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Practicum Site: World Health Organization Geneva, Switzerland

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World Health Organization: Universal Health Coverage 2030 Initiative

Purpose: The World Health Organization (WHO), located in Geneva, Switzerland, functions as the leader of international public health and health policy. One of many WHO initiatives is Universal Health Coverage 2030 (UHC2030). As part of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), all UN Member States have agreed to try to achieve UHC by 2030. The mission of UHC2030 initiative is to accelerate progress towards UHC through strengthening health systems and to attain the highest possible level of health for all people. The goal of the practicum was to contribute toward the UHC2030 initiative through evaluation of stakeholder statements, review of UHC and community engagement literature, and development of a policy brief on achieving UHC. The overall objective was to share knowledge with member states, participants, and all stakeholders who would apply strategies to implement UHC.

Design: The main aims of the practicum were to: (1) identify the best communication strategies to engage different types of audiences, (2) identify and test innovation knowledge management strategies with partners and member states, and (3) assess the added value of a multi-stakeholders initiative to foster UHC.

Outcomes: The practicum allowed for opportunities to evaluate metrics and create spreadsheets used in the development of a case study for policy briefs. The policy briefs were distributed by initiative organizers to member state representatives to provide additional information on the added value of UHC.

Interpretation: Achieving UHC requires great effort from many stakeholders, especially from the community itself in order to create a sustainable program. Understanding stakeholders' motivations that will ultimately impact their support and the success of UHC is an ongoing challenge.

