

96th Meeting of the IOM Council

Migration: Health Challenges in Mexico

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- **Migration: Mexico, Central America & USA**
- **Health and Social Impacts**
- **Collaborative processes**
- **New opportunities for collaboration**
- **Conclusions and discussion points**



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Mexico faces different dimensions of the migration phenomenon

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- Emigration from Mexico to the United States is primarily economically motivated.
 - Nominal wage differentials: 10 to 1 ratio
 - US economic growth
 - **12 million** undocumented immigrants 50% of which are Mexican
- Mexico faces high transit migration
 - transit by Central Americans seeking to reach the US
 - increase in immigration from these same countries.
 - **400,000 non-Mexicans** enter the United States every year in an irregular manner, mostly through Mexico
 - 20% of irregular migrants transiting Mexico are women.



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Reasons for migration

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EXHIBIT 2

Main Reasons For Immigrating Among Undocumented Latino Adults In Four U.S. Cities, 1996-1997

Reason	El Paso	Houston	Fresno	Los Angeles
Education	20.7%	2.6% ^a	3.2% ^a	4.1% ^a
Work	26.6	56.8	62.6	56.2
Unite with family/friends	49.1	33.6	30.3	33.0
Avoid political persecution	0.0	2.0	2.1 ^a	2.4 ^a
Social services	0.0	0.0	0.4 ^a	0.6 ^a
Other	3.6 ^a	4.9 ^a	1.4 ^a	3.8 ^a

SOURCE: Hispanic Immigrant Health Care Access Survey, Project HOPE Center for Health Affairs, 1996.

NOTE: $p < .05$, using chi-square, reject null hypothesis that distribution of characteristics is the same across sites.

^a Standard error greater than 30 percent of estimate.

Source: Berk ML et al HEALTH AFFAIRS July/August 2000



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Different views, different countries

ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS 2004 OUTLAYS AND RECEIPTS (in billions)

Category	Outlays	Receipts	Net Cost
Education			
Illegal Aliens	\$3.2		\$3.2
Children of Illegal Aliens	4.5		4.5
Uncompensated Medical Care	1.4		1.4
Incarceration	1.4		1.4
Tax Payments		1.7	-1.7
Total	\$10.5 Billion	\$1.7 Billion	\$8.8 Billion

Mexican workers cash remittances in selected years (million US)

1995	3,673
2001	8,895
2003	13,396
2004	16,612
2005	18,556
2006	23,742
2007	23,979

Source: F AIR fair@fairus.org | www.fairus.org. Nov 2004 and CONAPO



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Demographic profile of Mexicans in the United States

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- The population
 - **64%** of the 45.5 million Latin American people in the U.S. are Mexican
 - **40%** are first generation Mexican - immigrants
 - Over half of all recent* Mexican immigrants are between 18-34.4 years old
 - Mexican immigrants enter the U.S. at an average age of 21.5
 - **44%** of Mexican immigrants are homeowners
 - Mexican immigrant earn **45% less** than native-born men



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Source: HEALTH INITIATIVE OF THE AMERICAS | UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA (UC) UC BERKELEY SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH. Demographic profile of mexicans in the united states demographic profile of mexicans in the united states october 2008

