

# Strategic Planning and Management of Healthcare in Saudi Arabia

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## Abstract

Planning is the term related to a futuristic prospective where the components are related to give results in a non-predictable environment. When it comes to healthcare management for general public, then there are a number of related components that are required to take care of like, population of the region, ratio of male and females, number of children and old age people, common diseases prevailed in the region (in the past and present), sources of medical care at large along with their reach and facilitation and many other such related components. Saudi Arabia is a developing country and still the medical facilities with all other related components is required to change its format and become more useful for the general public. This present study will evaluate the scenario of strategic management, planning and implementation, its impact on Healthcare in Saudi Arabia.

**Keywords:** Strategic Planning, KSA, Healthcare management, Implimentation.

## Introduction

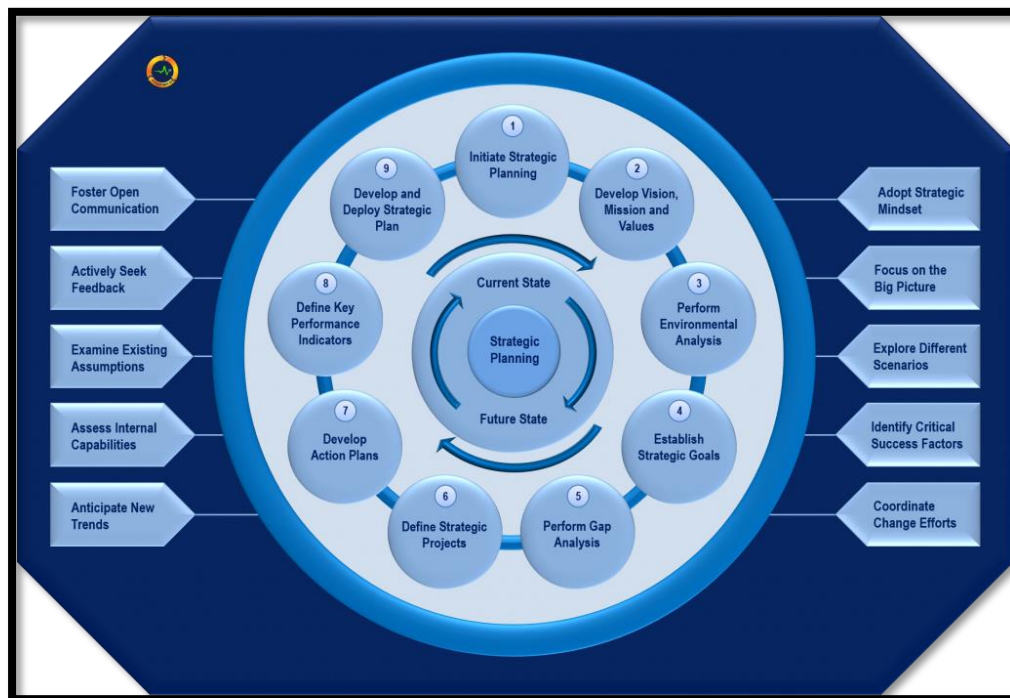
Planning is the term related to a futuristic prospective where the components are related to give results in a non-predictable environment. When it comes to healthcare management for general public, then there are a number of related components that are required to take care of like, population of the region, ratio of male and females, number of children and old age people, common diseases prevailed in the region (in the past and present), sources of medical care at large along with their reach and facilitation and many other such related components. Saudi Arabia is a developing country and still the medical facilities with all other related components is required to change its format and become more useful for the general public. In Saudi Arabia, the major role related to public health is being played by the Ministry of Health (MoH) i.e. setting of priorities, operative efficiency, resource arrangement and deployment, etc. **Sadeghifar et al (2014)**

As a result of the increase in finance and technology, the management of healthcare institutions is also undergoing many changes every day. This has led to many changes to ensure that healthcare institutions can meet regulatory standards and provide the best solutions to various problems. Globalization is considered one of the main challenges facing global health. Through strategic planning and management, healthcare institutions can carry out the necessary activities such as planning, analysis, review and monitoring to achieve goals. **Ginter et al (2018); Oncol (2009)** These changes also require the improvement of future planning to ensure the success of treatment.

The aim is to create a strategic plan for the healthcare sector. However, strategic planning in Saudi Arabia also needs to improve governance to adapt to the changing environment.

This will help understand the gap in health development in Saudi Arabia. We will also share recommendations that can be implemented to improve performance, efficiency and strategic planning in the Saudi Arabian health sector. We will also examine the strategic planning process used in other countries to ensure that more information can be used simultaneously to improve health services in other countries. **Alomi (2015)**

The involvement of the management team and the involvement of medical professionals are an important part of the strategic planning process. However, studies in some high-income countries show that all we need to do to achieve financial results is to create a strategic plan, empower the CEO to make the plan and join the board. **Alomran (2019)** Improvements in the health sector also support the physical and mental health of the population. In fact, the Ministry of Health, in collaboration with the National Transformation Program (NTP), is responsible for the implementation of the Kingdom of South Arabia's newly launched Vision 2030. When implementing this change, careful planning and adaptation are required to ensure the effective implementation of this process.



Source: <http://www.systemico.ca/strategic-planning/elements-of-strategic-planning/>

**Figure 1: Strategic Planning**

The Ministry of Health is responsible for defining and implementing treatment and planning strategies in the health sector in Saudi Arabia. This is considered an important step in terms of management and planning for the development and success of the health sector. According to the analysis of the strategic plan of the World Health Organization, pharmaceutical services in Saudi Arabia have been improved and modernized in recent years. These are created after examining the ability of the health organization to achieve its goals over time. Strategic planning is considered as the act of selecting the basic goals of health and creating specific plans to ensure that these goals are achieved in accordance with the appropriate and practical applications. Therefore, it is the

responsibility of the Ministry of Health to obtain international health data to understand similar health level measurements in cities and in the country. **Alsharif et al (2018)**

This information comes from various countries with similar goals and standards such as the World Health Organization, the British Medicines Council and the International Medicines Federation (FIP). The complex process requires control to help the working model avoid future security. Better and more effective management systems can be created in health through the Ministry of Health and private health institutions. **Phelps et al (2016); Alomi et al (2020)** Strategic planning and health management focus on providing the best medical services in the region. In addition, the rapid development of the region requires various studies to be carried out continuously to ensure that the information received by the Ministry is up to date.

This helps to create good design and strategies to ensure that health is not left behind when changes are faster than expected. In Saudi Arabia, this issue includes a positive change in the management of the health organization. This is seen as a challenge for health in Saudi Arabia because changes are faster than the time required to develop solutions to these problems. The authors used a survey of senior managers in the health sector. Private and public health organizations provide health organizations with the information they need about their management and the problems they face in their bodies. Accurate and unchanging strategic planning. **Alharbi et al (2018)**

Therefore, the main purpose of the strategic planning process should be actions and solutions aimed at solving problems that reduce efficiency and have clean results. It can be used in times of need and contamination. Although IT modules can provide short-term results, they are considered unreliable due to the need for human resources for monitoring and operation. Therefore, a long-term strategy is important to ensure that health does not exist for a long time without proper management, facilitating the formation of other rules that change rapidly in a short time. **Al-Ahmadi (2005); Milbourne (2009)**

This present study will evaluate the scenario of health care in KSA and the strategic planning of the related agencies in terms of public health and future prospect of the same.

### **Review of Literature**

**Kumar L et al (2022)** Research investigates and confirms that effective QI processes emerge as quality care improves. This study has achieved good results: The effectiveness of a medical unit is measured by quality indicators. Therefore, this study can evaluate the impact of QI measures on surgical intensive care unit (ICU) outcomes.

**Varghese et al (2020)** Skill search and training programs can improve the knowledge, skills, attitudes and confidence of service providers. At the same time, the analysis concluded that such interventions are not sufficient to better diagnose and care for maternal and child problems. Therefore, this study recommends system changes, including appropriate training in services, which are important for improving outcomes for mothers and children.

