

Governance of health care networks: Assessment of the health care integrating councils in the context of the health sector reform in Chile Gobierno de redes asistenciales: Evaluación de los consejos integradores de la red asistencial (CIRA) en el contexto

Artaza-Barrios, Osvaldo

Toro-Devia, Olga

Fuentes-García, Alejandra

Alarcón-Hein, Alex

Arteaga-Herrera, Oscar

Objective. This paper aims at assessing the contribution of Chile's Health Care Integrating Councils (CIRA, Spanish acronym) to strengthening governance in health. **Materials and methods.** A literature review on the official documents related to the process of creation and development of CIRA was carried out; an ad hoc questionnaire was applied to all 29 health services of the country; finally, 35 semi-structure in-depth interviews were carried on a sample of six CIRA. **Results.** The CIRAs have become a tool for functional integration and a valuable space for dialogue, cooperation and learning for all of the actors of the Chilean public health network. **Conclusions.** In this study, we conclude that there is room for improvements of CIRA's role regarding governance of the health care network as long as CIRA is authorized to deal with strategic topics, such as investment in infrastructure, technology and human resources, and budgeting.