Profile:

Yogesh Jain has an MD in Paediatrics from the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi where he also served as a faculty member for a few years, but is a public health physician in practice. He has been primarily involved in "primary health care" through founding and running a community health programme - Jan Swasthya Sahyog (People's health Support group) in rural Bilaspur in central India with like-minded health professionals since 1999. People from over 3000 of the most marginalised villages that are home to the indigenous people access these services for their major health care needs. He has been involved in addressing the issues - be they technical, operational, economic or political that determine the health care for the rural poor through clinical care, careful documentation, observational research studies, developing appropriate health related technology, training, and lobbying, all based on the continual learning from this community health programme.

Issues of access, cost and quality in health care have occupied most of his time, whether it is developing a blueprint for Universal health care in India, or addressing specific control programmes for tuberculosis, malaria, leprosy, Chronic diseases that include the NCDs, childhood infections and technical aspects of women's health. Observing Health and illnesses through the lens of Hunger and extreme poverty, he has been a strident believer in the continued role of the state as the primary provider of social services and also that unbridled privatization is not the way forward in an unequal world in which we live. Advocacy based on this lived experience at the provincial, national and international forums to highlight the burden and causes of the illnesses among the poorest in the world has been the recent way forward for him.