

# Glossary of Key Terms

## 1) Health Capital (*Capital Santé*)

The set of physical, mental, and social resources of a population, influencing its ability to lead a productive life and face health challenges.

## 2) Opportunity Cost (*Coût d'Opportunité*)

The value of the best alternative sacrificed when making an economic choice, representing the true cost of a decision in terms of lost benefits.

## 3) Effectiveness (*Efficacité*)

The degree to which a health intervention achieves its intended objectives under ideal or real conditions, measured by specific outcome indicators.

## 4) Efficiency (*Efficience*)

The optimal ratio between resources invested and results obtained in the health field, aiming to maximize health benefits with available means.

## 5) Factors of Production (*Facteurs de Production*)

The set of human, material, and technological resources necessary for the production of health services, including medical personnel, equipment, and infrastructure.

## 6) Risk Pooling (*Mutualiser les risques*)

The aggregation of financial resources from a large number of individuals to spread healthcare costs across the entire population, thereby reducing the financial burden on each individual and ensuring better protection against unexpected health expenses.

## 7) Pharmacoeconomics (*Pharmaco-économie*)

The discipline evaluating the economic aspects of medications, including their cost-effectiveness, budgetary impact, and relative therapeutic value.

## 8) Scarcity (*Rareté*)

A fundamental economic concept highlighting the insufficiency of resources in the face of unlimited needs, necessitating choices and trade-offs in the allocation of health resources.

## 9) Rationing (*Rationnement*)

The process of limited distribution of health resources according to predefined criteria, aiming to optimize the use of available resources in the face of excess demand.

## 10) Socialization of Financing (*Socialisation du Financement*)

A healthcare financing system primarily based on collective mechanisms such as taxes or social contributions, aiming to pool risks and ensure equitable access to care.

## 11) Utility (*Utilité*)

A measure of the satisfaction or well-being an individual derives from the consumption of a health good or service, often used to evaluate the effectiveness of medical interventions.