**Chatterjee et al (2021)** This study set two goals, first, medical malpractice in public and private management knowledge, practices and procedures. Second, create the necessary interventions to close the gap. The first test was completed and the results provided feedback to the public and private sectors to think and redesign the planning and implementation process. The study also suggests interventions to improve doctors' diagnoses to provide quality care in hospitals.

**Kumar et al (2020)** Recommend improvements and changes to make public healthcare more accessible. The study mainly focuses on the urgent needs of India's Empowerment Action Group to improve the quality of services, improve infrastructure, reduce waiting times and expand home healthcare coverage. This study therefore reaches an important point: if public healthcare focuses on these improvements, it will be able to compete with private services.

**Katyal (2020)** It was observed that Andhra Pradesh has benefited more than Maharashtra in terms of improved access to healthcare through private sector participation. The Aarogyasri scheme may be at least partially responsible for these effects. This study proposes an assessment to determine the long-term impact of private sector participation in the provision of medical care in hospitals.

**Bhatnagar (2020)** The article proposes to develop a framework based on current and emerging evidence in the healthcare field that will form the basis for further expansion, recognition and reporting of studies of strategies affecting pain management. The aim of this work is also to identify and create improvements in decision-making and quality of life of patients with the disease.

### **Research Process**

This present study is based on the evaluation of strategic management in the health care management system of Saudi Arabia. The study presents the evaluation on the basis of previous studies and finally presenting them in the form of discussion. The main source of information are like CINAHL, Google scholar, MEDLINE, Cochrane library, PubMed, web of science, EBSCO and SCOPUS. The researcher has included many of the other sources that are vivid in nature and may not be presented here. **Harrison (2016)**

### **Strategic Concern at Domestic Level**

The Ministry of Health provides strategic planning and management opportunities to healthcare institutions in the Saudi Arabian region. This requires the Ministry to work closely with public and private healthcare institutions to gain insight into the challenges faced by healthcare institutions. These challenges provide insight into how solutions can be developed to improve health outcomes and enhance the ability to provide needed services. The Saudi Ministry of Health, in collaboration with the General Authority for Drug Control of the Ministry of Health (GAPC-MOH), is responsible for developing strategic plans and improving control in the healthcare sector. Leaders research and develop different topics such as management to ensure that hospitals across the country are on par with other countries. **George (2019)** The organization also aims to develop the pharmaceutical industry of the country's health. This means that the ideas developed by the organization after carefully analyzing current health-related issues are implemented in all health institutions across the country. This ensures that many laws and regulations govern the operation of home health institutions. The Ministry of Health and GAPC-MOH have conducted extensive research on issues affecting health institutions in Saudi Arabia. This helps create solutions that enhance the resources of health institutions. This also supports international health standards by improving national health institutions to achieve desired goals. The organization's main focus is pharmaceutical services, which are solutions related to medicine and disease prevention. The organization, with the assistance of the Ministry of Health, is conducting research as expected on the factors that could lead to the failure of the department's treatment delivery goals and the solutions that can be implemented accordingly. **Huebner et al (2022)**

### **Vision 2030 KSA**

The population of Saudi Arabia continues to grow. It is estimated that by 2030, the population will include adults between the ages of 60 and 79. health problems. Likewise, the total population is expected to increase from 395 billion in 2018 to 33.5 billion in 2030. This area also reduces the number of infectious diseases. This problem is due to the lack of access to good treatment and stable procedures, as well as inadequate evaluation of patient outcomes and procedures. The previous system was more staff and resource focused than patient focused, which created a change. There is also a gap between skilled and competent workers, especially among Saudi workers. The system lacks consistency and robustness and cannot integrate digital data to manage and measure

performance levels. **Harrison (2020)** Healthcare spending also needs to be adjusted to match Saudi Arabia's economic growth. With all these needs in mind, Vision 2030 was born. These are considered the three pillars of the Health Sector Vision 2030. Health reform will be implemented step by step, in multiple layers. The foundation identified seven pillars as its core. These include new approaches to care, physician reform, financial reform, regulatory reform, private and third-party partnerships, workforce development, and the development of digital health systems. The new care model focuses on increasing personal value by caring for the child and improving personal care. **Johansen (2015)** The definition of a doctor focuses on the use of the central promotion rate, whether in a hospital, local health, or medical microsystem. The purpose of the financial concept is to distribute the cost and ensure that the middle level receives the maximum resources according to its ability to provide service and the needs of the patients. Among all the issues, finance plays the most important role because it guarantees all the other benefits. Dzau and others argue, based on the experience of previous health reform strategies, that financial and organizational changes are not enough to make significant improvements in outcomes, except for other changes aimed at improving the efficiency, effectiveness, and efficiency of health services and public health. **Naamati (2020)**

