

Motivation

Work on this project was launched as part of the Bank's analytical work on poverty in PNG. Limited amount of information for the health sector was collected.

Objectives

A short instrument collected information on how often the facilities were open, the presence of staff, and the availability of key medicines.

Main findings

Availability of drugs at health facilities is a significant problem. The problem is more acute for facilities located in poor or remote areas.

There are typically no alternative facilities that can be easily reached; the nearest hospital or source of commercial drugs is typically more than 9 hours away. The accessibility is worse for facilities in poor or remote areas, and for non-government rather than government-operated facilities.

Absenteeism

Absence rate of 15% could be an underestimate. The study report claims that if the notion of teacher absence were to be broadened to include ghost teachers, then the absence rate would increase from 15.1 % to 27.6%.

Sample

117 health facilities

Sample design

The health facility survey was not intended to be a full service delivery survey in order to keep the field operations and costs manageable; health facilities that were reached within 20 minutes from the sample schools were covered.

Contact

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Main report

(2004) "Papua New Guinea: Public Expenditure and Service Delivery PESD," draft report, June