

COMMUNITY MEDICINE

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Community Medicine

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Fields of Community Medicine

- Reproductive health
- Maternal health
- Child health
- School health
- Rural health
- Elderly health
- Mental health
- Environmental health
- Occupational health

- Communication & health behavior
- Health system
- Primary health care
- Health care management
- Disability
- Nutrition
- NCDs
- Communicable diseases
- Medical biostatistics
- General epidemiology
- Special epidemiology

Definition of Health

WHO defines health as

**“Health is a state of complete physical, mental, and social wellbeing
and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity ”**

Definition of Community

- **A community is a group of individuals sharing an identity and culture & operates through common institutions & organizations.**
 - **A health center in a rural or urban area is responsible for the health of the community they serve within the catchment area**
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Public Health

- **Health of groups & not individual cases e.g.**
 - **School health**
 - **Environmental health**
 - **Child health.**
 - **It deals with determinants of health as defining risk factors for a specific health problem**
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Public Health

- **The science & practice of protecting & improving the health of a community by**
 - Preventive medicine
 - Health education
 - Control of communicable diseases
 - Application of sanitary measures
 - Monitoring of environmental hazards.
 - **A field of medicine that deals with the physical & mental health of the community, particularly in such areas as water supply, waste disposal, air pollution, & food safety.**
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Public Health

- **Public health is the art & science of**
 - **Promoting health,**
 - **Prevention of disease**
 - **Increasing the span of healthy life**
 - **Through organizing efforts of the society**
 - **It also defined as a combination of scientific disciplines, skills & beliefs that are directed to maintenance & improvement of health of the people.**
 - **Public health is applied for all population through a network of health care delivery system, established all over the country to provide health services. It is responsibility of MoH**
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Public Health

Recent Definition

**Public health is the organized efforts of society
to develop public health policies;
to promote health;
to prevent diseases, &
to foster social equity within a framework of sustainable
development**

Definition of Health & Disease

- When we entered medical school, our understanding was that we were going to work in our own clinics or in hospitals; we received patients with complaints or suffering from disease, we

Examine the patients

Diagnose them

Treat them

This is the

CURATIVE MEDICINE

Definition of Health & Disease

- In real life however, we find this is a limited scope of care
 - Before the person identifies that s/he is sick, s/he may already passed into different stages from being perfectly well till being severely ill
 - Individuals who became sick is living in a family setting, within a society, sharing the same environment
 - S/he is affected by & affect other members in the community
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- In COMMUNITY MEDICINE
 - We are concerned about the individuals for his/her self, as a member of the family, & living within a community
 - Our concerns extends throughout the health spectrum
 - It deals with the community as a whole with all its members, & organization within a environment
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Essential Public Health Functions

- Protection of the environment
 - Health education
 - Health legislation & health regulations
 - Prevention & control of infectious diseases
 - Care for special groups as mothers, children, & workers in certain hazardous occupation
 - Assessment of health needs, plans & supports the provision of health care services to the population
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Community Health / Community Medicine

- **Is the application of the principles of public health to communities**
 - **Community medicine**
 - **Is the branch of medicine concerned with the overall health of the individual within the home environment & the community, & with the application of comprehensive care for the prevention & treatment of illness in the entire community**
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Definition of Social Medicine

- Encompasses the whole of present-day diagnostic & therapeutic medicine, & according to some definitions it includes preventive medicine. But, in addition, social medicine embraces hygiene & public health.
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Definition of Family Medicine