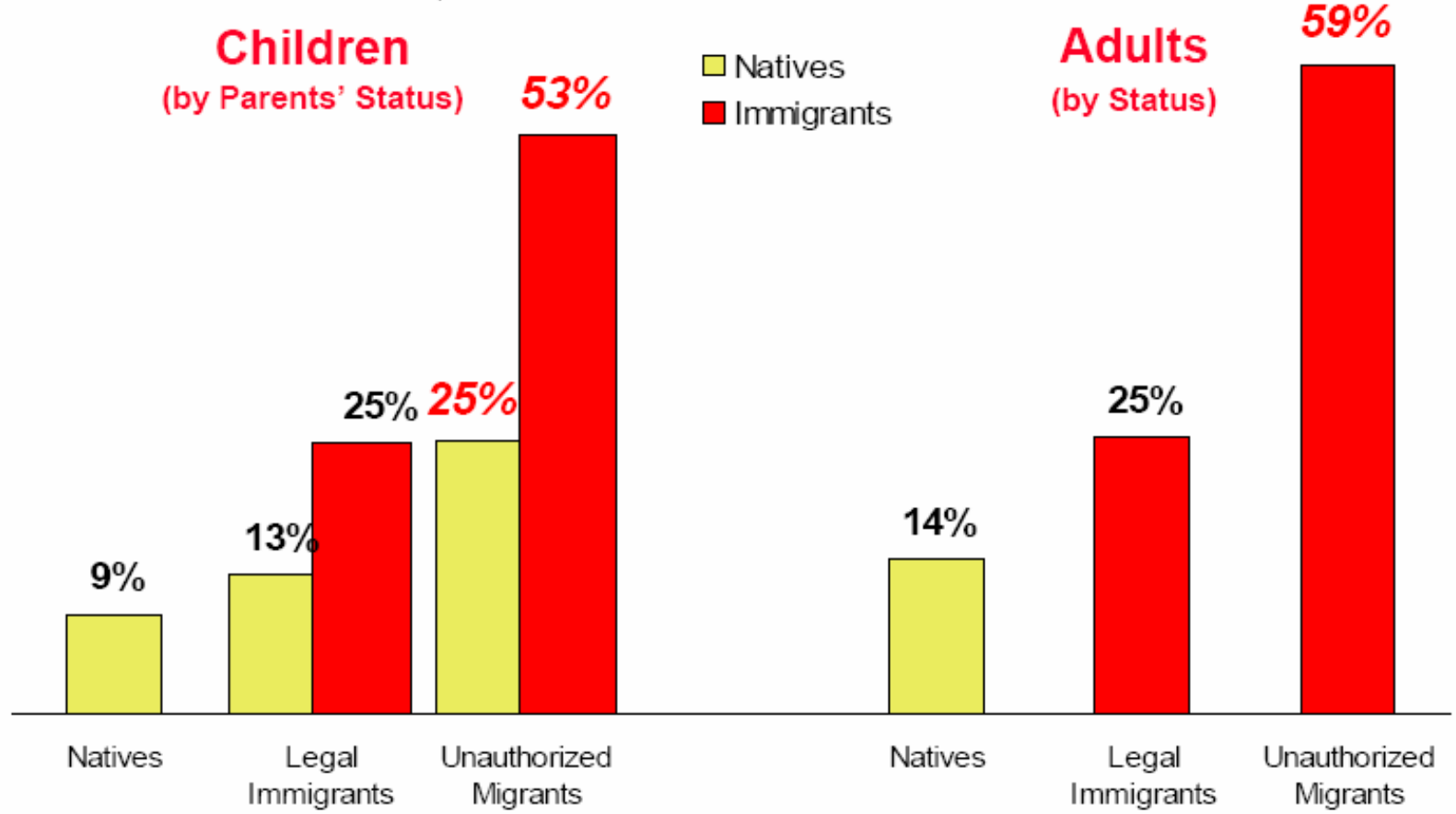


Immigrant adults are much more likely than natives to lack health insurance.

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Percent without Health Insurance, 2004



