Review article Open Access

**Ke d** : Children; Elderly; New Rural Cooperative Medical Insurance System; Hospitalization

### I d c

China has a large population of children. In order to do better in the services of children health care, National Health and Family Planning Commission of China treated 2014 as the year of the service for women and children [1]. To advocate that, Chinese government carried out several e ective activities, such as the "women and children health in China" and the national women and children health skills competition activities. ere is an increasing proportion of the elderly as well. China's 60 years old and above population was estimated to increase from 10.5% in 2000 to 19.5% in 2025 and 29.9% in 2050 [2]. Because of their vulnerable healthy, children and elderly people are mostly concerned by the governments in terms of health services. Moreover, newborns as special group among children need more care.

Medical security is an important part of social security system. It not only meets the health demand of special groups, but also maintains social stability [3]. Children and the elderly in rural areas are poor in family economic status in special. It is necessary to study their health services. More attention should be put on their state of health. is article is focused on children and the elderly health care in a county, who are covered by the new rural cooperative medical insurance system.

e county concerned in this article is in Shaanxi province located in western China. e area is 720 square kilometers along with about 0.45 million population. Since 2006, the new rural cooperative medical insurance system has been carried out in the county. In order to further reduce the burden of farmers' hospitalization costs, the medical insurance scheme was adjusted in 2011 to improve the reimbursements on the basis of the original policy. Since then, the rural medical insurance fund has been raised to 230 Yuan for each individual each year, among which 30 Yuan paid by individuals and

Xiong Linping, Department of Health Services Management, Second Military Medical University, 800 Xiangyin Road, Shanghai, 200433, China, Tel: 86 2181871431; Fax: 86 2181871431; E-mail: xionglinping@aliyun.com

July 31, 2014; August 26, 2014; August 30, 2014

Yue Y, Shuman L, Linping X (2014) Hospitalization Analysis for Children

Yuan). e average hospitalization costs in di erent groups have certain di erences. Children under 6 years old have an average cost around 1500 Yuan. e average hospitalization expense of "11-14" years old is the highest, which is exceeding 3000 Yuan. With the increasing of the age, average hospitalization expenses show the increasing trend. For the bene ciary of reimbursement, the total average reimbursement is 775 Yuan (with median of 484 Yuan). e total reimbursement rate is 44.11%, which is less than that of the national level (48%) in the same e actual reimbursement rate is low, on account of using some self-paying drugs and therapies which are not covered by the medical insurance scheme. Because some part of parents concerned about the health of their children, and believe that those self-paying drugs and therapies can treat the illnesses more e ective. e highest reimbursement is for the age group of less than 2 years old (46.11%), and the lowest is for the age group of "6-10" years.

#### Ne b a a

Medically, babies born in 28 days are de ned as newborns. e medical policy allows newborns to enjoy hospitalization reimbursements with their mothers who participated in the rural medical insurance system. Table 3 shows situations of newborns hospitalization. 534 newborns are divided into four groups according to day age, 7 days in a group. We can learn from it that newborns within 14 days accounts for 85.96%, because of their special constitutions. Nearly half of them are in the group of "0-7" days (49.63%). Newborns are facing with suddenly changes of environment that making them easy to get diseases. Vitals of newborns in "22-28" day's group are becoming stable, with less number of hospitalizations. About medical expenses, the mean value is 2395 Yuan (with median of 1973 Yuan). For the babies of "22-28" days, they have stronger bodies and resistances, and spent the least hospitalization expense of 1895 Yuan. e other groups' medical expenses are higher than 2200 Yuan.

In some part of traditional rural areas of China, parents usually prefer boys to girls. Table 4 shows hospitalization expenses in di erent gender of newborns. e number of 274 boys is a little more than that of 260 girls. ere are no obvious di erences of the average

	Table 7 shows t	he hospitalization dis	stribution of the elderl

was 50% lower than townships level hospitals (85%) and county level hospitals (70%).

### $\mathbf{D}_{\mathbf{r}}$ $\mathbf{c}_{\mathbf{r}}$

China has always been committed to ensuring and improving people's wellbeing, and giving protections and health care to special groups. A er analyzing hospitalization expenses of children, newborns and the elderly, it is clearer whether the new rural cooperative medical insurance system can help special groups to get fair and available medical services [9].

## Sege e ec fc de a de b

Children are the hope of families. eir health is related to the development of the nation and the future of the country directly [10]. e analysis in this article found that children under 5 years old and newborn babies are easy getting sick. Maternal and child health care should be strengthened to ensure medical needs for these special groups [5]. In addition, maternal and newborn health care services should also be promoted to reduce the incidence of neonatal diseases, by prenatal education, making notes of newborn common diseases universal and increasing the level of obstetricians' newborn nursing knowledge [11].

e analysis also found that a small part of children inpatients had their hospitalization expenses over 10000 Yuan, so that the government needs to guarantee more medical security on children with major diseases in rural areas. Not only protect the health of children, help them enjoy reasonable medical treatments, and solve parents' worries [12], but also improve the security level of the new rural cooperative medical insurance system.

# E c age ea fe e a d e e e e d ea e ad a ce

e average medical expense is closely related to the age, so the aging of the population is an important factor a ecting the need of medical services and medical expenses [13]. is article found that the elderly are at a high level in terms of inpatients and hospitalization expenses. And the chronic diseases generally require long-term

care and treatments, which would undoubtedly bring to the elderly physiological and mental burdens, and bring certain economic pressure on families. But if governments carry out prevention and cure works on chronic diseases in advance, they would get twofold results with half the e ort. Education levels of farmers in western rural areas are generally low, and they get less ways of health knowledge. erefore, the government should strengthen the health knowledge and health education in rural areas, encourage healthy lifestyles [3], and prevent and cure senile diseases.

Medical treatments in hospitals outside the county usually cost much more than in local medical institutions, bringing heavy pals ou vention and cure works

Yue Y, Shuman L, Linping X (2014) Hospitalization Analysis for Children and the Elderly Under New Rural Cooperative Medical Insurance System. J Preg Child Health 1: 108. doi:10.4172/2376-127X.1000108

reimbursement was 260 Yuan in the county hospitals, which was easy