

Manipulation score, Inequality and the effects on health outcomes in the Spanish Long Term Care.

Catia Nicodemo

This paper explores the effects of a potential source of variation of the score system in the implementation of the Spanish LTC. Our purpose is to identify how the score manipulation made by doctors may have an effect on mortality rates. Physicians that assess the degree of dependency may tend to manipulate de dependency grades of 'marginal' people below the threshold for upgrading them to the next level or degree. In this study we present evidence that high level dependents who do not receive that upgrading end with worse health outcomes than those being upgraded above the threshold.