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| **Title of Research Presentation:** Human Rights Accountability through the Universal Periodic Review  |
| **Maximum 2500 characters (including spaces but excluding title)****Background/Objectives**The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) is the newest major addition to the global human rights architecture. A peer-review procedure, it provides scrutiny of every State’s human rights record – including in the field of health - irrespective of treaty ratification. The process culminates in a set of recommendations providing an opportunity to hold each “State-under-Review” to account for its human rights record. **Methods**We present a brief analysis of the role of the UPR then moves to consider its relationship with other global health agendas and governance mechanisms, notably the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and related review procedures, the WHO and UN human rights treaty bodies.Drawing on recommendations made by the UPR working group, we reflects on notable themes related to global health during the UPR’s first two cycles. **Results**Recommendations related to health have increased over time; during the first reporting cycle, 22 percent of recommendations included a focus on health. The most frequent topics were violence against women and maternal, adolescent and child health. These key global health problems are also prominent in the global health governance agenda, notably the Millennium Development Goals and the subsequent SDGs. Does or could the UPR provide an informal avenue for accountability for these global health commitments?**Discussion**Despite its potential contribution to global health governance, the UPR has its shortcomings. It has shied away from controversial health issues, such as abortion; there are also few recommendations on health for countries in conflict or transition, despite the often precarious health situation in these settings. Are these missed opportunities for the UPR to spotlight and raise the profile of neglected populations and controversial issues that tend to be marginalized by other global health actors? Implementation of the UPR’s recommendations represents another challenge. Countries are at liberty to accept or reject UPR recommendations. Other human rights actors, civil society and international organisations such as the WHO and UNFPA could play a key role in supporting implementation of health recommendations, as could other States through development, trade and diplomatic relations. We analyse the available evidence on these topics to consider best practice and key challenges for the future.**Keywords**human rights; global health; right to health; governance |