

Table 1 Variables and definitions and their roles in the models

Variable	Definition	Role
Health expenditure	Per capita total expenditure on health (average exchange rate; US\$)	Input in DEA model
Physician density	Number of physicians actively practicing medicine in public and private institutions (full-time equivalents) per 1000 population	Input in DEA model
Nurse and midwifery density	Number of nurses and midwives per 1000 population	Input in DEA model
Bed density	Number of inpatient beds per 1000 population	Input in DEA model
Life expectancy at birth	Average number of years that a person at birth can be expected to live, assuming that age-specific mortality levels remain constant	Output in DEA model
Infant mortality rate	Number of deaths of infants aged < 1 year per 1000 live births	Output in DEA model
Education level	Literacy rate among adults aged > 15 years (%)	Determinant in regression model
Income per capita	Gross domestic product per capita (average exchange rate; US\$)	Determinant in regression model
Out-of-pocket expenditure	Out-of-pocket expenditure as percentage of total health expenditure	Determinant in regression model
Unemployment rate	Share of the labour force that is without work but available for and seeking employment	Determinant in regression model