Social Health Situation Analysis of all Provinces of Islamic Republic of Iran

Fariba Zamankhani¹, Kambiz Abachizadeh ²³*, Sohiala Omidnia⁴, Alireza Abadi⁵⁶, Mohammad Ali Hiedarnia³

1. Resident of Community Medicine, Department of Community Medicine, Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran
2. Associate Professor of Community Medicine, Social Determinants of Health Center, Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran
3. Associate Professor of Community Medicine, Department of Community Medicine, Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran
4. MA, MPH, Social Health Office, Health Deputy of Ministry of Health and Medical Education, Tehran, Iran
5. Associate Professor of Vital Statistics, Social Determinants of Health Research Center, Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran
6. Associate Professor of Vital Statistics, Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran

*Corresponding Author: Kambiz Abachizadeh; Social Determinants of Health Center, Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran
Email: K.abachizadeh@sbmu.ac.ir

Received: 28 May 2016 Accepted: 30 June 2016 Published: 8 August 2016

Abstract

Background and Objective: To achieve overall human health, social health in recent decades has been considered as one of the main health dimensions. Defining and measurement social health of any society varies according to its situation. By determining and measuring its characteristics, social health status of society is determined to make evidence-based interventions.

Materials and Methods: This study was conducted in two phases of qualitative and quantitative. In qualitative phase, framework and indicators were extracted by literature review. In quantitative phase, the information of provinces was obtained from official sources. The final indicators were extracted by expert's opinions about the importance and accuracy of the information respectively. Through standardization of individual indicators and using additive model, total score of social health is calculated and then provinces were ranked. Using ArcGIs software, geographical view of social health was constructed.

Results: Based on composite index including 39 indicators, the most important characteristics of a healthy society is a society where there are no drug use, child labor, divorce, unemployment academics, discipline and inadequate care for children and smoking. Yazd had highest social health and "Sistan and Baluchestan" Province won the last rank.

Conclusion: This study draws a complete view of the province's social health as an important tool for evidence based policy making. It is suggested that for monitoring future trends, similar studies should be conducted every 3-5 years.

Keywords: Situation analysis, Iran, Social, Health