- Family medicine is the medical specialty that provides continuing, comprehensive health care for the individual and family.
 - It is a specialty in breadth that integrates the biological, clinical, and behavioral sciences.
 - The scope of family medicine encompasses all ages, both sexes, each organ system, and every disease entity.
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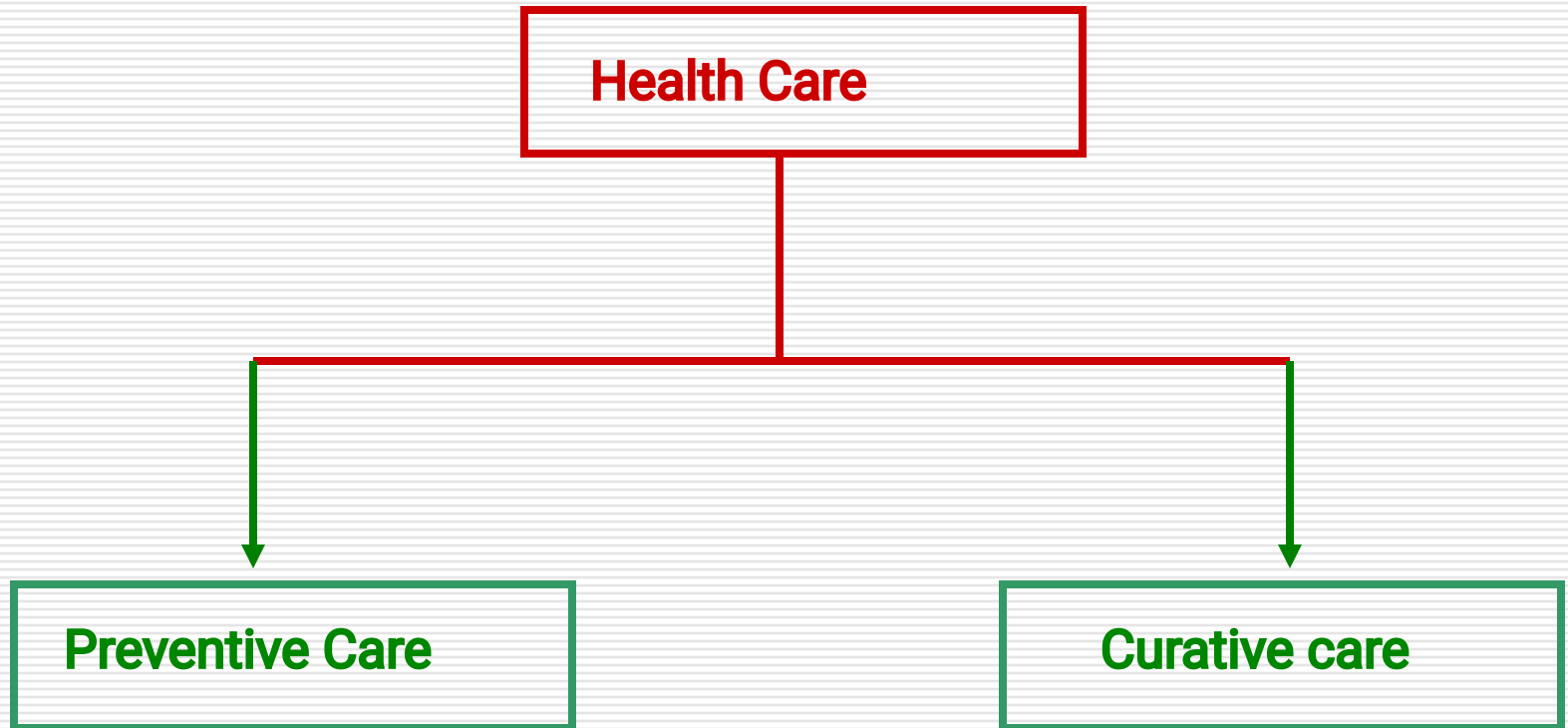
Definition of Preventive Medicine

- **Is the science & art of application of the different levels of prevention at the population, community, & individuals levels**
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Definition of Hygiene

- The science of preventive medicine and the preservation of health. Also commonly used as a euphemism (for cleanliness and) كناية proper sanitation.
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Pattern of Health Care



Pattern of Health Care

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graph TD; A[Pattern of Health Care] --> B[Preventive Care]; A --> C[Curative care]; B --> D[Primary]; B --> E[Secondary]; B --> F[Tertiary]; C --> G[Emergency care]; C --> H[Episodic care]; C --> I[Continuous care]; C --> J[Terminal care];
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Preventive Care

