



Equity in the finance of health care: some further international comparisons ¹

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Abstract

This paper presents further international comparisons of progressivity of health care financing systems. The paper builds on the work of Wagstaff et al. [Wagstaff, A., van Doorslaer E., et al., 1992. Equity in the finance of health care: some international comparisons, *Journal of Health Economics* 11, pp. 361–387] but extends it in a number of directions: we modify the methodology used there and achieve a higher degree of cross-country comparability in variable definitions; we update and extend the cross-section of countries; and we present evidence on trends in financing mixes and progressivity.

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Keywords

Health care financing; Progressivity

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...Importantly, it is well documented that OOPE impact negatively on equitable access and impose a significant financial risk to the individuals [7]. In contrast, revenues from progressive sources such as taxes or social security funds reduce the financial risk for the households [8]. Therefore, some international organizations, such as the PAHO, have recommended that countries should aim to reduce, and eventually completely eliminate OOPE by increasing prepaid contributions from taxation and compulsory social security payments [1]...

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