The introduction of care coordination mechanisms between care levels aims to improve clinical coordination and quality of care. Evidence on its impact is limited and almost non-existent in Latin America.

To describe the degree of knowledge and use of care coordination mechanisms between care levels in public healthcare networks of Latin America.

Study design: Cross-sectional study based on a survey using COORDENA questionnaire (May-October 2015).

Population: Primary (PC) and secondary care (SC) doctors of public healthcare networks, in six countries.

Final sample: 348 doctors per country (Total = 2,088).

Analysis: descriptive, stratified by country and levels of care.

RESULTS: Levels of knowledge and use of coordination mechanisms

This is the first survey assessing care coordination mechanisms’ knowledge and use by PC and SC doctors in public healthcare networks of Latin America.

These results reveal limited knowledge, except for information coordination mechanisms, and use, except for referral and reply letters, of care coordination mechanisms. There is much room for improvement.

CONCLUSIONS