MORTALITY RATE SKYROCKETING IN VENEZUELA

If you can find health care, you can’t afford it

“There are people dying for lack of medicine, children dying of malnutrition and others dying because there are no medical personnel.”
- Dr. Yamila Battaglini, surgeon at J. M. de los Ríos Children’s Hospital

“Venezuela’s problems are a consequence of the craziest economic policy ever in a country or in the world. It’s a country that has gone through its longest and highest oil boom in its history, and ended that period over-indebted, with a destroyed country or in the world.  It’s a country that has gone through its longest and highest productive capacity, and now it cannot face the reduction in the price of oil.”
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| Problem | What | Problem(s) | When | Different, unusual, unique
|---------|------|------------|------|-----------------------------
|         |      | Venezuelan health care crisis | Ongoing | Hyperinflation; policies set prices below production costs
|         |      | Hypertension; policies set prices below production costs | Ongoing | Health care treatment unavailable
| Where   | Facility, site | Venezuela |     | All health care facilities
|         | Unit, area, equipment | All types of treatment |     |

Impact to the Goals

| Patient Safety | Mortality rates skyrocketing
| Patient Services | Health care treatment unavailable
| Schedule/Operations | Drugs, equipment unavailable
| Property/Equipment | All types of treatment

1. Problem
2. Analysis
3. Solutions

With this many (and this severe) problems, there are no easy answers. Making the situation even worse is the government’s denial that there IS a problem. Says President Nicolás Maduro, “I doubt that anywhere in the world, except in Cuba, there exists a better health system than this one.” This is preventing other countries from providing aid, sometimes because they are unaware the extent of the need. At least one country, India, is offering drugs for oil, though that may be mainly to recoup funds they are already owed, not for providing new medication.

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| Patient Safety Goal Impacted | Mortality rates skyrocketing
| Patient Services Goal Impacted | Lack of sanitation
| Schedule/Operations Goal Impacted | Health care treatment unavailable
| Property/Equipment Goal Impacted | Drugs, equipment unavailable

| Zika outbreak | Severe drought
| El Niño | Response to drought
| Infrastructure failure | Mismanagement/Corruption
| Water unavailable | Severe rationing
| Water unavailable | Low water levels at hydroelectric plants
| Rolling blackouts | Severe drought
| Severe drought | See same cause

Zika outbreak AND Severe drought

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