Need care and use of health services among elderly residents in the city of Sao Paulo: SABE Study

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The elderly have high need care that increasing the use the services health. The objective this study was to assess the relationship between need care and use of health services by elderly. This study is part of the SABE Study (Health, Wellness and aging), held in Sao Paulo. This is a transversal study, in 2006, with 1,413 individuals aged over 60 years. The use of health services was assessed using the variables: hospitalizations and use urgency service in the last 12 months. The need for care was classified according to the scaling of the difficulty in basic and instrumental activities of daily living. Differences between groups were estimated using the chi square test of Pearson (X²) with Rao-Scott correction (significance level of 5%). Among 1413 elderly, 62.1% had no need of care, 5.2% requiring minimal care, 23.5% moderate and 9.2% high care need care. The need for care was statistically associated with hospitalization, use of emergency services and difficult access to health services. It was observed that there was an increased use of health services according to demand greater care need. Seniors who require more care report greater difficulty in accessing services and perform more frequently visits high complexity, which influences the negatively the possibility of aging with better quality of life. The completeness, resolution and quality of care in public and private health systems seem inadequate the need for care of the elderly.

Biography

Daniella Pires Nunes has completed her Master Degree in 2011 from University of São Paulo. Actually is doctoral student in Nursing of School of University of Sao Paulo and Assistant Professor of Faculdades Metropolitanas Unidas (FMU). She is researcher of SABE Study (Health, Wellness and aging) and collaborator of Surveillance Network of Health of the Elderly Project. She has published more than ten papers in reputed journals and serving as an editorial board member of repute.

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