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The Impact of Socio-Economic Factors on Mental Health in Turkey

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ABSTRACT

Mental health problems are one of the leading health problems in the world which has important economic and social consequences. Indeed OECD calls high policy priority for mental health in the world. According to its latest mental health report one in two people in the world will experience mental health problems in their lifetimes. Although there is large research on the association between socio-economic factors and mental health in developed countries, this is not the case for developing countries. Studies have been confirmed adverse socio-economic conditions to be an important determinant of poor mental health. The goal of this study is to investigate the socio-economic determinants of mental health in Turkey where the research is scarce. The analysis is performed with logistic regression on the micro data set of Turkey Health Survey 2014. The Turkey Health Survey data contains detail information on mental health as well as various socio-economic indicators of the respondents. Different multiple logistic models were used to explore the impact of socio-economic factors on mental health. The results are compared with literature and discussed especially in terms of susceptibility of mental health problems among different income groups along with policy implications.

KEYWORDS Socio-Economic Status; Mental Health; Logit Model

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