

SACOCO:

South African costs and coping with ill-health study

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Funded by Wellcome Trust

Rationale

- This study will
- This presentation will show how data collected by SACOCO will address relevant policy questions

Stage of project

- Finished fieldwork, started to analyse
....but no results yet.

SACOCO objectives

- Poor / rural households ability to cope with the cost burdens of ill-health
- How health system influences those cost burdens
- How social resources facilitate access to health care
- Identify policy responses to protect poor / rural households from cost of ill-health

Methodology

- Field site
 - MRC/Wits – Agincourt Health and Demographic Surveillance Unit (HDSU)
 - Bohlabela district, Limpopo, South Africa
- Multi-method
 - Triangulating qualitative and quantitative

Type of data

- **Key informant interviews & focus group discussions**
 - Types of illnesses, social norms, accepted descriptions of health seeking behavior, views of different health providers, roles of community development forums (CDF)
- **Household survey**
 - Illness occurrence in last 2 weeks and hospitalization in last year, mental health, health seeking behavior, health expenditure and loss of income, financial coping strategies, social networks, expenditure, debt and assets.

Type of data cont...

- **Longitudinal case study of 32 HH over 10 months**
 - Life history of HH, illness narratives, monthly illness diaries, treatment and trust of health workers, social networks (maps) and change in livelihood

Obj 1: HH ability to cope with cost of ill-health

- How do HH manage the costs of being sick and how does this affect their ability to meet basic needs?
- What is the impact of hospital fees & exemptions on HH ability to pay?
- What is the role of the disability grant in enabling HH to cope with cost of ill-health

Obj 2: Health System Influences

- What are the drivers of health seeking behaviour, including multiple providers, and failure to go back to same facility?
- What are the barriers to obtaining repeated care for chronic conditions?

Obj 2: Health System Influences cont...

- Why do households choose private primary care despite free public care?
- To what extent do transport costs act as a barrier to seeking care? And to what extent is this barrier exacerbated by inadequate care at clinic?

Obj 3: Role of social resources

- What is the impact of the current access and types of social grants on access to care?

Look at how access changes across life cycle

- What is the role of local organisations (stokvels, burial societies) in improving access to care, and better livelihoods?

Frequency of borrowing from such groups to access health care

- What is the role of informal social networks in improving access to health care.

Thank you...

- HH for allowing us into their home
- FW for all their hard work
- Agincourt admin team
- CHP staff