



2nd International Conference on
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TITLE: Reflections from Pediatrics on the Colombian health system

Name: Ernesto Durán Strauch

Affiliation: Professor at Universidad Nacional de Colombia

Country: Colombia

Email ID: ejdurans@unal.edu.co

ABSTRACT (upto 300 words)

As pediatricians, we must be active players in the discussion of the changes that are proposed in the health systems of our countries, from a perspective that focuses on guaranteeing the right to health for all children and adolescents (considering both the right to preserve health and the right to restore health). This includes both offering opportune and non-discriminatory access to all health promotion, prevention, diagnosis, care and rehabilitation activities; as well as recognizing the impact on the social and environmental determinants of child and adolescent health. It is necessary to consider the equity of health actions, as well as the availability, acceptability, accessibility and quality of health services aimed at the pediatric population.

With these considerations in mind, we analyzed whether the current health system in our country is effectively guaranteeing the right to health of children and adolescents, and found multiple failures, such as: an over-emphasis on diagnostic services and care at higher levels of complexity, the existence of great inequities in access to services between urban and rural areas and between different social classes, and limited action on the social and environmental determinants of health. Based on these results, we propose that pediatricians should not focus our discussion on the variables of the management of health resources or the administration of the system, which have been the central issues in the discussion of the health system reform being deliberated in Colombia. Instead, we should stress the need to correct the great inequities of the current system and to build a health system that guarantees a good start in life to every citizen.

BIOGRAPHY (upto 200 words)

Doctor, Specialist in Pediatrics, Master in Community Psychology, Master in Public Health, PhD in Social Sciences Childhood and Youth. Associate Professor, Area of Social Pediatrics, Department of Pediatrics, Faculty of Medicine and Coordinator of the Research Group Observatory on Childhood of the National University of Colombia. Researcher on children's rights, social pediatrics, childcare and childhood policies. Advisor of the Social Pediatrics Committee of the Latin American Pediatrics Association, Past President of the Bogota Regional Chapter of the Colombian Pediatrics Society.



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Presenter Name: Ernesto Durán Strauch
Mode of Presentation: Webinar
Contact number: +57 3162252088

