

PEER REVIEW HISTORY

BMJ Open publishes all reviews undertaken for accepted manuscripts. Reviewers are asked to complete a checklist review form (<http://bmjopen.bmj.com/site/about/resources/checklist.pdf>) and are provided with free text boxes to elaborate on their assessment. These free text comments are reproduced below.

ARTICLE DETAILS

TITLE (PROVISIONAL)	What is the NCD Service Capacity and Disruptions due to COVID-19? Results from the WHO Noncommunicable Disease Country Capacity Survey in the Americas Region
AUTHORS	Luciani, Silvana; Caixeta, Roberta; Chavez, Carolina; Ondarsuhu, Dolores; Hennis, Anselm

VERSION 1 – REVIEW

REVIEWER	Lall, Dorothy Institute of Public Health, Health services
REVIEW RETURNED	21-Dec-2022

GENERAL COMMENTS	Thank you for a clearly written manuscript. Just a few suggestions 1. The American region of WHO needs some elaboration - what countries are included and briefly the context to help situate the findings 2. limitations- country comparisons not possible due agreement bindings
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REVIEWER	Kharawala, Amrin Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Internal Medicine
REVIEW RETURNED	20-Jan-2023

GENERAL COMMENTS	Congratulations on compiling the effect of COVID-19 on NCDs in the Americas region in a concise manner. This will give further insights into the need for healthcare-related reserves that countries need to develop in order to be prepared in the future. The manuscript is well written and I only have a few things to point out which I have addressed as comments in the word document. The primary input is addressing the methodology (software/ tests and adding p values if indicated to understand the significance of the comparison) of the basic statistical analysis that was conducted. Can consider adding the STROBE checklist as deemed fit. We appreciate your work.
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VERSION 1 – AUTHOR RESPONSE

Reviewer: 1

Dr. Dorothy Lall, Institute of Public Health Comments to the Author:

Thank you for a clearly written manuscript. Just a few suggestions
1. The American region of WHO needs some elaboration - what countries are included and briefly the context to help situate the findings

The countries in the Americas region, and highlights of their characteristics, to help situate the findings were detailed in Appendix 1, and a reference was in the

methods. Nonetheless, we have expanded this reference a bit more in the methods section to make it more visible.

2. limitations- country comparisons not possible due agreement bindings

This limitation has been added in the section on strengths and limitation of this study.

Reviewer: 2

Dr. Amrin Kharawala, Albert Einstein College of Medicine

Comments to the Author:

Congratulations on compiling the effect of COVID-19 on NCDs in the Americas region in a concise manner. This will give further insights into the need for healthcare-related reserves that countries need to develop in order to be prepared in the future. The manuscript is well written and I only have a few things to point out which I have addressed as comments in the word document. The primary input is addressing the methodology (software/ tests and adding p values if indicated to understand the significance of the comparison) of the basic statistical analysis that was conducted. Can consider adding the STROBE checklist as deemed fit.

We appreciate your work.

This is a descriptive study in which data were analyzed using STATA 17, and this has been added in the methods section. Due to the characteristics of this analysis, which involves compiling and analyzing information based on the absolute number and percentage of countries, p-values are not suitable and therefore not included in the paper. STROBE checklist is also not relevant for the nature of this descriptive study, and therefore not included in the paper.

VERSION 2 – REVIEW

REVIEWER	Kharawala, Amrin Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Internal Medicine
REVIEW RETURNED	09-Feb-2023
GENERAL COMMENTS	I thank the authors for providing a succinct revision based on the comments. The manuscript adds valuable data to the literature and has highlighted the limitations well.