The enhancement of equity (e.g. equalization of health among individuals in a given population) and financial risk protection (e.g. prevention of impoverishment from illness-related financial consequences like out-of-pocket payments for health care) are two fundamental objectives of health systems. We discuss how to explicitly include such objectives in economic evaluations and priority setting and examine practical examples like the design of national health benefits packages in low- and middle-income country contexts.

Professor Verguet has two main areas of research, both related to health systems, health economics, and priority setting: (1) the incorporation of the dimensions of equity and financial risk protection into the economic evaluation of health policies with the development and application of the “extended cost-effectiveness analysis” (ECEA) methodology; (2) health system analysis and performance, including the study of the interaction and integration of health services delivery platforms and health system modeling. He holds an MPP as well as an MS and PhD in Mechanical Engineering from the University of California at Berkeley, and is a graduate of the Ecole Polytechnique. Web: http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/stephane-verguet/

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