

**ABSTRACT**

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**EFFICIENCY OF RESOURCE USE IN THE HEALTH SECTOR:**

A REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE WITH AN APPLICATION TO

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

BY

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A principal objective of this research is to focus on the economic considerations that will assist decision makers in the planning and execution of projects for a public health sector in a country like Trinidad and Tobago. A basic assumption of the research will be that an efficient reallocation of resources

The principal objective of this thesis is to explore the importance of monitoring the efficiency of resource use in the public health sector of the economy of Trinidad and Tobago. It would seem that efficiency monitoring of the health sector is an essential objective to planners for several reasons.

One obvious reason is that the resources that will be available to the health sector in the future will be relatively more limited due to persistent economic difficulties. Another reason is the suspicion that the resources that were available to the health sector in the past could have been used more efficiently.

One obvious reason is that the resources that will be available to the health sector in the future will be relatively more limited due to persistent economic difficulties. Another reason is the suspicion that the resources that were available to the health sector in the past could have been used more efficiently.

Owing to these and other reasons, it is important for us to find new ways of delivering the public health package in the future. To put the matter plainly, the delivery of the health package must henceforth be carried out in a cost effective and

a more cost efficient manner. The resources available to the public health sector are limited. This thesis is concerned with how those limited resources are to be divided among the primary, secondary and tertiary programmes and still attain the highest quality of health care for the population at minimum cost.

A principal objective of this study therefore, is essentially to focus on the economic considerations that will assist policy makers in the planning and execution of projects for a public health sector of a developing country like Trinidad and Tobago. A basic assumption of the research will be that an efficient reallocation of resources in the public health sector will contribute to a better delivery of Health care at a lower cost.

An analysis of the public health system will be done to explore the extent to which the existing system relates to efficiency; and how the proposed system fosters savings in the health sector as resources are allocated among the various primary, secondary and tertiary programmes, and within health care institutions. Broad policy guidelines will therefore be put forward in an attempt to lay the foundation for policy makers to increase the efficiency of resource use in the public health sector of Trinidad and Tobago.