Vienna Center for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation. Panel discussion on Improving Access to Radiotherapy in LMICs. 4 February 2022

# ACCESS TO RADIOTHERAPY IN LOW- AND MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES

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# RADIOTHERAPY: AN ESSENTIAL COMPONENT OF CANCER CARE





Access to radiotherapy must be ensured for the entire population

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More than 90% of patients in HIC have access to radiotherapy

**50-60%** of patients in **LMIC** have **access** to **radiotherapy** 

**10%** of patients in **LIC** have **access** to **radiotherapy** 

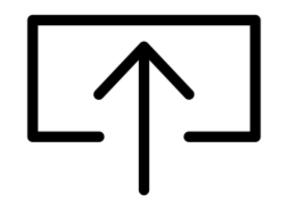
### There is a problem of access to radiotherapy in LMICs

The message is not complete if the other components of the cancer control continuum are not included in the cancer policies aimed to improve cancer outcomes



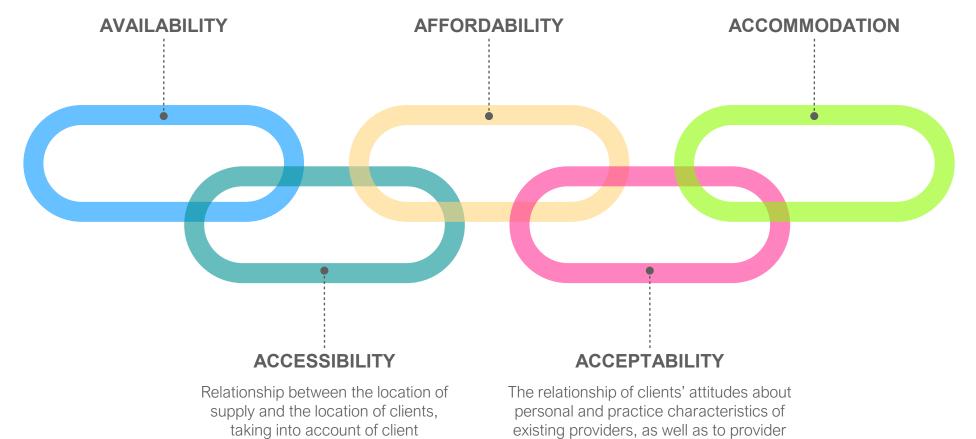
The proof of access is the use of the service, not simply the presence of a facility. Access can, accordingly, be measured by the level of use in relation to "need".

Donabedian A. Models for Organizing the Delivery of Personal Health Services and Criteria for Evaluating Them. Milbank Mem Fund Q. 1972;50:103-154. Access can be defined as the opportunity to have health care needs fulfilled.



Levesque JF, Harris MF, Russell G. Patient-centred access to health care: conceptualising access at the interface of health systems and populations. Int J Equity Health. 2013;12:18.

The relationship of the volume and type of the existing services (and resources) to the clients' volume and types of needs. The relationship of prices of services and providers' insurance or deposit requirements to the clients' income, ability to pay, and existing health insurance The relationship between the manner in which the supply resources are organised to accept clients and the clients' ability to accommodate to these factors



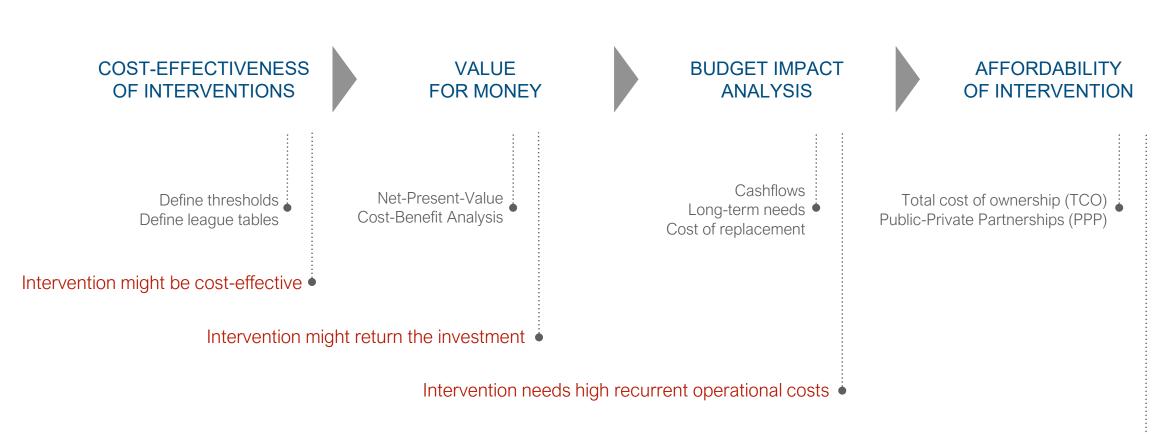
Penchansky R, Thomas JW. The concept of access: definition and relationship to consumer satisfaction. Med Care. 1981;19:127-140.

attitudes about acceptable personal characteristics of clients

transportation resources and travel

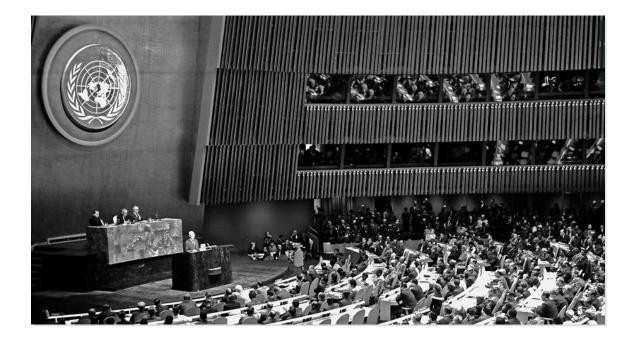
time, distance and cost

## INVESTMENT CASE FOR RADIOTHERAPY IN LMICs



Innovative financing needed for long-term sustainability •

# IAEA 1957 "Atoms for peace"



"to accelerate and enlarge the contribution of atomic energy to peace, health and prosperity throughout the world."



"The Agency shall seek to accelerate and enlarge the contribution of atomic energy to peace, health and prosperity throughout the world" Article II of the Statutes of IAEA

