

Economic evaluation from an analysis of financial investments related to different levels of health care.

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Abstract

The objective of this study was to detail the investments for Primary Health Care and Medium and High Complexity. The research was based on the data collection, referring to the city of Piracicaba, state of São Paulo, in the last ten years. Financial resources earmarked for Primary Care increased 240% from 2006 to 2017. Meanwhile, resources for Medium and High Complexity increased by 379% over the same period. After surveying these data we can show that comparing per year, the expenditure in 2006 was 3.4 times higher with MAC in relation to PHC. In 2017 the amount spent with MAC becomes 5.3 times, which reflects how much more has been spent with MAC in detriment of Primary Care. It is expected that the investment will be higher in Medium and High complexity due to the technologies used, but what would result in an improvement in this investment and in health itself would be the strengthening of Primary Care Units, as this would reduce the demand for hospitalizations and the advancement of pathologies.

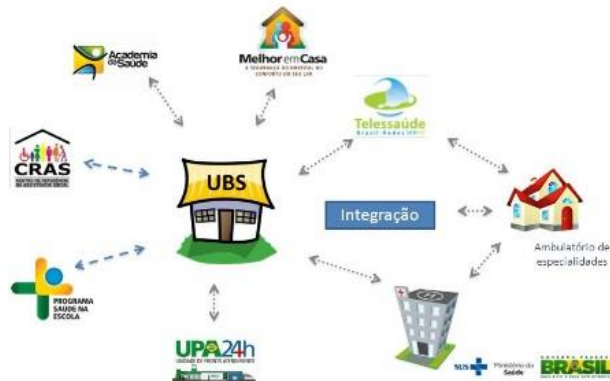
Key words:

Unified Health System. Financing, Government. Primary Health Care.

Introduction

The Unified Health System was structured in the perspective of a health care network (RAS), which is made up of a set of organizations that provide actions and services of different technological densities and is based on the understanding of Primary Health Care (APS) as its structuring axis (Figure 1) [1,2].

Figure 1. Illustration of the organization of Health Care in the perspective of Health Attention Network.



Source: Ministério da Saúde (http://dab.saude.gov.br/portaldab/smp_ras.php).

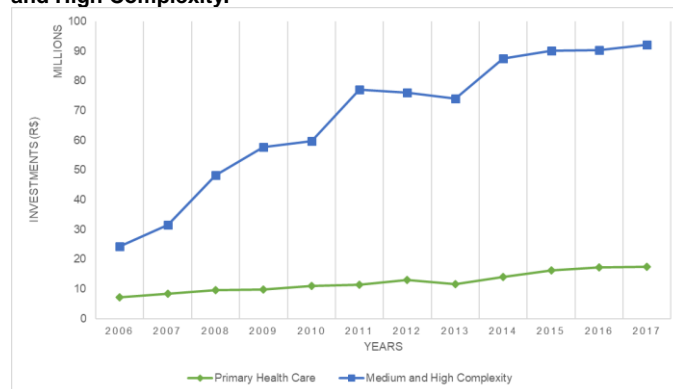
In this perspective, the APS organization model based on the Family Health Strategy has the possibility of reducing hospitalizations due to causes that are sensitive to APS [3], that is, increasing investments in Primary Care are necessary to strengthen the RAS and also to reduce overload in the other levels of Attention. In this way, the need to monitor how the financial investment in the APS works is verified, in order to know if it is enough to fulfill the responsibilities assigned to it.

Results and Discussion

The research was based on data collection, referring to the city of Piracicaba, state of São Paulo, in the last twelve years. Financial transfers (in R\$) were

sought for Primary Care and for medium and high complexity (MAC) (Figure 2).

Figure 2. Financial transfers for Primary Health Care and Medium and High Complexity.



The results reflect that investments in MAC are growing in a much higher proportion than in the APS.

Conclusions

It is expected that the investment will be higher in Medium and High complexity due to the technologies used, but what would result in an improvement in this investment and in health itself would be the strengthening of Primary Care Units, as this would reduce the demand for hospitalizations and the advancement of pathologies.

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