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The use of physical examinations among 0-6 year old children in rural China: A cross-sectional study

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Instruction: Children annual physical examination is considered an important and effective measure in the prevention of illness and promotion of health. Health care resource service accessibility of rural children has lagged behind compared with their counterparts in the city in China. This study explores the distribution characteristics of 0-6 year old children physical examination utilization and its determinants in rural China.

Methods: Participants were 882 guardians and 882 0-6 years children, randomly selected from four different provinces in East, Mid-East, Mid-West, and West China. A cross-sectional study was undertaken to estimate distribution characteristics of annual physical examinations utilization among 0-6 year old children and to collect data of socio-demographic characteristics, guardians' trust on institution and type of examination institutions. Logistic regression determined the predictors of children annual physical examination utilization.

Results: This study explored factors that affect the use of children health services and are guardian's condition which included the gender of guardians ($p=0.008<0.05$) and the age of guardians ($p=0.005<0.05$), whether the children left behind ($p=0.000<0.05$), type of examination institution ($p=0.000<0.05$), and guardians' trust of institution ($p=0.000<0.05$).

Conclusions: The government and public health institutions should improve the facilities condition of grassroots medical institution, improve village doctors medical skills, and pay more attention to the health service utilization of left-behind children.

Biography

Yuan Fang is a Doctoral student in School of Medicine and Health Management of HuaZhong University of Science and Technology. She has participated in four national research subject and one international research subject.

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