

ABSTRACT

Ana Luiza d'Ávila Viana

Nevertheless finding out a common explanation about the reasons of the collapse of the Health Systems in Latin American - current growing social demands arising from the huge indexes of poverty, low public investments, elevation of the costs, managerial inefficiency, larger aging of the population and growing life expectancy at birth - the reforms of those systems shows a great diversity regarding the motivation, focus, results and changes in the State functions.

The paper analyzes the different reform patterns of the Health Systems that took place in Latin American Latin countries in the decades of 1980 and 1990. It also presents an assessment about the different experiences, concluding that besides some positive results regarding the increase covering population, the historical weakness of the State in Latin American countries constitutes a serious difficulty for the public sector activity do to the remaining problems of equity and quality.

Key Words key: State Reforms, health policy and equity