### **Strategic Transformation**

The Ministry of Health has been successful in developing the main content of the strategy since 2017. Our main policy is to address the problems they are trying to solve by addressing the first three points. The first policy is a new care model because the current model has some shortcomings in the way patients receive care. Medical facilities are more dangerous due to low safety standards and inadequate supervision. To improve health and mental health, physical health and community health; and mental health. **Verulava (2023)** This policy has been developed through a series of policies aimed at providing medical information, keeping people healthy, focusing on outcomes and providing patient-friendly treatment so that people can manage their health and well-being from a Saudi perspective. The most important thing for the program is health security, emergency care, terminal and chronic diseases. Second, introducing third-party regulation that will make the difference that business or government failure will make. The final rule is to create a cluster of all existing service providers in the Ministry of Health. Understand the commitment to universal health coverage, declare a health protection plan, define Essential Benefit Plans (EBPs), establish comprehensive health services, provide broader responsibilities, payment mechanisms and spending measures to private health insurance companies. **Verulava (2022)** The first phase is capacity building; this phase was launched in early 2018 and is currently ongoing and is expected to be completed by the end of 2020. Most of the activities, especially the new care model, are coordinated by the Ministry of Health. This phase should start in early 2021 and be completed by the end of 2025. More importantly, it will include reforming health policy and implementing digital management. In effect, it will rebuild the Ministry of Health. This period will give Saudis the opportunity to purchase Health Insurance (SHI). Meanwhile, there are plans to expand NHI to Saudi Arabian residents, citizens and tourists. The value of the private healthcare sector will be supported by licensing. **Pascuci (2017)**

### **Management of Change**

The changes outlined in Vision 2030 are transformational. It means changing the general health practice and all the practices of the Ministry of Health. It also changes the types of work, the purposes of the process, education, responsibilities and work processes in the organizational and social context. Therefore, it consists of three different stages: stage, length and phase. Moreover, these changes will take place in an open system that cannot be fully controlled. On the other hand,

two management methods are proposed: research and education and quality improvement models. Moreover, this change will occur both internally and externally. These levels include large organizations such as the World Health Organization, which focuses on improving general health worldwide. It provides funding and support to health organizations in many countries. Therefore, the purpose of these organizations is not in one country or country, but in the whole world. The World Health Organization is responsible for researching and finding solutions to health problems worldwide; they communicate these problems to affected countries and provide guidance. They also provide strategic planning and financial assistance to affected countries, allowing them to make the necessary changes to help protect health in these countries. This strategic plan allows countries around the world to analyze economic problems and provide appropriate solutions to economic problems. **Sadeghifar (2014)** To provide international training to health organizations on the use of technology. International initiatives are provided to provide training on the use of electronic prescriptions or computerized health professionals (CPOE), hardware and software used in consumer health, and how to use electronic data. These resources are provided to help healthcare organizations around the world improve their healthcare organizations.

### Conclusion

Research shows that strategic planning and management are important for the health sector as it causes change in the development of the economy. The changes are the result of research on current problems affecting the business and solutions designed to solve these problems. The study also revealed that the Ministry of Health has identified the challenges that the sector will face in the future and has created policies, plans and projects aimed at reducing the impact of light on the future of business. Developing relationships with national and international private and public health institutions will help the Ministry access more information and thus increase the quality of capital that can produce effective solutions for health institutions. These changes should also include future-oriented analyses, because the future must be protected so that future challenges can be solved without harming the country. The Ministry of Health must take care of the health of the people; therefore, they must participate in all changes to ensure their proper implementation.

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