Abstract

Providing healthcare for uninsured or non-insured non-citizens creates difficulties for both the insurer and the healthcare system. The Cuidese program is currently the only state funded family planning program that provides no or low-cost family planning services for non-citizens in the State of Washington. This evaluation provided the Washington State Department of Health and Cuidese family planning clinics with information, from the patient perspective, on how the Cuidese program affects their family planning and use of the family planning clinic. A mixed method approach was used in this evaluation, including key informant interviews and surveys to patients seeking healthcare at family planning clinics in Washington. Clinic availability, interpreter service, availability of contraception, educational materials, and male involvement in family planning were major themes identified. Family planning clinics in Washington will need to continue offering family planning as well as develop ways in which they can improve male involvement.