

Performance of hospitalized patient safety indicators in the COVID-19 peripandemic period

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INTRODUCTION

The severity of the scenario of the COVID-19 pandemic imposed unprecedented demands on healthcare systems and professionals. It is essential to investigate its impact on the quality of healthcare services and patient safety.

AIM

To analyse the performance of hospitalized patient safety indicators in the COVID-19 peripandemic period.

METHOD

- Quantitative approach, correlational research, and retrospective data collection.
- Municipal Public Hospital in the city of São Paulo.
 - Pre-pandemic period: (Mar. 2019 to Feb. 2020)
 - Pandemic period (Mar. 2020 to Feb. 2022)
 - post-pandemic period (Mar. 2022 to Mar. 2023)
- Data were collected from management reports provided by the hospital's quality sector.
- A descriptive analysis of 36 indicators was performed, and the Pearson correlation coefficient was calculated between the variables.
- The research received approval from the Ethics Committees.

CONCLUSIONS

The analysis indicated a negative impact of the pandemic on the performance of the analysed indicators; the results showed that the quality of healthcare services and the safety of hospitalized patients were affected. The increase in operational beds and LS, combined with the severe clinical condition due to COVID-19 infection and the overload on healthcare workers, depict the health crisis.

RESULTS

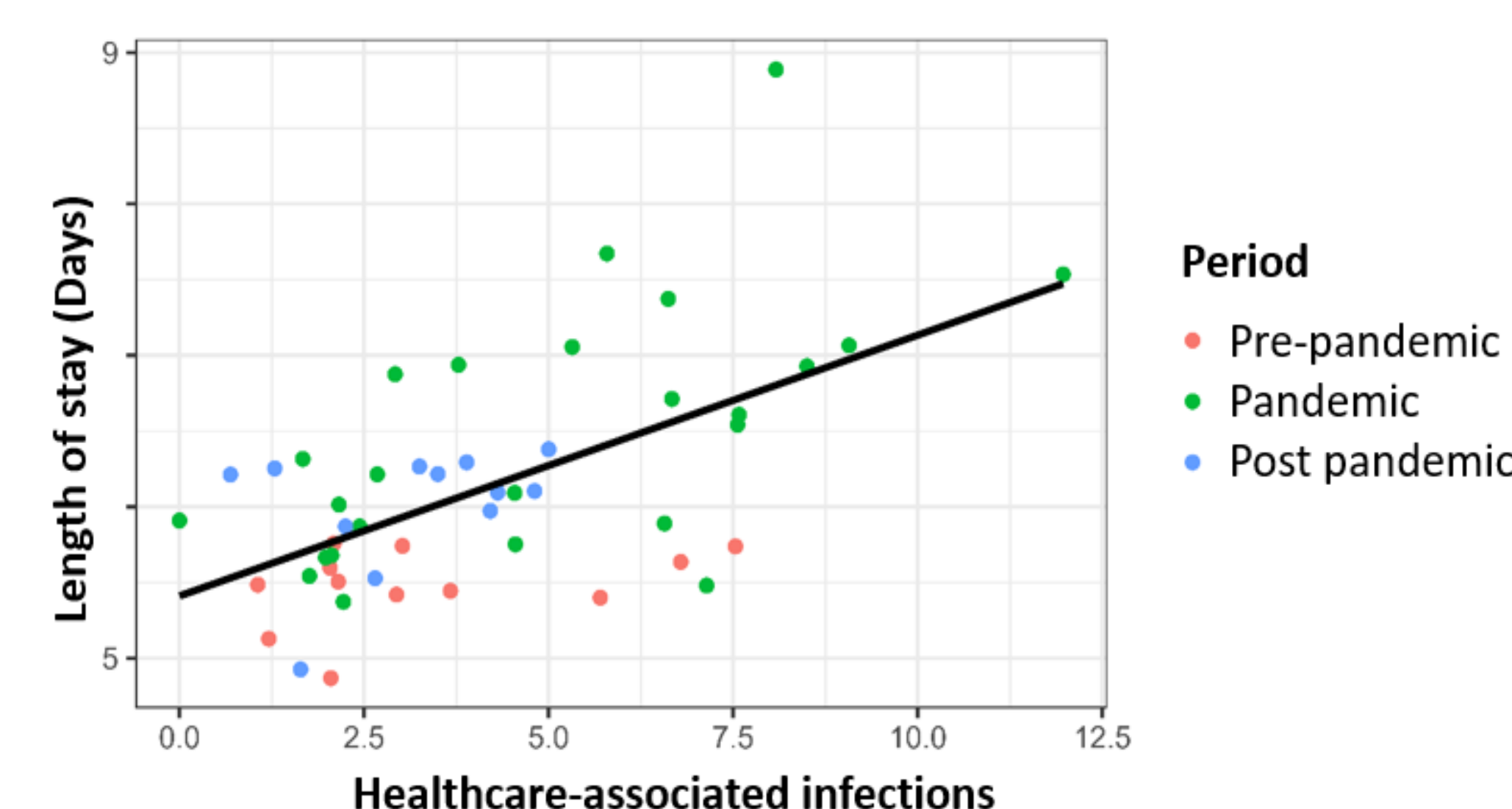
PERFORMANCE OF INDICATORS IN THE PERIPANDEMIC PERIOD

Indicators	Means by period		
	Pre-pandemic	Pandemic	Post-pandemic
Operational bed number	342	377	448
Lenght of stay (days)	5.5	6.5	6
Incidence of falls	1.2	1.3	1.2
Incidence of phlebitis	1.03	1.15	1.87
Central line-associated bloodstream infection	3.35	5.06	3.05
Ventilator-Associated Pneumonia in Mechanical Ventila	1.73	3.55	1.38
Urinary tract infection	1.14	1.78	1.34
Deaths rate	4.66%	7.47%	5.13%
Incidents	1085	1245	1366
Near misses	56.33	59.68	35.33
Medication administration errors	9.92	10.52	14.08
AE with mild damage	152.80	188.90	148.70
AE with moderate damage	25.67	50.08	74.42
AE with severe damage	1.50	2.72	1.00
AE with catastrophic damage	0.17	2.32	2.42
Never event	1.67	1.84	0.50
Patient satisfaction	66.31	81.58	77.89
Number of patients hospitalized with COVID	0.00	233.70	18.92
Incident incidence density	21.24	49.92	40.63
Absenteeism	3.72	3.46	2.87
Pressure injuries	2.43	1.57	0.38
Operational occupancy rate	94.2%	77.6%	90.2%

POSITIVE CORRELATIONS

Some of the correlations highlighted the increasing health risk as the user remained hospitalized. The Length of stay has a positive correlation with:

- Death rate (0.750);
 - Number of patients hospitalized with COVID (0.590);
 - Healthcare-associated infections (0.585);
 - AE with catastrophic damage (0.556).
- Other positive correlations appeared between:
- Absenteeism and pressure injuries (0.599);
 - Number of patients hospitalized with healthcare-associated infections (0.621);



NEGATIVE CORRELATIONS

The operational occupancy rate showed a negative correlation with:

- Number of patients hospitalized with COVID (-0.625);
- Death rate (-0.639).

The operational occupancy rate is calculated, including extra beds, which reached more than 160 at pandemic peaks.

The pandemic peaks were those with a greater presence of users with more serious conditions, that is, the lower the occupancy rate, the more serious the cases and the higher the death rates, which required a greater amount of resources, including human resources.

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