

Assessment health care services among health care workers in holy Karbala governorate

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Abstract

Background: **Objective:** Objectives of the study were to 1) Figuring out the degree of utilization for the beneficiary health users, together with overall and detailed provider's satisfaction with primary health care services provided. 2) Suggesting a renovate plan for Iraqi health system reform. **Subjects and Methods:** A cross sectional survey was conducted in Health Directorate of Holy Karbala Governorate, Iraq. A total 572 of health providers a self-administered questionnaire on factors associated with job satisfaction, Were included in this study. The data collection carried out for a period of five months from January 2, 2017 to the end of May 2017. Data collected by direct interview with health providers using a questionnaire form that designed based on the study objectives, it administered to the participants and the results consolidated and tested for any statistical significance. **Results:** Total sample in this study were 572 health providers (65.4% male and 34.6% female), the mean age of the study population was 36.8 ± 9.8 years, The study population was the age range at the time of study were between (21–60) years, (male: female ratio was 1.3:1) and the highest percentage (35.7%) were in the age group (≤ 30) years. The most of the respondents were lived in urban areas as represent (58.7%). Regarding the distribution of health providers as educational level about half of studied sample (49.7%) from College and more, while regarding health title more than half of studied sample (57.9%) were Paramedical staff. Regarding afternoon work (56.0%) of health providers have an afternoon work, (67.0%) agree with health insurance and having a family doctor for each area responsible for family members' health, while (43.0%) agree with prevent mix of private and governmental work. **Conclusion:** The overall scores were acceptable regarding assessment of health provider's among health care services in primary health care centers, and conduct of health assurance program in the health system of Iraq. A better educational program on health assurance program should conducted to improve awareness, attitude, and practice toward health assurance program using mass media and health education in all Ministries and community. **Statistical analysis:** Data input to computer file for storage and Analysis Statistical package for the social sciences (SPSS) version 18 used for data description and analysis, Descriptive statistic included the use of frequencies and percentages. The Chi-Square statistical test used to test for associations between variables with the results considered as statistically significant when the P value was equal or less than 0.05

Keywords: health care services, primary health care centers, health providers, health assurance program.

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INTRODUCTION

Job satisfaction had varies definition from person to person also even for person from time to time. And an evaluation of the job and the environment surrounding the job by the employee [1]. in general It is also can be defined as employee feelings about has the job [2]. Generally, job satisfaction can be defined as the difference between the amount of rewards workers receive and the amount they believe they should receive [3]. The job satisfaction of the primary health care workers (PHCWs) is a critical factor for health systems, because the primary care level is dependable for affording medical and health care to a larger proportion of the population than any other care level [4]. Since at the initiating of primary health care centers (PHCCs) services in Iraq, many studies have been conducted to evaluate different clinical and administrative aspects of PHCC activities [5,6]. However, very few studies have been undertaken to assess the level of satisfaction among PHCWs [7].

Subjects and method

A cross sectional survey was conducted in Health Directorate of Holy Karbala Governorate, Iraq. A total 572 of health providers a self-administered questionnaire on factors associated with job satisfaction, Were included in this study. The data collection carried out for a period of five months from January 2, 2017 to the end of May 2017. Data collected by direct interview with health providers involved all health providers worked in PHCCs that included (Doctors, dentists, Pharmacies and Paramedical staff). Using a questionnaire form that

designed based on the study objectives, it administered to the participants and the results consolidated and the statistical package for social sciences (SPSS) software version 18 was use for data analysis. The statistical significance represented if a p-value of less than 0.05.

Results and Discussion:

Many studies handled provider satisfaction specially for physicians ,in Iraq [8] , While other study for patient in Saudi Arabia [9 ,10,11] ,and in Kuwait by Alhashem, A., H. Alquraini and R. Chowdhury[12,13], and in all reviewed articles, dissatisfaction was inferred, Two articles tackled identified ‘practice pressure’ as the factor behind dissatisfaction [14, 15]. Practice pressure included time pressure, patient overload and inadequate support. The third study discussed the unrecognized professional identity that midwives face at work [16]. While researchers don’t found study among health providers, Health providers as workers in health situation and more knowledge and awareness about health services in hospital and primary healthcare centers, Therefore selected the healthcare workers as study sample to conduce this paper. Across section study conducted in holy karbala governorate among a sample of health providers to assessment satisfaction of primary health care services provided from health institution.

Five hundred and seventy-two of six hundred questionnaires were returning, a response rate of 95.4 %.Our study involved all health providers worked in PHCC that included (Doctors, dentists, Pharmacies and Paramedical staff).

