

Principles of the Italian National Health Service

Human dignity

Every individual has to be treated with equal dignity and have equal rights regardless of personal characteristics and his/her role in society.

Protection

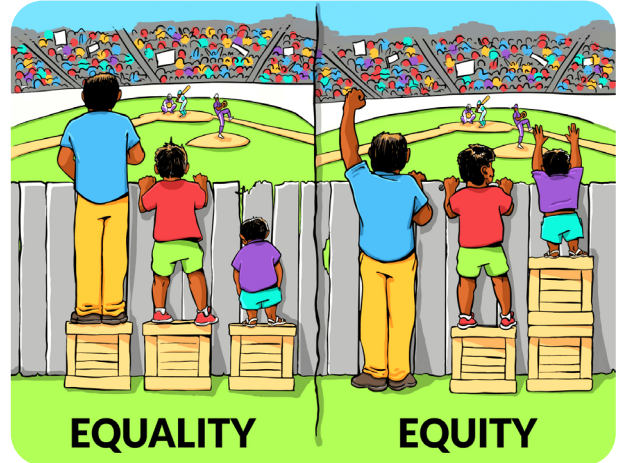
Individual health has to be protected with appropriate preventive measures and interventions.

Need

Everyone has access to health care and available resources to meet the primary health care needs.

Solidarity

Available resources have to be primarily **allocated** to support groups of people, individuals and certain diseases that are socially, clinically and epidemiologically important.





Effectiveness and appropriateness

Resources must be addressed towards services whose effectiveness is **grounded** and individuals that might especially benefit from them. Priority should be given to interventions that offer greater efficacy in relation to costs.

Equity

Any individual must have access to the health care system with no differentiation or discrimination among citizens and no barrier at the point of use.

to allocate: *stanziare*
grounded: *fondato*

- 1  After reading the text, which is in your opinion the most important principle? Why?
- 2  Group work (6 students). You are members of the Health Commission of the Italian Parliament and for economic reasons you have to sacrifice one of the principles. Each student represents a principle and must defend their position by giving reasons. The group will have to reach an agreement: the principle which has received the weakest support will be sacrificed.