OBESITY AND HEALTH SYSTEMS IN LATIN AMERICA

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Outline

- Obesity in the world
  - Prevalence
  - Impact

- Focus on LATAM
  - Prevalence in the region
  - Regional determinants of obesity
  - MAPPS
    - Health systems in LATAM
Global picture of obesity

• Worldwide obesity has nearly tripled since 1975
• In 2016, more than 1.9 billion adults, 18 years and older, were overweight. Of these, over 650 million were obese
• 39% of adults aged 18 years and over were overweight in 2016, and 13% were obese
• 41 million children under the age of 5 were overweight or obese in 2016
• Over 340 million children and adolescents aged 5-19 were overweight or obese in 2016
Global picture of obesity

• High BMI accounted for 4.0 million deaths globally

• More than two thirds of deaths related to high BMI were due to cardiovascular disease

• Most of the world's population live in countries where overweight and obesity kills more people than underweight.
Prevalence of obesity in adults by region

The prevalence of obesity in adults, measured as the percentage of adults aged 18 years and older (both male and female) with a body-mass index (BMI) greater than 30 kilograms per metre squared.

Source: UN Food and Agricultural Organization/WHO

OurWorldInData.org/obesity/ • CC BY
Share of adults who are overweight
Percentage of adults aged 18+ years who have a body-mass index (BMI) greater than or equal to 25. BMI is a person’s weight in kilograms (kg) divided by his or her height in metres squared.

Source: WHO, Global Health Observatory
Brazil

Changes in % Obesity Prevalence (BMI ≥30 kg/m²) in Brazilian female adults (age 20+)

Changes in % Obesity Prevalence (BMI ≥30 kg/m²) in Brazilian male adults (age 20+)

The chart presents a trend in % prevalence of obesity (BMI ≥30 kg/m²) in adults living in Brazil age 20+ years. The surveys are not strictly comparable because of differences in methodology. With the limited data available, prevalence’s are not age standardised. Sources and references are available from: obesity@worldobesity.org ©World Obesity Federation, London April 2019

www.worldobesity.org
Specific determinants in the region

Major dietary trends
• Increased intake of unhealthy food
• Reduction in healthier food options

Food system changes that facilitate diet shifts
• Income growth
• Urbanization, women’s work outside the home and opportunity cost of time
• Modern food revolution (supermarkets, processed)

Lifestyle
• Sedentary
Total daily per capita sales of SSB, 2017

- Mexico: 450 mL per capita per day
- Chile: 384 mL per capita per day
- Latin America: 252 mL per capita per day
- Brazil: 196 mL per capita per day
- Colombia: 195 mL per capita per day

Total daily per capita junk food sales, 2017

- Colombia: 16 grams per capita per day
- Brazil: 26 grams per capita per day
- Latin America: 32 grams per capita per day
- Chile: 52 grams per capita per day
- Mexico: 58 grams per capita per day

Source: Euromonitor International Limited, 2018
Trends in bean, pea and other legume food balance (kcal/capita/day)

Per capita away-from-home food and nonalcoholic beverage yearly expenditures

Source: FAO and Euromonitor International Limited, 2018
Are health systems prepared to address the obesity problem?
MAPPS
Management and Advocacy for Providers, Patients and Systems

- Gather intelligence on in-country healthcare systems and practices for obesity policy, prevention and treatment. The data will be used to create a Health Systems for Obesity Index
- Describe health systems guidelines for health care providers, practitioners
- Build a Global Obesity Observatory as a source of reliable data and materials
- Results for LATAM: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru
Results:

Does your government classify obesity as a disease?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>No answer/misunderstood</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Partial</th>
<th>Yes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All countries (28)</td>
<td>25.0% (7)</td>
<td>28.6% (8)</td>
<td>21.4% (6)</td>
<td>25.0% (7)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NB. Out of 28 respondents only 21 respondents either answered or were confident enough to provide an answer.
Results:

Does your healthcare system classify obesity as a disease?

- No answer/misunderstood: 21.4% (6)
- No: 42.9% (12)
- Partial: 25.0% (7)
- Yes: 10.7% (3)

All countries (28)

NB. Out of 28 respondents only 22 respondents either answered or were confident enough to provide an answer.
Results:

Is your health system working in terms of obesity prevention and treatment?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>All countries (28)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No answer/misunderstood</td>
<td>14.3(4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>35.7(10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partial</td>
<td>42.9(12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>7.1(2)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

NB. Out of 28 respondents only 24 either answered or were confident enough to provide an answer
Have any fiscal measures have been put in place to protect/assist/inform the population around obesity?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No answer/misunderstood</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Partial</th>
<th>Yes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All countries (28)</td>
<td>82.1 (23)</td>
<td>14.3 (4)</td>
<td>0 (0)</td>
<td>3.6 (1)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NB. Out of 28 respondents only 5 respondents either answered or were confident enough to provide an answer.
Results:

How is obesity treatment generally funded in practice?
Government funding, insurance, partially covered or out of pocket?

All countries (28)
- No answer/misunderstood: 53.6 (15)
- Out of pocket: 32.1 (9)
- Partial: 14.3 (4)
- Insurance/Government: 0 (0)

NB: Out of 28 respondents only 13 respondents either answered or were confident enough to provide an answer.
Results:

Is specialist obesity training available across the health system?

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Partial</th>
<th>Yes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No answer/misunderstood (%)</td>
<td>42.9(12)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>No (%)</td>
<td>32.1(9)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partial (%)</td>
<td>21.4(6)</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes (%)</td>
<td>3.6(1)</td>
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NB. Out of 28 respondents only 16 respondents either answered or were confident enough to provide an answer.
Results:

Biggest barriers to obesity treatment – LATIN AMERICA

Top perceived barriers to obesity treatment

1. Lack of public education, knowledge/awareness
2. Obesogenic environment
3. Limited access to healthcare, medication & specialists
4. Culture/lifestyle
5. Lack of perception of obesity as a disease

Based on findings from 28 Obesity Specialists from 7 countries across Latin America (last updated April 2019)
Results:

Biggest barriers to obesity treatment

LATIN AMERICA

GLOBAL

Top perceived barriers to obesity treatment

Based on findings from over 100 Obesity Specialists from 32 countries (last updated March 2019)

LATIN AMERICA

Top perceived barriers to obesity treatment

Based on findings from 28 Obesity Specialists from 7 countries across Latin America (last updated April 2019)
MAPPS

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