Background

- Crisis like Covid-19 pandemic has proved that even strong national health systems can collapse without proper preparation of what may come.
- Limited resources in the government sector do not necessarily predict failure if the burden is shared by the collective resources from private sector with successful leadership and governance.
- It is, therefore, crucial to learn the effective collaborations between government and private health sectors.
- This study will explore the examples of public-private partnerships (PPPs) in India in response to COVID-19 pandemic and analyze those models to understand how best to enable PPPs for future pandemic response.

Objectives

- To identify the current PPPs in various areas of COVID-19 response in India
- To determine best models of PPPs
- To explore the barriers and enablers for those PPPs

Methodology

- This is a qualitative study with document reviews and key informant interviews.
- Study population is representatives from both public and private health organizations involved in India’s Covid-19 response.
- In collaboration with NATHEALTH India, the potential participants for qualitative interviews were purposively chosen and invitations were sent out via emails.
- Currently, 12 key informant interviews were done, and the interview process is ongoing with snowball sampling as there are no public sector response yet.

Figure 2: Occupations of Interviewees in “public-private partnerships in India’s Covid-19 Response” study

Preliminary Findings

- Initial findings from private sector shows that India’s pandemic response was largely facilitated by pre-existing partnerships.
- Government’s support in health technology innovations and well-established data management system were also important factors for successful partnerships.
- The most common challenges were long regulatory approval process and contacting the right persons/decision makers due to unclear roles and responsibilities in emergency setting.

Next steps

- Continue interview process until data saturation and applied thematic analysis with Nvivo
- Synthesizing the best framework for PPPs in emergency response based on the results
- Disseminate results to participants and prepare manuscript to publish for wider audience and policy implications.