



Dr Okore Okorafor received his Phd in December 2009 from the University of Cape Town.

Thesis title: Fiscal federalism and equity in the financing of Primary Health Care: The case of South Africa

Okore Okorafor is from Nigeria. He has a BSc(Hons) in Economics from the University of Nigeria, Nsukka. He obtained this first degree in 1998 and received the best graduating student award from the Department of Economics, University of Nigeria Nsukka. He also has an MSocSci (Health Economics) from UCT. The main objective of Okore's doctoral thesis was to investigate the implications of fiscal federalism on the equitable distribution of primary health care resources in South Africa. The study assessed processes and criteria for revenue generation, intergovernmental and sectoral budgeting, the influence of key stakeholders, community involvement in PHC budgeting, and policy objectives of the health sector to assess how they impact on the realisation of an equitable distribution of PHC resources. The study showed that the introduction of fiscal federalism in South Africa created an additional constraint to achieving a more equitable distribution of primary health care resources. Nevertheless, the distribution of primary health care resources across health districts and provinces has become increasingly equitable in recent years. A growing public sector budget, consistent increases in health sector allocations, and overwhelming political support for equity in South Africa have been the key reasons for the shifts towards a more equitable distribution of primary health care resources.

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