Universal Healthcare & Missionary Medicine

Mission healthcare can seem to policy-makers to provide a structural obstacle to the integration, coordination and consistency implied by universal health coverage. However, Shane Doyle’s presentation will argue that medical mission's historical strengths – palliative care, concern for the marginalized, crisis response – suggest that it can contribute positively to universal healthcare programmes in the developing world.

Ian and Sally Smith’s presentation will cover a brief history of the first two millennia of medical missions, how have medical missions contributed to the Primary Health Care movement and Universal Health Care, what it means to be a medical missionary, drawing on practical experience from Nepal, and to what extent is church-led health care the solution or the problem in UHC, with examples from HIV/AIDS and Ebola.

For more information, please contact: GHHistories@who.int