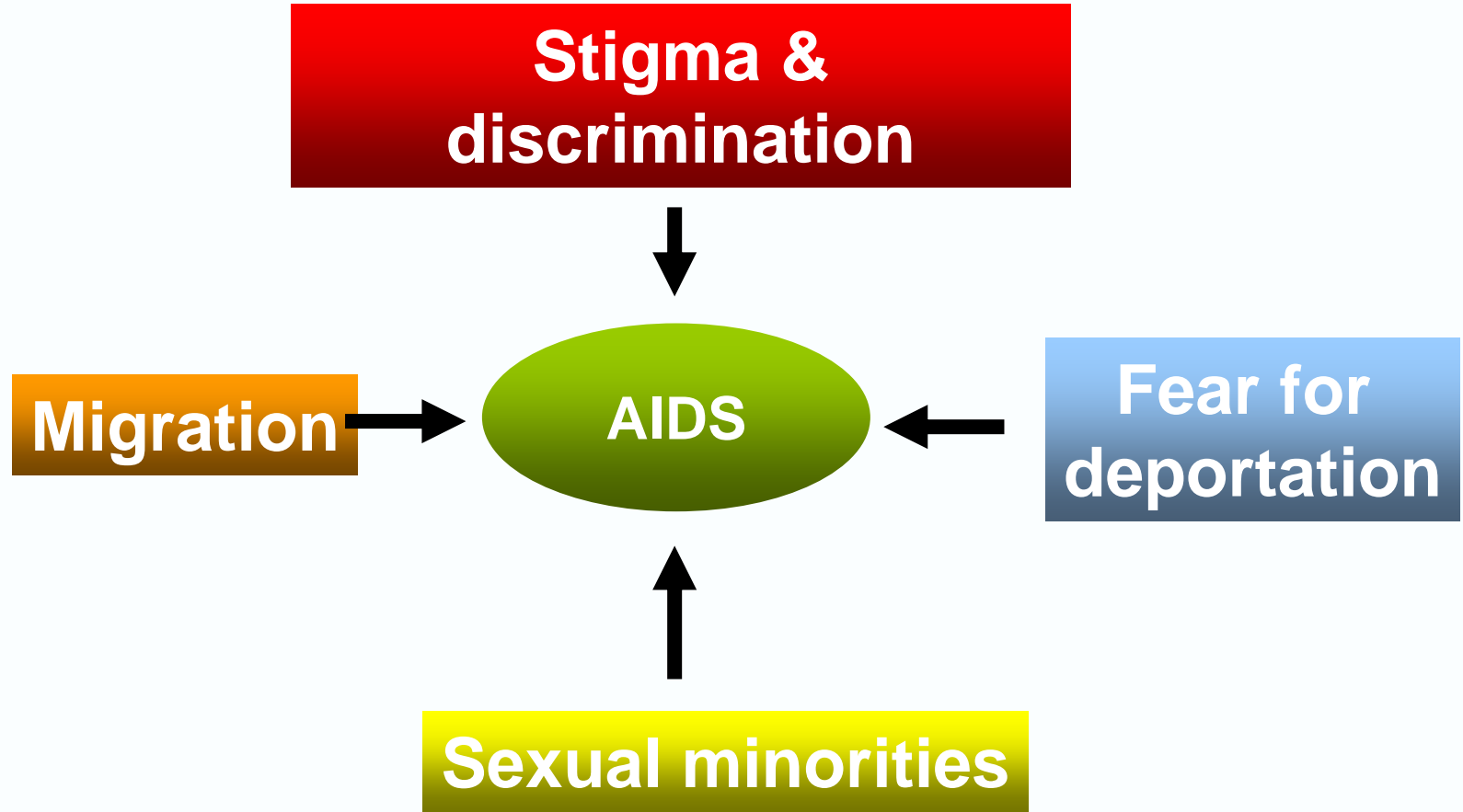
Source: Background Briefing Prepared for Task Force on Immigration and America's Future By Jeffrey S. Passel Senior Research Associate Pew Hispanic Center



Determinants of vulnerability to HIV infection: The coexistence of multiple stigmas

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Source: Infante C and Leyva R, 2008



Sexual behavior

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	Migrant	Non-migrant
Age of first sexual intercourse (Y.O)	17.0	18.5
Number of sexual partners over the last year	1-12	1-3
Condom use with the latest sex partner	45%	24%
Presence of condom in pocket at the time of interview	18%	5%

Source: CENSIDA/UC



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Drug consumption

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	Migrant	Non-migrant
Male	21.5%	7.2%
Female	2.65%	2.1%

Any kind of drug anytime in their life

	Migrant	Non-migrant
Alcohol consumption	59%	12%
Marihuana consumption	5.7%	1.8%
Cocaine consumption	6.9%	1.8%



Source: CENSIDA/UC, ENA, CONADIC, INEGI, DGE



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Migration is a strong determinant of vulnerability to HIV

- Sexual Violence
 - 30% of migrant women suffer from sexual abuse during their journey to the United States
- Transactional and survival Sex:
 - Sex as an exchange currency to transit and to secure stay in the United States
- Increase in the number of sexual partners
- Riskier sexual practices and low condom use



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Sources:

Leyva et al, 2008

Caballero, M et al, 2008

Bronfman, et al.1995



AIDS IN MEXICO AND THE US

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- Of the 1.2 million people in the U.S. affected by HIV/AIDS, 16% are Latino.
 - AIDS case rate is the second highest
 - Latinas have an AIDS case rate 5 times
- Immigrants have low level of condom knowledge and use, and high participation in prostitution and male-to-male sexual contact.
- Nearly half of HIV positive Mexican immigrants reported having shared needles for the injection of illicit drugs, antibiotics, or vitamins.
- Areas in Mexico with the highest rates of migration to the U.S. are most affected by HIV/AIDS.
- 2% of migrants in transit at the Mexican-Guatemalan border are HIV positive



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Source: **CALIFORNIA-MEXICO HEALTH INITIATIVE**



Challenges: access to health care

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- Government health services
 - Restrictions still exist to access by non-nationals
 - Even when there is legal access, migrants' perceptions and fears pose formidable barriers
- NGOs south of the US border
 - Complex, unruly network with diverse services
 - Scarce coordination between NGOs and government
 - There is little relation to migrants' social needs
 - Reduced capacity to solve health problems
- Migrants
 - Self-care



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- **Background**
 - U.S. legislation
 - Health laws of every state in the U.S. require doctors and nurses a certification to exercise
 - State Medical Boards
 - State Boards of Nursing
 - Certified nurses
 - Phone medical advice is given by nurses certified in various states of the United States
 - The protocols help the patient determine if a case
 - Is serious (nearest emergency room)
 - Requires care (doctor in the next 48 hrs)
 - Is temporary (recommendation and call back if it persists)





BORDER PRIMARY HEALTH CARE PROGRAM

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Development of shelters in border states in the north of the country to provide medical services: addictions, mental Health, chronic diseases and AIDS



	Ambulatory surgery	2
	Oncology	1
	CAPASITS	8
	Hemodialysis	2
	Mental health	5
	Chronic diseases	15
	CAPA	27
	TOTAL	60



The Bi-national Health Week

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- Celebrated yearly since 2001
 - One of the largest mobilization efforts in the US to improve the health and well-being of underserved immigrants and migrants of Latin American origin living in the United States and Canada
- Partners from the US and Mexico, extended to Central America, Colombia and Ecuador since 2008
 - Ministries of Health and of Foreign Affairs of Mexico
 - All Mexican consulates in the USA are participating
 - Academic institutions
 - NGOs
- Activities
 - Health promotion and health education activities
 - Workshops
 - Insurance referrals
 - Medical screenings



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Bi-national Policy Forum on Migration and Health

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- Convenes key stakeholders every year to discuss migrant health challenges and to explore opportunities to work collaboratively to improve the health and well-being of migrants
- Forum topics include
 - Global health and migration
 - Chronic diseases
 - HIV/AIDS of mobile populations
 - Occupational health and safety
 - Access to health services
 - Workforce development
 - Health of vulnerable people



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Ventanillas de Salud at 28 Mexican Consulates

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- Implemented in the last 6 years, exist now in 28 consulates
- Reach 197,114 Mexican citizens visiting consulates for passports and IDs
- Provide health promotion and health service information, and do community outreach
- Collaboration of local NGOs with professional health educators
- Funded by Mexican government and mobilizing additional community resources



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Mesoamerican project for HIV prevention among mobile groups in Central America

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- Objectives favoring mobile populations
 - Extend access to quality, comprehensive HIV/AIDS prevention and care
 - Establish and strengthen quality HIV/AIDS prevention services
- Participation of all countries and stakeholders in Central America
 - Key stakeholders at local and national levels
 - Government and migration authorities
 - Civil organizations
 - National AIDS Programs
 - International cooperation agencies
- Implementation of local activities through coordination with actors and contracting with NGOs



