Operational Research for equitable healthcare resource planning in ODA countries

Dr Honora Smith

University of Southampton



Overview

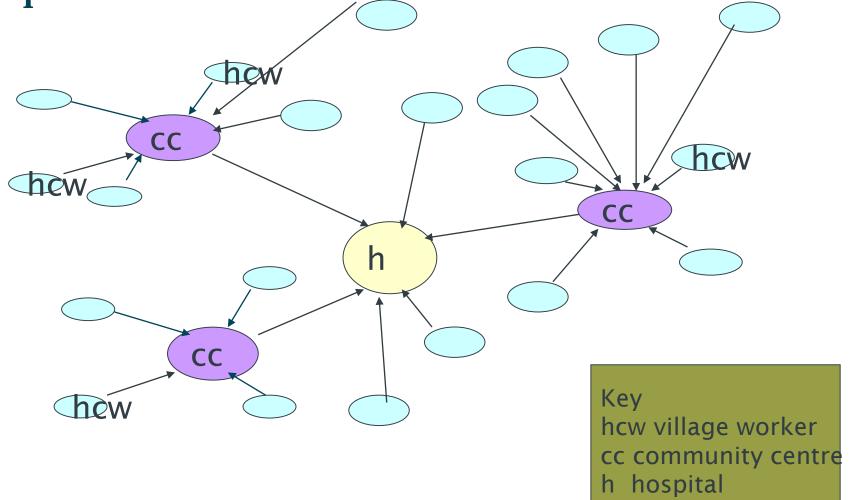
- Operational Research (OR) what can it offer?
- OR for equitable practice some examples of ODA collaborations
- Future bids
- Some messages!

OR – what can it offer for equitable practice?

- Techniques such as
 - Combinatorial optimisation
 - Simulation
 - Data mining

Some examples of collaboration

Community health care in rural areas – equitable location of hierarchical facilities



Equitable healthcare facility location

Location of HIV/AIDs test laboratories in South Africa

- CD4 alone
- A network of testing for a hierarchy of tests



Combinatorial optimisation — blood supply chain

- Location of low cost blood centres for blood collection and distribution
- Vehicle routing for distribution of scarce blood supplies



Simulation-Optimisation:

Optimising the blood supply chain



Collaboration with social sciences

Newton Institute funding recently awarded by MRC/CONFAP (Brazil)

EU QUERO: Mother and child health services in Brazil – 1000 days

Problem emerged from workshop of UK + Brazilian universities

- Social science + geographical
- "Soft" OR + mathematical programming



Future GCRF proposal – data mining

Problem: some ethnic groups have high health risks but late presentation

- but data on laboratory testing missing ethnicity
- Prostate cancer testing in South Africa
 - ❖ Data imputation, names +geographical

Some messages!

Jacek Gondzio – University of Edinburgh

- Application of optimisation for matching:
 - Kidney donation
 - Healthcare professionals to rural practices



Konstantinos Zografos — University of Lancaster

Humanitarian aid - emergency response resilience

healthcare



Sujit Sahu – University of Southampton

- Geospatio-temporal modelling for healthcare
 - > Inclusion of maths/statistics in bids!!

