Peer Review Report

Review Report on The effects of health insurance on quality of care in low-income countries: A systematic review

EVALUATION

Q 1 | Please summarize the main theme of the review.

This study aimed to systematically examine the impact of health insurance programs on quality of care in LLMIC.

Q 2 | Please highlight the limitations and strengths.

Strengths of this study include the use of the Donabedian model to conceptualize quality of care. However, the results should be carefully interpreted according to some limitations. First, we only included studies published in English, thus excluding other languages in our search strategy. Second, most studies did not examine the length of participation in an insurance plan, which may affect the quality of health insurance. Given the limitations of the included studies, robust research is needed to examine the causal effects of health insurance programs, especially on process indicators such as appropriate treatment, diagnosis, and patient care experience. It is also important for research to explore the actual causal pathways through which health insurance programs in low-income countries may affect provider behaviour. Additionally, understanding the contextual factors surrounding health insurance is important to determine how and why these factors affect an insurance program's ability to affect quality of care.

Q 3 | Please provide your detailed review report to the authors, structured in major and minor comments.

Researchers address some important health insurance issues: This study aimed to systematically examine the impact of health insurance programs on quality of care in LLMIC. This problem is confirmed in international sociocultural realities, which should be taken into account when summarizing the trends obtained. The issues discussed in the article are aligned with the journal's topic profile. Understanding the importance of this issue from a cognitive and practical point of view, I would like to point out some shortcomings which, in my opinion, should be eliminated in order to improve the manuscript and ensure its sufficient scientific value:
1. Why is there a large number of studies, but very few studies meet high quality evidence standards?
2. Why is there no association between health insurance plans and mortality?
3. Why does the health insurance program have a strong positive effect on children's anthropometric measures and biomarkers such as blood pressure, C-reactive protein and hemoglobin levels?
4. Why do health insurance programs in low-income countries do not seem to affect quality of care?
5. Why is health insurance associated with improved care content for specific services?

PLEASE COMMENT

Q 4 | Does the reference list cover the relevant literature adequately and in an unbiased manner?

yes

Q 5 | Does this manuscript refer only to published data? (unpublished data is not allowed for Reviews)

No.

Q 6   Does the manuscript cover the issue in an objective and analytical manner

Yes.

Q 7   Was a review on the issue published in the past 12 months?

No.

Q 8   Does the review have international or global implications?

yes

Q 9   Is the title appropriate, concise, attractive?

yes

Q 10   Are the keywords appropriate?

yes

Q 11   Is the English language of sufficient quality?

yes

Q 12   Is the quality of the figures and tables satisfactory?

Yes.

QUALITY ASSESSMENT

Q 13   Quality of generalization and summary   ■ ■ ■ □ □

Q 14   Significance to the field   ■ ■ ■ □ □

Q 15   Interest to a general audience   ■ ■ ■ □ □

Q 16   Quality of the writing   ■ ■ ■ □ □

REVISION LEVEL

Q 17   Please take a decision based on your comments:

Major revisions.