TACKLING CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) CONTRIBUTING TO A GLOBAL EFFORT

ACCESS BARRIERS AND EXPERIENCES IN PRIMARY HEALTH CARE IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

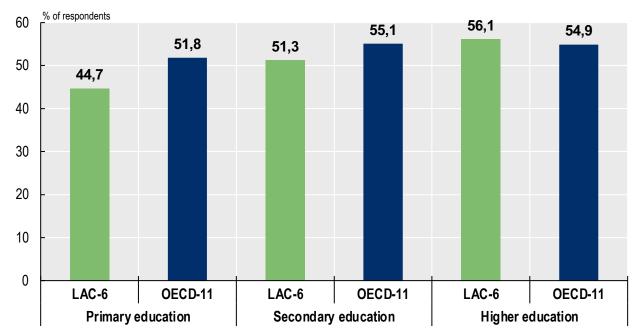
Webinar Series on Essential Public Health Functions Pan-American Health Organization

Frederico Guanais, PhD April 23rd 2021



Before COVID: LAC, OECD similar access times to a PC visit ...

Last time when needed, got a primary care consultation the same or next day without needing to use emergency room, LAC-6 and OECD-11, adults by level of education, 2012-2014

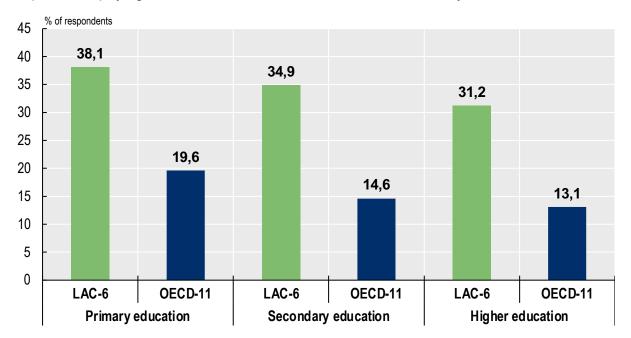


Source: Guanais et al. (2019) From the Patient's Perspective: experiences with primary health care in Latin America and the Caribbean.

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... but much higher differences in financial barriers to care ...

Had a problem but did not see a doctor or skipped a test or treatment because of cost, and/or had serious problems paying for healthcare, LAC-6 and OECD-11, adults by level of education, 2012-2014

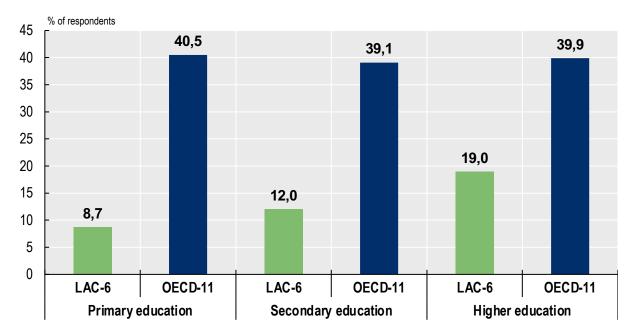


Source: Guanais et al. (2019) From the Patient's Perspective: experiences with primary health care in Latin America and the Caribbean.

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... and even higher gaps in person-centered primary health care.

Has (i) a regular doctor or place of care that (ii) knows your medical history, (iii) is easy to contact during office hours, and (iv) helps to coordinate care, LAC-6 and OECD-11, adults by level of education, 2012-2014

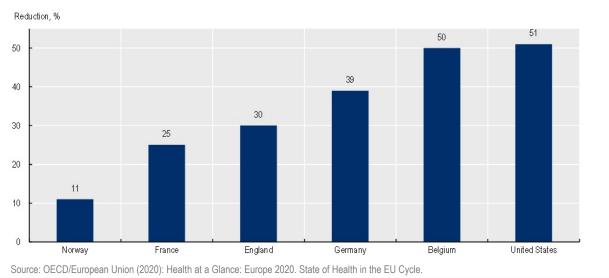


Source: Guanais et al. (2019) From the Patient's Perspective: experiences with primary health care in Latin America and the Caribbean.

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COVID-19 has renewed challenges for primary health care everywhere

Reduction in the volume of primary care consultations during the first wave (Spring 2020)



Reduction in cancer care

- In France, the number of cancer diagnoses decreased by 35%-50% in April 2020 (as compared to April 2019)
- In the Netherlands, the number of cancer diagnoses decreased by 26% in April 2020 (as compared to January 2020)

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Resilient health systems: Seizing the policy window to strengthen PHC

Continuity of care

Management of acute conditions

Care for existing chronic conditions

Health education for selfmanagement of conditions

Vaccination, screening, other disease prevention

Community engagement

Acute phase of the pandemic

Help in diagnosing, tracking and tracing of COVID-19

Care for mild COVID-19

Follow-up care and rehab for recovered COVID-19

Promotion of public health measures

Aftermath of the pandemic

Care for patients who suffered direct and indirect effects of COVID-19 crisis

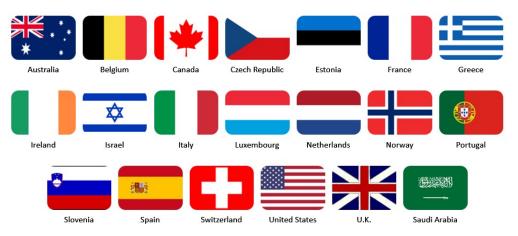
Psychological and social support; social prescribing

Renewed surveillance and care models

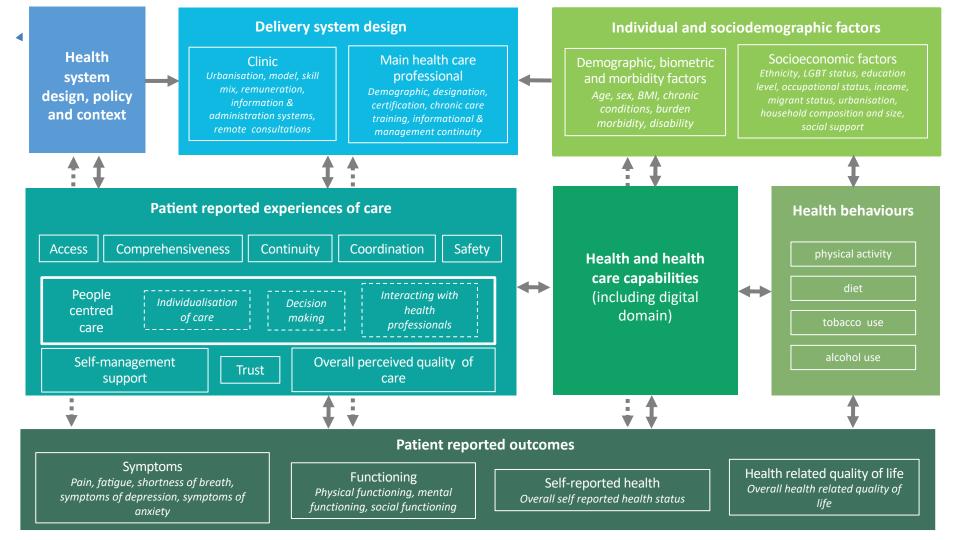
Source: Adapted from OECD 2021. Strengthening the frontline: How primary health care helps health systems adapt during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Measuring what matters most: A new generation of health system indicators is needed





PaRIS is the OECD's Patient-Reported Indicator Surveys focused on **outcomes and experiences** of health care that matter most to people



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Visit our dedicated COVID-19 digital platform: https://oecd.org/coronavirus

- 🥑 @OECD_Social @fredguanais
- ⊠ frederico.guanais@oecd.org
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