COURSE PURPOSE

To train professionals capable of developing and strengthening the management of health technology and medical engineering, in order to improve the quality of decisions and the quality of services provided by health organizations, achieving a greater level of clinical effectiveness, of efficiency in the use of technological resources, cost control and reduction of technological risks for staff and patients on the health system.

LEARNING OBJETIVES

1. To develop an understanding of criteria regarding assessment, management, administration and regulation of healthcare technology, to improve the clinical effectiveness, efficiency and safety of technology use, considering the importance and impact of technology on patient care.
2. To develop projects with a technological component within a hospital environment; to discuss improvements and solutions to specific biomedical technology issues.
3. To promote better management of information regarding identification of biomedical and hospital technology planning, procurement and operation requirements.
4. To interact and network with other healthcare technology managers to know of best practices and solutions for common issues.

REQUIREMENTS AND TIME COMMITMENT

- Participants should have; 1) university-level courses in business, technology, engineering or management, or 2) experience in management or administration with responsibility for some aspect of healthcare technology.
- Candidates must have the support of their work institution.
- Access to a computer, headset or speaker, microphone, reliable Internet, and basic computer literacy (Windows applications and email).
- Required commitment to meet all the scheduled activities and complete the course of 88 hours. This will include tutorial guidance and support, as well as an assigned learning group. Participants should spend a minimum of eight (8) hours per week doing various synchronous and asynchronous activities, submitting scheduled assignments as an individual or as part of a group.

FORMAT

Interactive, with personalized tutorial and discussion forums on various subjects of study.

AUDIENCE

Professionals (engineers, medical doctors, managers and other related specialties) that develop or are interested in developing procedures related to biomedical technologies in the health system or at health institutions.

APPLICATION AND ENROLLMENT

The process includes account set-up, application, selection and course enrollment, which takes place online through PAHO's Virtual Campus of Public Health (VCPH) (www.campusvirtualsp.org). Before completing the application, candidates must create a user account on VCPH, by clicking on *"Create account"* at the top of the webpage. Once logged-in, under the tab *"Call for applications"*, there is information on the courses and a link to the application form. Candidates must meet the qualifications previously listed, and must provide the required documentation online by the deadline (20 July, 2015).

Selection of course participants is made between PAHO country offices of the Region of the Americas and the general course coordinators. Courses are offered at no charge, however enrollment is limited.

Pan American Health Organization
World Health Organization
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE Americas
Departament of Health Systems and Services (HSS)

Virtual Campus for Public Health (VCPH)
www.campusvirtualsp.org

Virtual Course

HEALTHCARE TECHNOLOGY PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

NEW DATES!!! 7 September – 21 November, 2015

SUMMARY

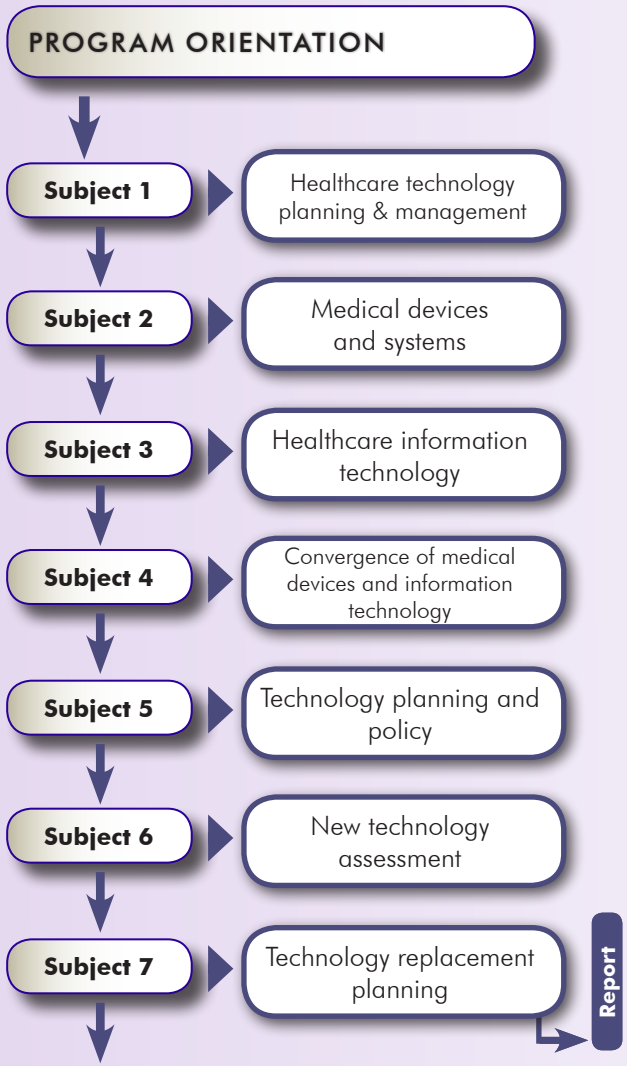
This course provides students with a basic understanding of the principles of healthcare technology planning and management – policies, assessment, budgeting, acquisition, deployment, education/training, patient safety, maintenance, and replacement/disposal. Additional topics include the convergence of healthcare technologies – medical devices, information systems and telecommunications; clinical engineering department setup/management, and related professional activities.

