

**What is Accountability for Reasonableness (A4R)?**

“Accountability for Reasonableness” (A4R) is an ethical framework that describes the five conditions/principles that contribute to establishing a moral legitimacy of priority settings (Daniels & Sabin 2002).

1. **Empowerment:** There should be efforts to optimize the effective opportunities for participation in priority setting and to minimize power differences in the decision-making context.
2. **Relevance:** Decisions should be made on the basis of reasons (i.e., evidence, principles, values) that “fair-minded people can agree are relevant to meeting diverse health needs under resource constraints”.
3. **Publicity/Transparency:** Decisions and their rationales should be transparent and made publicly accessible.
4. **Revisions/Appeals:** There should be opportunities to revisit and revise decisions in light of further evidence or arguments and there should be a mechanism for challenge and dispute resolution.
5. **Compliance:** There should be either voluntary or public regulation of the process to ensure that the first four conditions are met.

