



A LITERATURE REVIEW OF ECUADORIAN HEALTH SYSTEM

Jaewoo Cha*

1. International Cooperation Division, Health Insurance Review & Assessment Service, Wonju, Korea, Republic Of



INTRODUCTION

■ HIRA (Health Insurance Review & Assessment Service) was responsible to consult various nations including Republic of Armenia (2020) from 2014 until now. HIRA is continuously focusing on the quality of care and any related fields that actually help improve Ecuadorian health system.

AIM

■ This study aims to just review literature from MEDLINE, EMBASE, and Cochrane trials to identify problems and investigate current medical situations in Ecuador

METHOD

■ We reviewed literature with four databases (MEDLINE, EMBASE, Cochrane Library, and Proquest) and WHO IRIS(Institutional Repository for Information Sharing) to search related-research paper. Keywords, MeSH terms were established following the criteria of PICO (Participants, Interventions, Comparisons, and Outcomes). Title and abstracts, and MeSH Terms from 2000 to 2022 were screened and selected according to eligibility criteria. We applied NOS (Newcastle-Ottawa Scale), for quality of paper for non-randomized paper.

CONCLUSIONS

■ Identified problems from literature were misuse of antibiotics, cost-effectiveness of mobile surgery, and planning programs or interventions for mental health in Ecuador.
Keywords: Quality of Care, Literature Review, Ecuador

RESULTS

	Factors	Characteristics
published year	2005	2
	2010	1
	2017	1
	2018	2
	2021	1
Study of institute	Hospital	4
	Mobile	2
	Online	1
	Healthcare Center	1
Study design	Quasi-experimental study	2
	Cross-sectional study	3
	Survey study	1
	Retrospective Cohort study	2
The number of Participants	less than 100	2
	100-1000	4
	more than 1000	2
Topics	Antibiotic use	2
	Mobile Surgery	2
	Mental problems	2
	Maternal Health	1
	Telemedicine	1
	Quality of Healthcare	1

Topic	Perspectives
Antibiotic use	Mobile Surgery is regarded as a good policy in Ecuador. First, it reduced the waiting time of medical service by mobile surgery. It results the reduction of the mortality of acute diseases. Moreover, it takes an advantage of mobile intervention to overcome regional variation as well. However, there are several evidences that verify the effectiveness of establishing public hospitals in rural areas, thus a careful consideration is needed for resolving this problem.
Mobile Surgery	Although GNP per capita in Ecuador is 5,600 USD, antibiotic use is a major problem. First, overuse of antibiotic is caused by the lack of knowledge in terms of drugs use by medical professionals. Therefore, the comprehensive education program focusing on practical problems need to be performed. Electronic feedback needs to be developed for the efficient management of medical resources including drugs, then Electronic Medical Record and data integrity should be achieved first.
Mental Health	In Ecuador, mental illness is a major and serious problem. It takes nearly 20% of prevalence of diseases in Ecuador. It causes inefficiency of work, lower quality of life among citizens, the increase of suicide rate. Therefore Ecuadorian Ministry of Public Health should pay attention to mental health in Ecuadorian population.
Quality of Care	The Ecuadorian government is interested in the improvement of quality of care. There is a research article focusing on the assessment of quality of care in 8 hospitals located in rural and civil areas. They utilised a proper methodology to measure the outcomes but the major limitation of this study is the number of hospitals are too small to be representative. The quality of care can be an important topic in Ecuadorian Public Health.

Over half of studies were published less than 5 years ago. Half of studies selected conducted in hospitals. The majority of study design is cross-sectional study. The number of participants was majorly 100 to 1000 people. Moreover, in terms of topics of research, antibiotic use, mobile surgery, and mental problems has the majority of this review.

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