

Abstract of parallel session: 9

Title: Regional Outcome Evaluation Program (P.Re.Val.E.): reduction of inequality in access to effective health care in the Lazio region of Italy (2012-2015).

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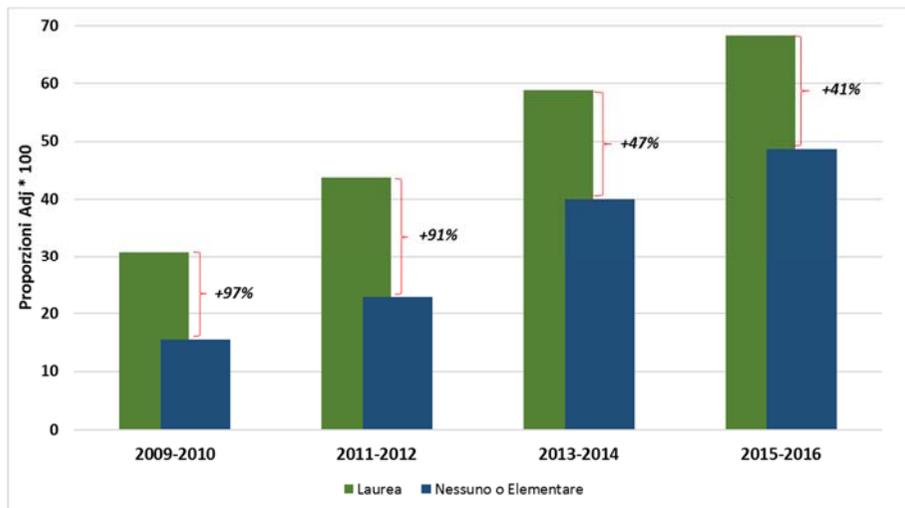
Inequalities in health constitute a major challenge for public health. Since 2006, the Lazio Regional Outcome Evaluation Program (P.Re.Val.E.) presents a set of indicators of hospital performance based on quality standards driven by strong clinical recommendations. One of the aims of the program was to compare population subgroups in order to promote equity in service provision.

The aim of our study was to evaluate whether, in recent years, there has been a reduction in the differential access to effective health care, among individuals with different educational levels.

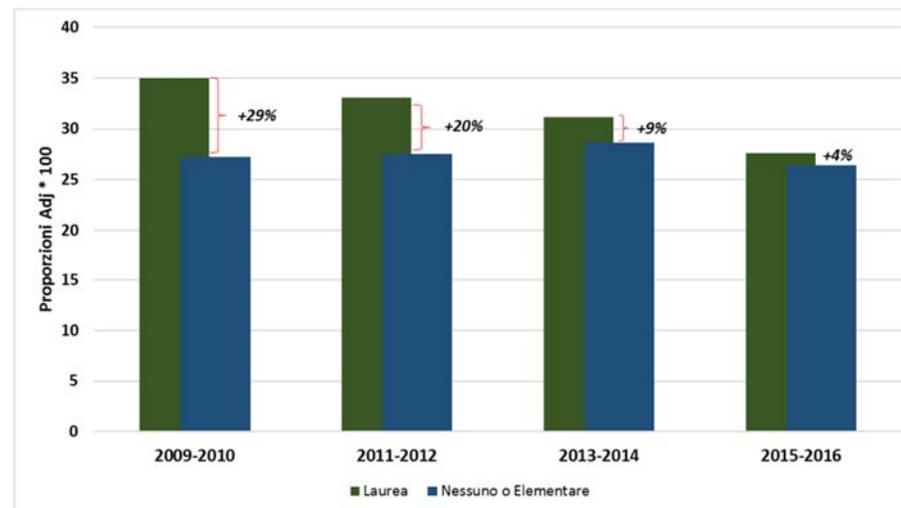
In the Lazio region, in 2015, 44.6% of STEMI patients (N=3,299) were treated with primary PCI, 54.4% of patients with hip fractures (N=6,602) underwent surgery within 2 days, and 27.7% of women without a previous C-section (N=34,718) delivered via C-section. The corresponding proportions in 2012 were 27.8%, 31.3% and 31.5%, respectively. By comparing the adjusted proportions in patients with the highest education level (a university degree or higher) to those with the lowest level education level (None/Primary school), a decrease in the percentage difference was observed during the study period. In STEMI and delivery cohorts, the improvement of outcomes involved the least and the most educated patients, respectively, and the difference between the two educational levels was close to zero in 2015, whereas for hip patients, the improvement was more evident among the less educated patients. The reduction in the gap continued also in 2016 (figures attached).

In the Lazio region, we observed a reduction in the differential access to effective health care by educational level, in different clinical areas. Different factors might explain these results. The public disclosure of outcome data, the management strategy applied in mid-2013 and its consequences on the clinical and organizational practice might have played a role. In conclusion, the overall improvement of the health care system for the considered conditions seems to help achieving a fairer access to health.

Hip fracture: surgery within 2 days. Lazio 2009 – 2016. Educational Level



Primary Cesarean section. Lazio 2009 – 2016. Educational level



STEMI – primary PCI. Lazio 2009-2016. Educational level

