

Universal Healthcare: Private vs. Public Systems and Policy Implementation

Avani Varshney, Harshith Gontla, Gizelle Villanueva, Avigail Remias, Julia Whang, Mi-Sook Pham, Neha Darimadugu, Gianna Anguiano, Charlie Canazaro, Inaya Gill, Dhruva Bhat, Fatima Khan Lookmanji, Edmundo Leong



Introduction

Universal Health Care encompasses a healthcare system that provides access to medical services for all residents—irrespective of their financial status—with the goal of delivering comprehensive and equitable health coverage. Throughout different countries there exists a plethora of varying cultural and geographical contexts which produces differing outcomes within public versus private implemented policies. This research will specifically focus on the bibliometric analysis of existing research for public and private healthcare sectors.

Objectives

The objective of this research poster is to analyze the plethora of articles corresponding to public and private healthcare policies. We believe that Universal Healthcare systems ensure all residents have access to aiming for comprehensive and equitable health coverage regardless of, financial status, social status, or racial demographic

Methods

This study used the Web of Science to obtain articles focusing on the topic “public health systems” and “private health systems.” From the initial pool of 15,863 papers, the top 100 most-cited articles were selected. Articles were refined with keywords relating to topic relevance on the public, private, or hybrid healthcare model that countries employ. With Bibliometrix, eligible studies were categorized and made into complex analyses.

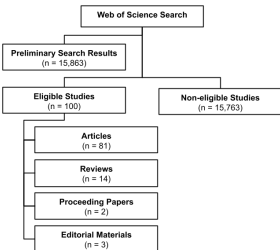


Figure 1. Flow diagram of research that indicates included and excluded studies at each stage

Results

Within 25 years, 16 of the top 100 most-cited papers were published in 2018 and 14 were published in 2019. Both 2017 and 2023 produced 9 papers. In total, papers published in years 2017-2019 or 2023 constitute for approximately 48% of the top 100 papers. Of the top 100 papers, the most frequent resource topic in reference to policy implementation was “impact”, accounting for 13 of the resources. The least referenced topics were “Healthcare” and “Inequities”, each accounting for 5 of the resources that were analyzed.

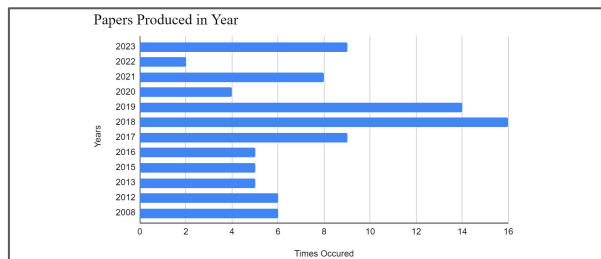


Figure 2. Papers produced in year distribution; frequency of years for the top 100 most-cited papers.

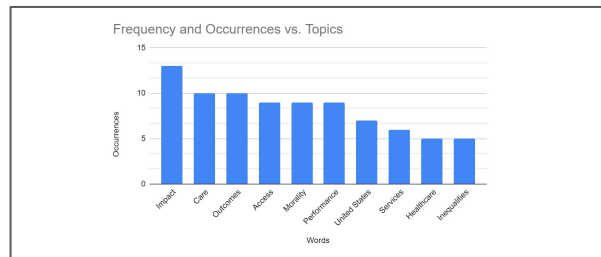


Figure 3. Top 10 topics in the top 100 most-cited papers on policy implementation based on geographical and cultural context.

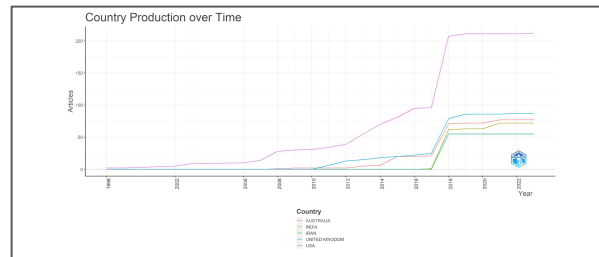


Figure 4. Country production of papers over time from 1998-2023

Conclusion

Common research elements include an amalgamation of public and private sector involvement, emphasis on preventive care, and efforts to achieve universal health coverage. However, specific approaches, funding mechanisms, and regulatory frameworks vary, reflecting the unique healthcare systems and political contexts of each country. With an overall increase in publications, studies vary heavily between countries, yet the US contributes the most top-cited papers. Although a link between sociocultural context and successful implementation of healthcare policies has been established, more emphasis should be put on foreign countries as a disproportionate amount of recognized papers originate from the US. Thus, further research is necessary to establish causality and uncover underlying mechanisms. Overall, these top cited papers provide substantial evidence for how healthcare policies are implemented and their effects on impact, care, performance, and accessibility outcomes.

References

1. Web of Science Database
2. R-Studio Application
3. Biblioshiny