



N Devadasan **Technical Advisor**

Work Profile at HSTP

Main role is to provide technical input into HSTP's activities, specifically on the HPSR fellowship program and the health financing work.

Major Research Interests: Health systems, Health financing, Primary Health Care

Key Achievements:

Have worked 35 years as a public health professional, of which the first 10 years was spent in the jungles of Mudumalai forests of Gudalur, Nilgiris; **working with the Adivasis** and setting up an entire health system for them. This system continues till date with an extensive network of community health workers, first line nursing aides and a 50-bed referral hospital. It was initially funded by a contributory community health insurance scheme.

Another 15 years was spent in **founding and developing the Institute of Public Health in Bengaluru**. This is a platform for young public health researchers to come and conduct health systems research, generate evidence, and use it to influence policy and practice. Other than research and advocacy, IPH was also involved in training, conducting short online courses for professionals who wanted to know more about public health management, health financing or research methods. It also ran a PhD programme for Indian public health professionals in collaboration with European Universities. I retired as the founder Director of IPH in June 2019.

The in-between 10 years was spent in various activities, including completing my masters and PhD, working with the WHO on disease surveillance (**investigated 3 NIPAH virus outbreaks**) as well as teaching at the Institute of Tropical Medicine, Antwerp

Education:

- PhD: University of Gent, Belgium. Community health financing
- MPH: Institute of Tropical Medicine, Antwerp, Belgium.
- MBBS: Christian Medical College, Vellore, India.

Brief Bio

- 2019 – date: HSTP
- 2005 – 2019: Founder Director of IPH
- 2003 – 2005: PhD student
- 2000 – 2003: National Professional Officer, WHO Country office, India
- 1998 – 2000: India Country Director, Action Health, UK
- 1997 – 1998: Tutor at Institute of Tropical Medicine, Antwerp, Belgium
- 1987 – 1997: ACCORD, Gudalur, Nilgiris, Tamil Nadu, India.

Selected Research Publications:

- The Covid 19 pandemic: diverse contexts; different epidemics – how and why? W Van Damme N Devadasan ... Y Assefa. BMJ Global Health. 2020.
- Challenges in primary care for diabetes and hypertension: an observational study of Kolar district in rural India. D Lall, N Engels, N Devadasan, K Horstman, B Criel. BMC Health Services research. 2019



- Optimising the Involvement of Private practitioners in Tuberculosis care and control in India. PhD Thesis of Dr Vijayashree Y. Coaches – Krumeich A, Criel B, Devadasan N, Engels N. Maastricht University. 2019.
- Health for all – a pragmatic approach. N. Devadasan. Medico Friends Circle. 2019
- Models of care for chronic conditions in low/middle income countries: a ‘best fit’ framework synthesis. Lall D, Engel N, N Devadasan, Horstman K, Criel B. *BMJ Global Health*. 2018.
- Capacity to manage worldwide: can fast control of Ebola and Nipah outbreaks reassure us? Van Damme W, Van de Put W, N Devadasan, Ricarte JAB, Muyembe JJ. *British Medical Journal* – Editorial. In press.
- Involving private practitioners in the Indian Tuberculosis program: a randomized trial
- Vijayashree Y, T Battaglioli, Sanath K Gurum, N Devadasan, Patrick Van der Stuyft. *Tropical Medicine and International Health*, 23(5) 2018
- Patient pathways to tuberculosis diagnosis and treatment in a fragmented health system: a qualitative study from a south Indian district.
- Vijayashree Y, P Lefevre, T Battaglioli, N. Devadasan, Patrick Van der Stuyft. *BMC Public Health*, 17 (635), 2017
- How patients navigate the diagnostic ecosystem in fragmented health system: a qualitative study from India.
- Vijayashree Y, N Devadasan, A Krumeich, N Pai, C Vadnais, M Pai, N Engels. *Global Health Action*. 2017
- Coping with Tuberculosis and DOTS: a qualitative study among patients from South India.
- Vijayashree Y, P Leferve, T Battaglioli, N Devadasan, Patrick van Der Stuyft. *BMC Health Services Research*. 2016
- Improving access to medicines for NCD in rural India: a mixed methods study protocol using quasi experimental design.
- Prashanth NS, Maya A Elias, MK Pati, P Aivalli, CM Munegowda, S Bhanuprakash, SM Sadhana, B Criel, M Bigdeli, N Devadasan. *BMC Health Services Research*. 2016.
- The Profile and Job perceptions of Block program managers in Karnataka.
- JF de Man, Bheemaray VM, Arupa Das, B Criel, N Devadasan. *Journal of Community Health Management*. 2016
- Intervening in the local health system to improve diabetes care: lessons from a health service experiment in a poor urban neighbourhood in India.
- U. Bhojani, P Kolsteren, B Criel, S De Henauw, Thriveni BS, R Verstraeten, N Devadasan. *Global Health Action*:2015
- The rising burden of chronic conditions among urban poor: a 3 year follow up survey in Bengaluru, India.
- MJ Gowda, U Bhojani, N Devadasan, Thriveni BS. *BMC Health Services Research*. 2015.