Abstract
The health gap between the longest life expectancy country and the shortest has never been bigger than today despite all the world wealth that has been created and the half-century of development efforts. Why? This session will present a theory of global health: why countries end up with the health outcomes they do. Three types of colonialism patterns are discussed with their attendant health outcomes, along with those of never colonized societies. The health of a nation appears dependent on its history of exploitation, its cultural values of reciprocity and collectivism, and political choices made over the last century that provide basic needs and impact early life. Twenty-first century globalization may further increase health gaps.

Learning Objectives: At the end of this session, participants will be able to
- list factors affecting health of populations as distinct from individual behaviors
- critique colonial trajectories over the last three hundred years and their affect on economic justice around the globe
- discuss health impacts of cross-national cultural dimensions including power relations, collectivism and masculinity
- evaluate development strategies in terms of resource transfers

Readings:

