

Planning capacity in Primary Health Care Under the Utilization of Type of Patients

Dr. K.L. Muruganantha Prasad and D. Saraswathi

Assistant Professor, Department of Mathematics,

H.H. The Rajah's College, Pudukkottai.

Research Scholar, Department of Mathematics,

H.H. The Rajah's College, Pudukkottai.

Abstract : Primary health care (PHC) represents the first contact between the health care system and the citizens. Over the past years it has been noticed that demand for primary care is increasing. The population is growing older and the prevalence of chronic conditions is increasing. However, the resources provided by the Tamilnadu State Health System are not enough to satisfy the demand, being varied a decrease in primary care accessibility. Patients experience long periods of time to get an appointment with their family physician. The main goal of this study is to show the importance of planning the capacity of PHC under the concept of the of diseases, by developing a tool in Excel. The methods applied were based on (Ozen and Balasubramanian 2013). This tool provides information about over the overow frequency of every physician in the unit, and allows several scenarios. To test the tool, data from a hypothetical PHC unit were used. The results demonstrated that it is crucial to consider type of patients while planning the physician panels so as to improve the balance between supply and demand and reduce appointment waiting time.

Key Words and Phrases : Primary healthcare, planning capacity, physician panel, overow frequency.

1 Introduction :

Health care systems with an organized health care (PHC) are recognized for obtaining better results in terms of satisfaction, higher equity, health gains and better health conditions (Miguel and Sa 2010).

PHC is responsible for establishing the first contact between the health system and the citizens and for providing a long term delivery of care, with continuity and support to individuals and families. The relationship is continuity is crucial for the development of trust between physicians and patients, and represents one of the main advantages of PHC (Amado and Santos 2009).