Effective use of healthcare is a relevant measure of universal coverage in healthcare research. The objective of this study was to compare differences in effective use of long-term healthcare (any self-reported health problem 12 months prior to survey) between international migrants and the local Chilean-born population.

Exploratory secondary analysis of the nationally representative, anonymous Chilean survey CASEN 2013 (n=218,491 participants belonging to 66,725 households). We divided the sample into self-reported immigrants (n=3,555) and Chilean-born (n=212,346). We did not include in the analysis those who preferred not to report their migration status (missing values n=2,590). We estimated self-reported long-term (i) healthcare need, and (ii) use of universal coverage guarantees available in Chile; and compared them for both populations. Analysis was conducted in STATA 13.

**Objective**

**Methods**

**Demand and effective use of health care for long-term needs in Chilean population, CASEN 2013.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coverage of AUGE-GES treatment</th>
<th>Yes (%)</th>
<th>No (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public system</td>
<td>25.4%</td>
<td>74.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private system</td>
<td>35.0%</td>
<td>65.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Without health prevision</td>
<td>23.75%</td>
<td>76.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>40.96%</td>
<td>59.04%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unregistered</td>
<td>35.98%</td>
<td>64.02%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2,850,139</td>
<td>97.17%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Rate of coverage AUGE-GES**

- Male: 52.8% (n=1,392,154)
- Female: 47.2% (n=1,458,985)
- With health prevision: 34.3% (n=961,717)
- Without health prevision: 65.7% (n=1,216,778)
- Primary: 31.0% (n=894,672)
- Secondary: 49.3% (n=1,350,443)
- Professional: 19.7% (n=574,988)
- Post graduation complete: 2.2% (n=61,043)
- Post graduation incomplete: 3.8% (n=101,502)
- Unemployed: 27.6% (n=750,485)
- Occupation: 40.0% (n=1,180,781)
- Education: 29.9% (n=899,777)
- Age: 28.1% (n=801,025)
- Working: 71.8% (n=1,970,013)
- Chilean: 71.2% (n=2,180,139)
- Male: 52.8% (n=1,392,154)
- Female: 47.2% (n=1,458,985)
- With health prevision: 34.3% (n=961,717)
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**Conclusions**

8.5% of immigrants reported not having any health insurance in Chile (versus 2.5% of the Chilean-born). Of these, most are male or between 0-14 years-old. Regarding long-term healthcare, 7.6% of immigrants reported having any AUGE-GES health problem in past 12 months (versus 18.3% in Chilean-born). Of these, 72.1% used universal coverage guarantees available in the country (versus 83.4% in Chilean-born). Most immigrants who did not request healthcare are not entitled to any healthcare provision in the country.

**Results**

**Demand and effective use of health care for long-term needs in immigrant population, CASEN 2013.**

- **Need for long-term health care**
  - During the past 12 months, have you received a medical treatment for any health condition covered by the AUGE-GES programme?
  - Yes (76.7%)
  - No (23.3%)

- **Was this medical treatment covered by the AUGE-GES system?**
  - Yes (69.8%)
  - No (30.2%)

- **If yes,**
  - **He/she preferred to choose another doctor or facility to attend regular doctor (29.9%)**
  - **He/she decided not to wait for the AUGE-GES to solve their problem faster (9.8%)**
  - **He/she thought the AUGE-GES care could be of lower quality (1.6%)**
  - **His/her health plan covered her best need AUGE-GES (1.3%)**
  - **The process to follow for accessing the AUGE-GES is very difficult (3.3%)**
  - **AUGE-GES does not cover the needs of his/her disease (6.4%)**
  - **He/she did not know that their illness was covered by the AUGE-GES (14.4%)**
  - **He/she does not belong to the age group that is covered by the AUGE-GES (2.1%)**
  - **His/her doctor recommended not to use the AUGE-GES coverage (3.7%)**
  - **Another unspecified reason (25.5%)**

- **If no,**
  - **He/she preferred to choose another doctor or facility to attend regular doctor (43.3%)**
  - **He/she decided not to wait for the AUGE-GES to solve their problem faster (1.9%)**
  - **He/she thought the AUGE-GES care could be of lower quality (3.0%)**
  - **His/her health plan covered her best need AUGE-GES (1.2%)**
  - **The process to follow for accessing the AUGE-GES is very difficult (4.0%)**
  - **AUGE-GES does not cover the needs of his/her disease (2.5%)**
  - **He/she did not know that their illness was covered by the AUGE-GES (11.0%)**
  - **He/she does not belong to the age group that is covered by the AUGE-GES (2.0%)**
  - **His/her doctor recommended not to use the AUGE-GES coverage (1.6%)**
  - **Another unspecified reason (16.2%)**

Our analysis suggest that international migrants are at disadvantage of using available healthcare treatments, under the universal health coverage scheme, compared to the Chilean-born. This is particularly relevant for immigrants without any healthcare provision. Future research should explore reasons behind these differences. This unique evidence supports needs of the promoting social protection of health for all population in Chile, including foreigners in need for long-term healthcare.