

Quiz 2

1. Describe the Bretton Wood System. How has it changed over time?

The Bretton Wood System was initially designed to manage and stabilize the global economy to prevent crises like the Great Depression. It has begun to migrate from the Keynesian (neoliberal) system of economics when confronted with failing economies around the world and the 2008 recession.

2. What are some health consequences of neoliberal reforms globally? Give examples from the readings.

Neoliberal reforms propagated by the IMF, World Bank, and WTO resulted in reduced life expectancy, greater inequalities (which has been empirically linked to poorer mental and physical health outcomes), and reduced economic growth (which impacts health because NTDs disproportionately affect poor countries). For instance, neoliberal reforms in sub-Saharan Africa set up a poor economy vulnerable to limited healthcare services and commercialized sex, which have furthered the HIV/AIDS epidemic. In the former USSR, neoliberalism made way for societal chaos, including high unemployment, crime, and economic breakdown.

3. What are various definitions of global governance? What are its limitations?

Global governance, in general, is a term for the cooperation and management of nation states. The multiple definitions of global governance, however, focus on different things including public health, poverty, geographic regions, or inequality. Global governance is limited by the sovereignty of nation states; accountability to donors, governments, and primarily, people; and collaboration among various sectors.

4. What are the “Grand Challenges” in the Global Health Initiative? How can they be improved?

1. To Improve Child Vaccines
2. To Create New Vaccines
3. To Control Insects that Transmit Agents of Disease
4. To Improve Nutrition to Promote Health
5. To Improve Drug Treatment of Infectious Diseases
6. To Cure Latent and Chronic Infections
7. To Measure Disease Status Accurately and Economically in Developing Countries

The “Grand Challenges” can be improved by focusing on a wide swath of factors that impact health, including the economic stability, income disparity, nutrition, and poverty in general, instead of focusing exclusively on a set of medical interventions that do not consider the overarching socioeconomic causes of disease.