

Anahuac University, Faculty of Health Sciences

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Faculty of Health Sciences
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Anahuac University is a private higher education institution founded in Mexico in 1964. It offers 28 undergraduate programs and 40 postgraduate programs. Anahuac means "near the water" in nahuatl, and refers to the region of lakes of Mexico first capital city, Tenochtitlan. The university motto is "Vince in bono malum", or "Defeat evil with good", which is the philosophy of the institution. Anahuac University is part of a global network of catholic universities run by the Christ Legionaries, with presence in 18 countries and serving over 100,000 students from kindergarten to graduate schools.

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VPA focal person



Arturo Cervantes, MD, MPH, DPH

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Arturo Cervantes is General Director of the Information System for the National Institute for Educational Evaluation (INEE) and Carlos Peralta Chair of Public Health at the Faculty of Health Sciences, Anahuac University Mexico. He obtained his Medical Surgeon degree at the National Autonomous University of Mexico ('92) and both a Masters ('93) and a Doctorate ('98) degree in public health from Harvard University. He is board certified by the National Council of Public Health in Mexico and member of the charter class of the National Board of Public Health Examiners in the United States.

From 2007 – 2013 he served as technical secretary of the National Council for Injury Prevention and general director of the National Center for Injury Prevention, Mexican Ministry of Health. From 2007 – 2013 he led the design and implementation of the Mexican National Program for Road Safety and was lead author of policy for the National Road Safety Strategy 2011 – 2020. As head of the National Center for Injury Prevention, Dr. Cervantes authored the National Specific Action Program for Road Safety and the National Specific Action Program for Violence Prevention, 2007 - 2012. Between 2009 and 2013, Mexico lowered the death rates from road traffic injuries from 16 to 13.4 deaths per 100,000 people, the lowest death rate observed in the last 20 years.

From 2009 – 2013 Dr. Cervantes worked with the federal government as lead member for the Ministry of Health on the presidential task force “Todos Somos Juarez”, which developed a multisectoral strategy for violence and delinquency prevention and social development for the city of Juarez, Chihuahua. During 2010 – 2013, homicide rates in the city of Juarez fell from 222 per 100,000 to 37 per 100,000 which represent an 84% rate reduction in homicide. Todos Somos Juarez was led by the federal government and had the participation of the government of the state of Chihuahua, the municipal government of Juarez, and the city’s civil society.

Dr. Cervantes was national data coordinator for Mexico in the World Health Organization’s “Global status report on violence prevention 2014”. He was member of the regional expert committee for the “World report on violence and health”, World Health Organization, 2002. From 2007 through 2013 he represented the federal government of Mexico in the Violence Prevention Alliance and the Global Campaign for Violence Prevention. He led the organizing team for the 6th Milestones of the VPA meeting held in Mexico City on November 2013. Since 2009 he is member of the Institute of Medicine's Forum on Global Violence Prevention, National Academies of Science, United States.