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INCLUSIVE PRIMARY HEALTH CARE: COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF SOUTH ASIAN COUNTRIES & DEVELOPMENT OF AN INCLUSION MEASUREMENT TOOL

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Abstract

Considerable progress has been made in delivering health outcomes in recent years but meeting the needs of the most vulnerable parts of the society still remains a challenge. Inclusive Health is set of policies which aim at redressing social inequities in the healthcare arena. Vulnerable groups have been excluded from the mainstream society which creates barriers in their access to healthcare. Inclusive health is an emergent approach which recognizes and attempts to minimize these barriers and make ways for such marginalized groups to connect them with the mainstream society. The research provides a comparison of primary care systems across South Asia, identification of marginalized groups, and development of an inclusion measurement tool for a hospital facility. We adopted the primary care elements from the Alma Ata Declaration, on basis of which we compared the primary care systems of South Asian countries. Next, we identified the marginalized groups through a critical review of existing literature. Lastly, we estimate the levels of inclusion from the measuring inclusion tool developed by Zenev and Associates Diversity & Inclusion Consultants in partnership with the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association (2017) and published in a scientific report funded by the government of Alberta (Canada). We further combine indicators from (Scholz, Ngoli, & Flessa, 2015) and (Wong, et al., 2014). Using indicators from both resources stated above, & organizing them into different relevant groups, we form five Key Performance Indicators on basis of the barriers they address.

Biography

Mareya Khurshid has completed her Masters with honors at the age of 25 years from University of Bologna, Italy & working as a manager with a company in the USA. She has one conference publication and one submitted journal article. Mehrin Shah completed her MSc. At London School of Economics, UK and is currently working as a health policy associate for a company in Pakistan.

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