Commentary: “Fulminant acute hepatitis in pediatrics in Latin America and the Caribbean”

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First, I would like to note that primary health care for liver diseases in pediatrics is scarce. This is quite evident when we see families traveling with their “liver diseased” children to municipal centers that have better health resources so that they can enjoy an adequate quality of life inherent to the disease.

In this sense, the paper “Fulminant Acute Hepatitis in Pediatrics in Latin America and the Caribbean”¹ is of interest not only to health professionals, but also to managers in public health, so that primary health care can become paramount in the municipalities, providing an improved quality of life to the population, especially in the pediatric age range, with regard to viral hepatitis and, more specifically, type A hepatitis.

It is worth pointing out that public health primary care concerning the hepatology and immunologic prevention of viral hepatitis and population awareness campaigns focusing on these diseases are not that costly when compared to the treatments required by complications of the condition, among them fulminant acute hepatitis, hepatic encephalopathy, esophageal varices and, most importantly, liver transplantation.

Therefore, I would like to conclude by adding that the paper contributes not only to a scientific approach of the disease and its complications, but also raises awareness of public health agents, both professionals and health managers, in order to better organize the distribution of resources based on epidemiological data using as a successful example what was carried out in our neighboring country, Argentina.

REFERENCE