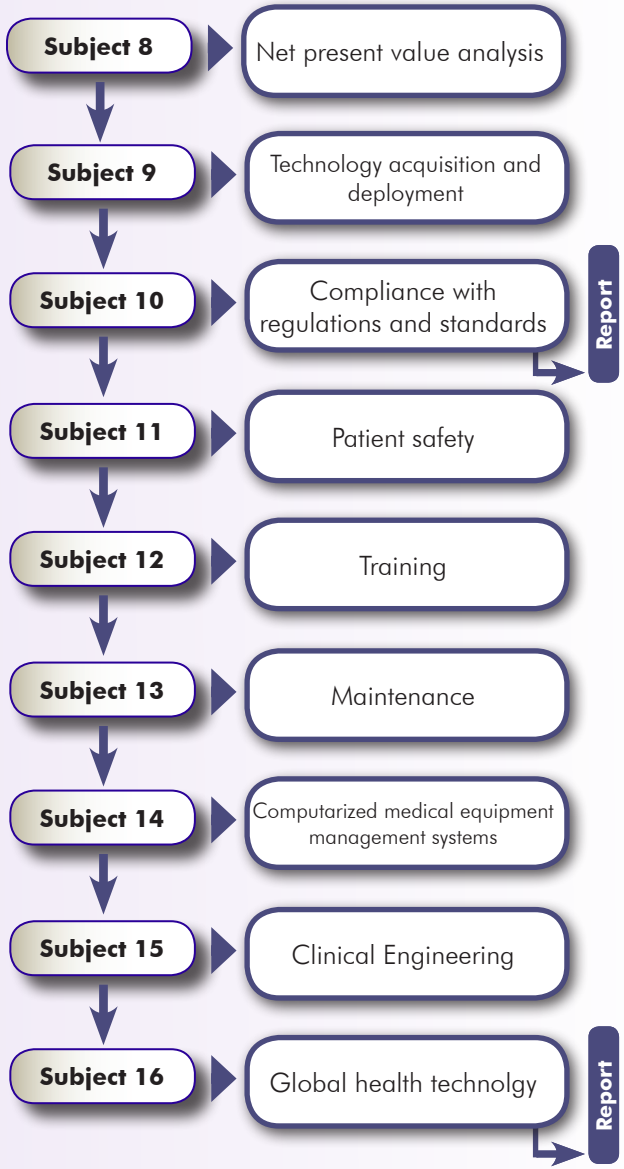
BACKGROUND AND DESCRIPTION

Technology is a key driver of healthcare improvement. At the same time, the cost impacts are significant, as discussed in the US Congressional Budget Office's assessment that technology was responsible for more than half the inflation in healthcare costs since 1975. The staggering pace of technology change requires monitoring, assessment and strategic decision making by healthcare leaders regarding the effects of new technologies on patient outcomes, costs, safety, ethics, and sustainability. New technologies must be reviewed in alignment with changes in healthcare delivery. Planning for acquisition and deployment are critical to successful implementation of a technology. Management of existing technologies must address patient safety, training, maintenance, and regulatory compliance issues.

In this context, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), along with experts on the subject, developed the Virtual Course on Healthcare Technology Planning and Management, directed to health system leaders involved with healthcare technology planning and management, to those who manage health facilities or systems, biomedical/clinical engineering leaders, informatics or system managers involved in biomedical engineering, and to health technology educators. This course aims to improve management of information, strategies and decision making on technology, for public and private organizations, as well as for patient care, taking into account technological requirements, technology life cycle analysis, planning and evaluation of technologies, acquisition processes, medical equipment management and risk management, among others.

COURSE STRUCTURE





CALENDAR AND DURATION

7 September to 21 November, 2015
88 hours - 11 weeks - approx. 2 ½ months

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS

20 July, 2015