

Diabetes mellitus in Colombia: a view from the reporting of official information sources

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Background

The Colombian healthcare system is based in assurance, provided by several insurers. Hence, a global registry of the diabetes mellitus (DM) cases does not exist. However, there are some official sources of healthcare data, and their

information about DM cases could be taken into account to get an approximation to the condition of this disease within the Colombian healthcare system. The reported DM cases by these sources have not been compared so far.

Objective

To compare the performance of the DM reported cases by two official registries, from 2009 to 2012.

Methods

Two official healthcare information sources were identified: Integral Information System of Social Protection (*SISPRO*), the registry of the Ministry of Health and Social Protection, and High Cost Account (*CAC*), an organization of the healthcare insurers to trace high expenditure

diseases. The number of DM cases reported from 2009 to 2012, in each source, was included. The absolute and the percentage differences between the number of cases reported by each one of the sources were calculated.

Results

The sources reported that the DM cases have been increasing from 2009 to 2012 (Fig. 1). The percentage difference between the sources

varied between 19% and 26%. The percent distribution according to sex was not different between the sources (Table 1).

Figure 1: DM cases reported in Colombia by SISPRO and by CAC, from 2009 to 2012

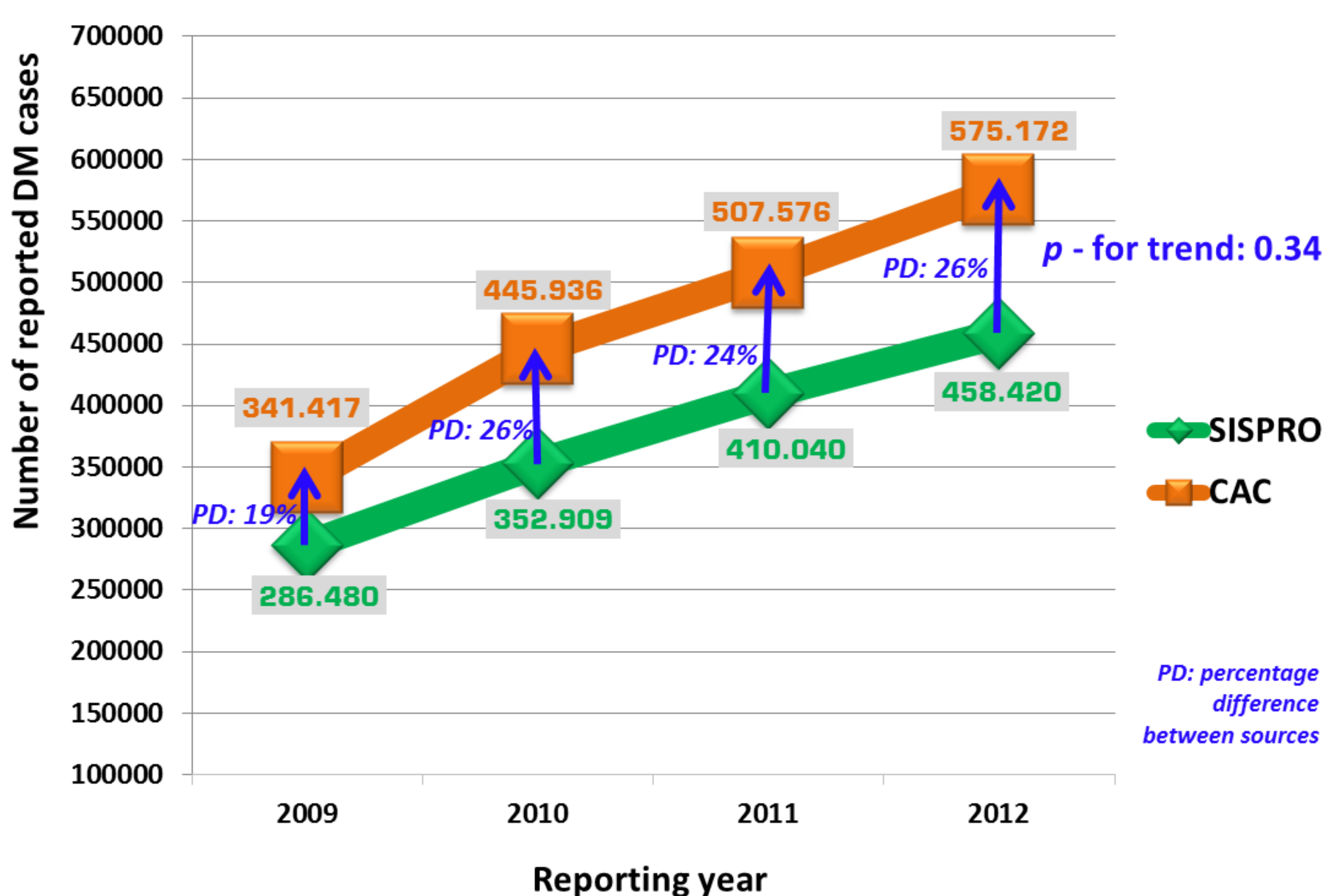


Table 1: DM cases reported in Colombia by SISPRO and by CAC, from 2009 to 2012: sort by sex

Year / Source	Male				Female			
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2009	2010	2011	2012
SISPRO	117.586 (41%)	139.413 (40%)	168.527 (41%)	190.123 (41%)	168.894 (59%)	213.496 (60%)	241.513 (59%)	268.297 (59%)
CAC	141.317 (41%)	188.818 (42%)	235.438 (46%)	239.375 (42%)	200.100 (59%)	257.118 (58%)	272.138 (54%)	335.797 (58%)

Conclusion

The DM cases have increased in last years in Colombia. This may be due to: i) the quality of registries and the data retrieving system have been improving, or, ii) there is a real increase of

DM incidence in Colombia. The consistency between the sources provides a relevant validity evidence to carry out future analysis with their data.