Primary

Secondary

Tertiary

Curative care

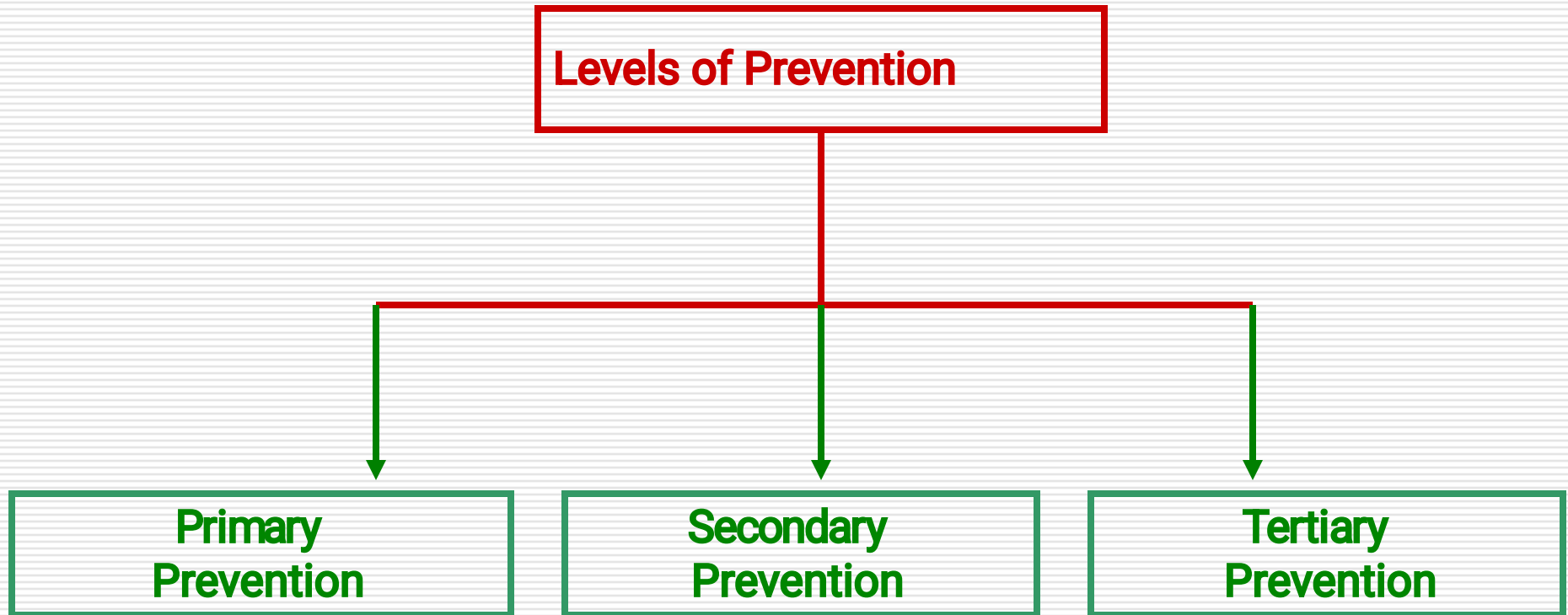
Emergency care

Episodic care

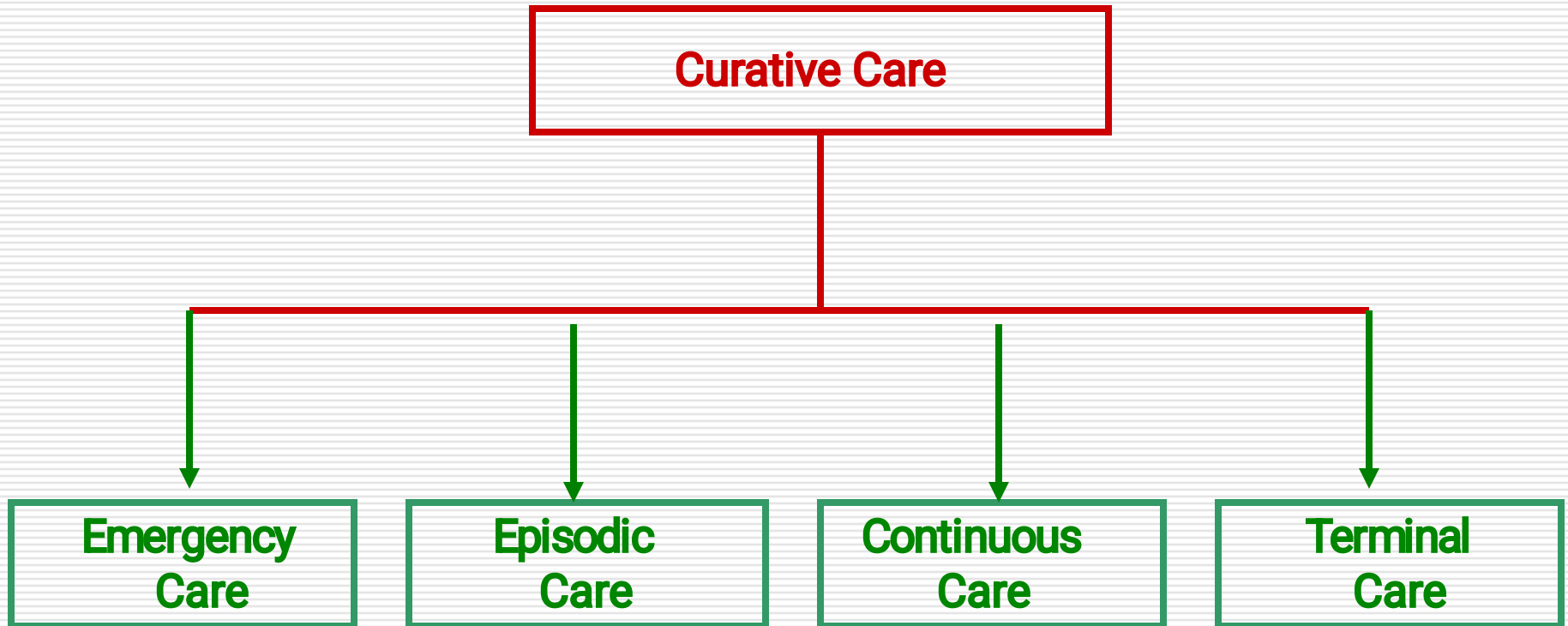
Continuous care

Terminal care

Levels of Prevention



Patterns of Curative Care



Patterns of Curative Care

- **Emergency Care**
 - Quality emergency care is the right for every individual in the country, any where all the time. This include both medical & surgical condition

 - **Episodic Care**
 - Most common type of curative care for acute conditions. Patients seek medical care for acute condition as diarrhea, fever

 - **Continuous Care**
 - Chronic disease as HTN, DM

 - **Terminal Care**
 - The patient is in the final stage of disease, expected to die
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Levels of Medical Practice

- **Individual level**
 - **Care for individual. Usually curative. Two approaches**
 - **The case approach**
 - **The physician is only concerned with the clinical condition as presented by symptoms.**
 - **In this situation, S/he may miss important aspects in diagnosis & treatment e.g.**
 - **Child presenting with diarrhea, the physician cares with ORT only without paying attention to malnutrition**
 - **The total person approach**
 - **The person as a whole is assessed from the medical, psychological, & social aspects to reach a proper diagnosis & follow appropriate line of treatment**
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Levels of Medical Practice

- **Family level**
 - **Consider whole family as one unit. to implement family practice, two conditions must be fulfilled**
 - **The same physician or (group of physicians working in the same health facility) is caring for all family members**
 - **A family health folder including medical record for every individual should be available**
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Levels of Medical Practice

- **Community level**
 - **The health services provided to the community should be appropriate to address the health needs for that particular community to**
 - **Promote health**
 - **Prevent & control of health problems**
 - **Treat disease conditions**
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Levels of Medical Practice

- Comprehensive health care
 - Is preventive / curative care from the physical, psychological, mental & social aspects, at the level of
 - Individual
 - Family
 - community
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Comparison between Clinical & Community Medicine

Items	Clinical medicine	Community medicine
Objective	Patient cure	Health improvement
Information	Complaint, history	Morbidity, mortality & related factors at community level
Investigations	Lab test, x-ray, others	Survey studies
Diagnosis	Differential diagnosis	Community diagnosis & priority setting
Resources	Available therapy	Health & health related services
Management	treatment	Health programs
Evaluation	Follow up of patients	Assessment of health status in the community