



TOPICS IN PEDIATRICS

Impact of the Social Determinants of Health in children

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Abstract The impact of the Social Determinants of Health (SDH) needs to be analyzed. Upon evaluating SDH in developed countries, we observed broad differences. Mexico, compared with countries belonging to the Organization for Cooperation and Economic Development (OCED), shows low ratings in many of the indicators for childhood well-being.

On the positive side, our international position has improved as well as revealing significant deficiencies. Emphasis is placed on the impact of SDH on both rural and urban localities where there are areas of opportunity to improve the conditions of children. In the context of Latin American and the Caribbean, some countries demonstrate better performance than Mexico.

In Mexico, important differences exist according to various indicators of childhood well-being in both rural and urban areas where there are still major shortcomings: the childhood population with disabilities, the family composition, the right to autonomy, the actual health conditions, education, poverty, housing, child labor and the regulation and protection of rights provided by the government.

Therefore, Mexico requires strengthening of all actions within the shortest time possible in order to achieve standards equal to other OECD countries. Essential to this is a strong, close and simultaneous collaboration among the public sectors to impact on deficiencies in education, housing, safety and health conditions of the various localities, among others.

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