

Case 1: The Indus Hospital: Delivering Free Health Care in Pakistan

Case overview

Set in Karachi, Pakistan, this case examines a private charity hospital's potential to offer high quality surgical services and impact health in a resource-constrained setting. The Indus Hospital uses a unique financing structure to offer free care, which is in high demand given Pakistan's health care system and its political, socioeconomic, and epidemiological context. Started in 2007 as a 150-bed hospital by a group of dedicated surgeons and an anesthesiologist, Indus expanded quickly and provided 43,209 inpatient services, 1,782,222 outpatient services, and 108,045 surgeries worth USD 36,855,937 by June 2014. The case explores the effect of financing, leadership and a mission-driven culture on surgical health care delivery. It concludes with Indus' leaders planning how to expand their service delivery to include primary and preventative care and the importance of integrating surgical care into the larger health system.