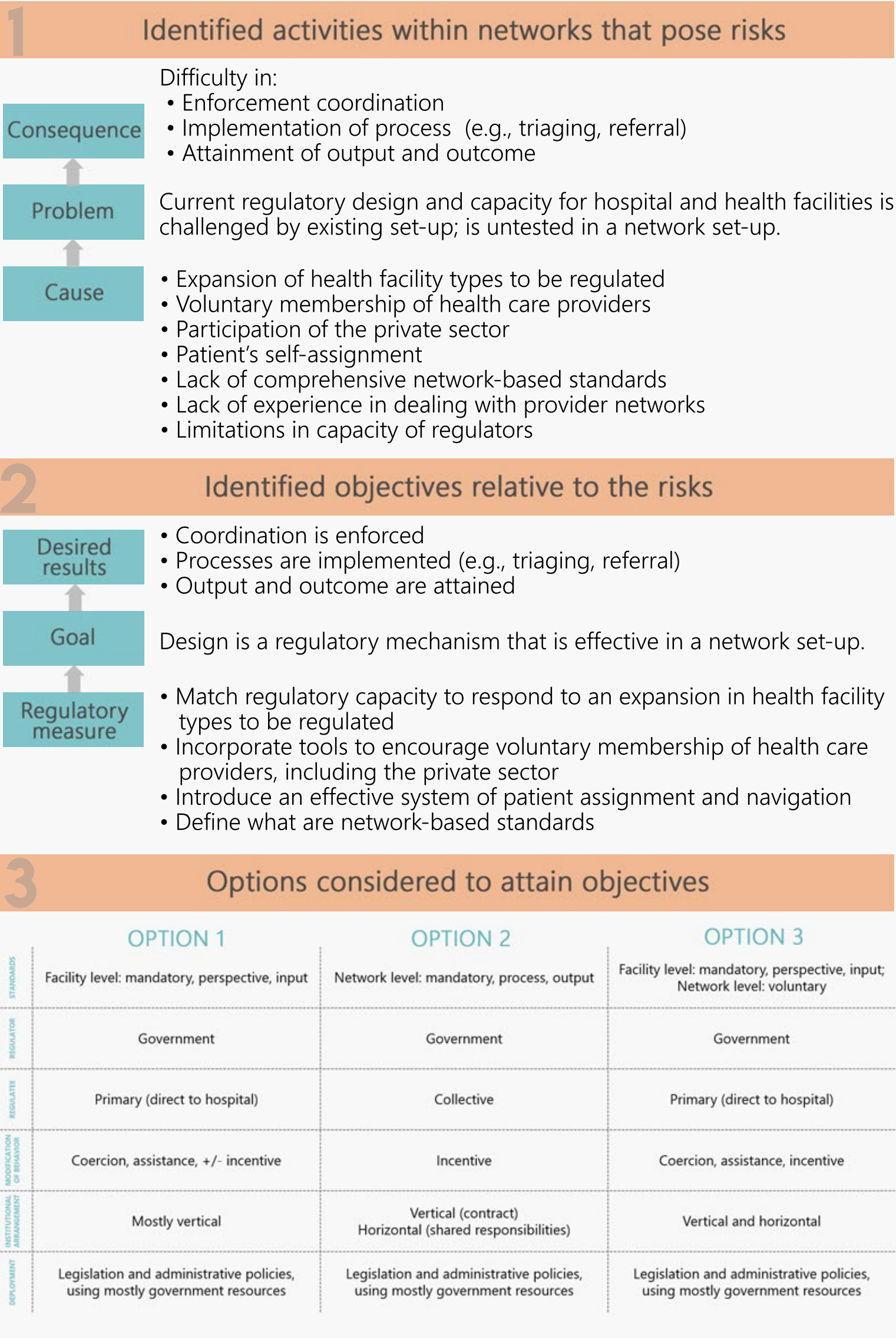


Data gathering and consultations

The Framework and Conceptual Model-Regulatory Impact Analysis (de Carvalho et al., 2016) was used. Adaptation to a low-resource setting was guided by the work of Marusic and Radulovic (2011). The RIA reflected national and SDN-level perspectives. One city and two provinces were purposely selected with DOH to represent SDN-level activities. We reviewed policy documents, relevant literature, and administrative records. We also conducted focus group discussions among regulators and in-depth interviews with key managers and policy makers. Textual data was analyzed for themes responding to the RIA questions. We performed economic evaluation using administrative data to measure the cost and benefit of regulatory activities.

Fig 1. RIA process

RESULTS



NEXT STEPS

The most superior option will be identified, including key assertions that support this recommendation. Implications to policy will be described. Contribution to the global discussion on UHC, particularly the role of regulation, will be highlighted. This also supports the importance of providing evidence to support policies for UHC.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

Multi-criteria decision analysis through consultative process has value but this has to link with proper channel of regulatory decision making. The decision making process of RIA has to be supported by legislation and administrative policies. Regularly monitor the result of the regulatory decision to ensure that it contributes to health system strengthening and outcome attainment.

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