

FHS Seminar Series

Gil Burnham. Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

March 17, 2010

4:30 – 5:20pm

Room 9660 Mowafaghian Theatre, Blusson Hall

Measuring Performance of health services in Afghanistan 2004-2009

Afghanistan has had a long history of chaos and conflict. With the defeat of the Taliban in 2002, serious efforts went into constructing and reconstructing health infrastructure. This included creation of a basic package of health services, a strong emphasis on maternal and child health, a novel approaches to contracting health services, and a reform of provincial hospitals. While international headlines have focused on continued violence and corruption, much reconstruction of the country has taken place. Continued investment in the health system has resulted in expanded capacity and coverage of health services. Since 2004 a team from Johns Hopkins has been conducting an annual evaluation of health service performance which has documented improvement in health system performance. As the country continues to develop greater expectations of health services are being created. At the same time some areas of poor performance in the health system are proving difficult to change.