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Healthcare system in Chile

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The healthcare system in Chile can be described as a two-tier system with two major types of health insurance: public and private. The public system or National Health Services System consists of the Ministry of Health and its sub agencies, the 29 Health Services, the National Health Fund, the Public Health Institute, the Central Supply Clearinghouse, and the ISAPRE Authority. The private system is made up of the health institutions (ISAPREs), employer mutuals, institutions providing nonprofit services and for-profit services providers. There are major political and social problems affecting health status and the performance of the health services. These problems are poor (23.2%) and indigent population (5.8%), the concentration of 40% of the population in the Metropolitan Region, inadequate coordination among public and private service providers. This coexistence of public and private insurance is found in many health systems, such as the UK, The Netherlands, etc. The difference between these and Chile is that in these countries there is no choice of leaving the universal insurance, which carries full risk solidarity. In these, private insurance is optional and complementary. In Chile, by contrast, private insurance is an alternative to the public one. Health sector reform was redirected starting in 1990 and in 1994 was included in the government's proposal on modernization of the State. In this study is discussed healthcare system structure and problems and healthcare reform in Chile.

Biography

Tolga Ozkaptan is a master's student in Ankara University, Institute of Social Sciences, Department of Latin American Studies. In addition, he works in Sinop Maritime High School as an English Teacher. He has researches on Latin American Health Systems, architecture and gastronomy.

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