MENTAL HEALTH OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS IN LATIN AMERICA:
EXAMINATION OF DATA SOURCES TO STUDY PREVALENCE AND SOCIOCULTURAL DETERMINANTS

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1 BACKGROUND
MENTAL HEALTH OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS IN LATIN AMERICA

(Corlburn, 2022; Carling, 2021)
International migration

Mental health

LATIN AMERICA
Variations in migratory flows are connected to political and economic changes in the region over the years.

Increased of international migrants, mainly intraregional migration in the last decades.

(Cerruti & Parrado 2015; UN 2016; UN 2017)
➢ Is strongly influenced by the social and political context of the countries.

➢ Significant cause of disability and mortality, underfunded, focused on hospital care. Limited initiatives to promote mental health and lack of independent policy or plan for mental health.

(Rodríguez et al. 2007; PAHO 2014; PAHO 2016)
Mental health

International migration

Mental health

(WHO 2013; PAHO 2017)
Mental health
International migration

LATIN AMERICA

Mental health

(WHO 2013; PAHO 2017)
Mental health

International migration

Mental health

LATIN AMERICA

(WHO 2013; PAHO 2017)
2 AIM
To examine national data sources that can be used to study the common mental disorders (and their sociocultural determinants) among international migrants living in Latin American countries and compare them with the local population.
3 METHODS
Following a systematic procedure to identify datasets to study

**INCLUSION CRITERIA**

- International migration background
- At least one sociocultural determinant of mental health
- Common mental disorders: Depression or anxiety disorders/symptoms using a diagnostic or screening tool
- Surveys not older than 10 years (2011-2021), national representativeness and free
SOURCES

- Search in Ministry of Health webpages of Latin American countries (institutional webpages)
- Search in international organizations datasets (WHO, PAHO, IOM, OECD)
- Recommendations from experts and supervisors
- Previous knowledge (Chilean datasets)
- DHS dataset
- Global Health Data Exchange webpage
- Gallup
RESULTS
38 datasets identified total

includes more than one country, regional or global
Reasons to exclude the dataset:

- Older than 10 years
- Paid dataset
- Does not assess CMD, international migration, and/or social and cultural determinants variables
- In progress
- Not include the adult population
10 datasets eligible from five countries
10 datasets eligible from five countries
Mental Health Survey 2015
National Quality of Life Survey 2016
National Health Survey 2017
National Socioeconomic Characterization Survey 2020
Monthly statistical records for primary healthcare

Lima and Callao Mental health epidemiological study 2012
Survey Directed to the Venezuelan Population Residing in the Country 2018
Demographic and Family Health Survey 2020

National Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) 2013
Mental Health Survey 2015
National Quality of Life Survey (SAGE WHO) 2014
Mental health
International migration

?  Mental health
Selection of datasets for the Quantitative Study

Identification

Identification of datasets in the following sources (n=38):
- Search in Ministry of Health webpages of Latin American countries (institutional webpages)
- Search in international institutions datasets (WHO, PAHO, OIM)
- Recommendations from experts and supervisors
- Previous knowledge (Chilean datasets)
- DHS dataset
- Global Health Data Exchange webpage

Selected after screening study webpage information and protocol/manual (n=32)

Selected after screening questionnaires (n=9)

Final selection of Chilean datasets (n=4)

Reasons to exclude dataset:
- Older than 10 years (n=5)
- Paid dataset (n=1)

Reasons to exclude datasets:
- Does not assess CMD, international migration, and/or social and cultural determinants variables (n=20)
- In progress (n=2)
- Not adult population (n=1)
CONCLUSIONS
CONCLUSIONS

It is relevant to improve the information systems to collect adequate data on the mental health of international migrants in Latin America.
CONCLUSIONS

Consider a proper representation of international migrants (hard-to-reach population)

Assess other migration variables to better understand this heterogeneous population

Include sociocultural determinants of mental health to identify vulnerable groups

Countries must improve the evaluation of mental health issues
CONCLUSIONS

Having adequate information systems will allow a proper study of the mental health of international migrants in Latin America, which will help develop evidence-based public policies and interventions that address the mental health needs of this population.
Mental health
International migration
Mental health
LATIN AMERICA
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