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Türkiye’de Sağlık Reformu ve Yoksulluk/Health Reform And Poverty In Turkey

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ABSTRACT

Problem: Health expenditures have raised not also developed countries but only undeveloped countries during the last decade. After 2008, global economic fiscal crisis, there is a political change on public health spending nearly all over the world. Governments launched healthcare reform program. Turkey's is called Transformation of Healthcare Services. Its main goals are reducing out of pocket payments and developing health status of population. Using high technology on healthcare service is the main reason of high level of spending. On the other hand, this ratio is faster than national income. Because of this, health expenditures are getting financial burden on public budgets. Since, user charges are carry out not only reducing unnecessary health demand but also get additional public revenue to financing health system. As a result, out of pocket payments getting common financing tool. The study focuses on healthcare reform experiences and its relationship between poverty. Aim: We assessed the demand side cost sharing as a tool of health care reform in Turkey. We assessed the health care reform and its effects on household's welfare. By this way, we investigated out of pocket health expenditure and its financial burden on household such as poverty. Method: We used descriptive analysis on 2003-2011 TURKSAT Household Budget Survey Data. Poverty is defined as relative poverty and calculated before and after out of pocket payment. Result: The main result is household poverty ratio increased in Turkey. On the other hand, out of pocket health expenditure causes poverty among households, especially poorest. So, health reform is regressive results in Turkey.

KEYWORDS Health Reform; Household Health Expenditure; Relative Poverty

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