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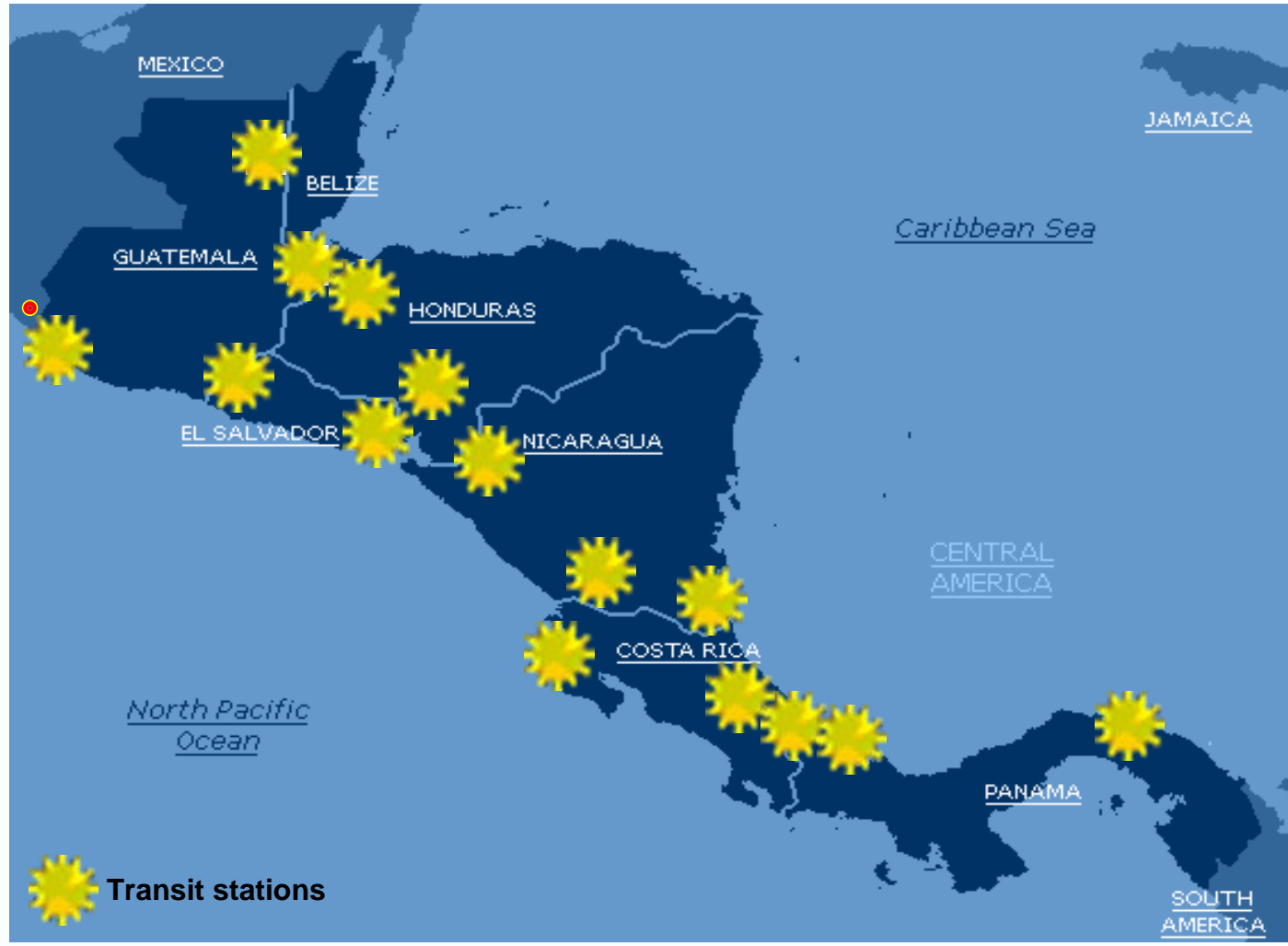


Mesoamerican Project for HIV prevention

Focus in 15 "transit stations" in border towns

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 Transit stations





New opportunities to strengthen regional collaboration

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- The Mesoamerican Public Health System
 - Signed as part of Mesoamerican Development Project by presidents of Mexico, Central American countries and Colombia in June 2008
 - Multi-donor collaboration
 - National Institute of Public Health of Mexico leading technical development
- Binational Health Insurance
 - Has been a concern of Binational Forum since its inception
 - Analysis has demonstrated feasibility
 - Importance of having an initiative in place to support binational migrant worker agreements



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