The distribution health providers according to the demographic characteristics. There was a distinct male's preponderance (65.4%) with (mean \pm SD of their ages were 36.8 ± 9.8 years) , the age range at the time of study were between (21–60) years , (male : female ratio was 1.3:1) and the highest percentage (35.7%) were in the age group (≤ 30) years, while regarding residency most cases (58.7%) from urban area, regarding the distribution of the health providers as educational level high percentage about (50%) were had College and more, and regarding Occupation the research involved all title of health care workers worked as staff in primary health care centers therefore; more than half of studied sample (57.9%) were Paramedical staff.

Table (1): The distribution of studied sample according to the demographic characteristics

| Categories | | No. | % |
|-----------------|-------------------|-----|-------|
| Gender | Male | 374 | 65.4 |
| | Female | 198 | 34.6 |
| Age group | ≤ 30 | 204 | 35.7 |
| | 31-40 | 180 | 31.5 |
| | 41-50 | 160 | 28.0 |
| | ≥ 51 | 28 | 4.9 |
| Residency | Urban | 336 | 58.7 |
| | Rural | 236 | 41.3 |
| Education level | secondary | 132 | 23.1 |
| | health diploma | 156 | 27.3 |
| | College and more | 284 | 49.7 |
| Occupation | Doctor | 94 | 16.4 |
| | dentist | 82 | 14.3 |
| | Pharmacy | 65 | 11.4 |
| | Paramedical staff | 331 | 57.9 |
| Total | | 572 | 100.0 |

Regarding Your jobs satisfaction, the majority (63.1%) of health provider considered the health services satisfy, this result conforms to that reported in a study conducted in Erbil, Kurdistan, Iraq, which founded a job satisfaction rate of 33.3% [7]. And all of them reflected health services Coverage remote areas and there are significant association (P. value 0.001), This is a same rate if compared with other studies carried out in neighboring countries that have similar socio-economic characteristics, such as; Kuwait 61.8%, Saudi Arabia

47.6%, Iran 59%, Turkey 60% [13,10,11,12], and in other countries like UK and New Zealand the rate was even higher [14,15]. This evaluation may be as a result of disseminate of primary health care centers (PHCCs) and medical house in every part of governorate, while (38.5%), (67.3%) deliberated the health services mad up good health education and there are significant association (P. value 0.002) and Continuous services while there are no significant association (P. value > 0.05) respectively table (2). That may be due to the primary health care center services (PHCCS) considered simple services and very easy available to civilization as all the year.

Table (2): The distribution of studied sample according to services satisfy people needs

| Questions | Answer | Your jobs satisfaction? | | | | | | P. value |
|-----------------------|--------|-------------------------|-------|-----|-------|-------|-------|----------|
| | | Yes | | No | | Total | | |
| | | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | |
| Coverage remote areas | Yes | 361 | 100.0 | 7 | 3.3 | 367 | 64.2 | 0.001 |
| | No | 0 | 0.0 | 204 | 96.7 | 204 | 35.7 | |
| Good health education | Yes | 139 | 38.5 | 109 | 51.7 | 248 | 43.4 | 0.002 |
| | No | 222 | 61.5 | 102 | 48.3 | 324 | 56.6 | |
| Continuous services | Yes | 243 | 67.3 | 139 | 65.9 | 482 | 84.3 | 0.725 |
| | No | 118 | 32.7 | 72 | 34.1 | 190 | 33.2 | |
| Total | | 361 | 100.0 | 211 | 100.0 | 572 | 100.0 | |

Regarding doctor give enough time for each client, the majority (63.8 %) of health provider don't accepted, the same result found in a study done by Ahmed et al., 2014 in Iraq [63], who revealed that the satisfaction decreases significantly as the number of the patients increases (P=0.13).

Approximately two-thirds of the sample (66.4%) indicated that, due to the number of patients that they see, there is too little time for preventive medicine during consultations. The same number of respondents (66.4%) felt they did not have time to satisfy their social commitments. and (22.9 %) of them reflected Lack of that may as a result to limited types of drugs that available because the lack of health financial and there are no significant association (P. value 0.702), while (31.1%), (17.5%), (6.1%) and (26.9 %) of health provider represented (too much patients, Insufficient staff, Doctors busy with health program statistics and Doctors busy in administrative work) respectively, as causes for doctors don't give enough time for each client and there are significant association (P. value 0.001) that clear at table (3).

Table (3): The distribution of studied sample according to doctor give enough time for each client

| Questions | Answer | Does doctor give enough time for each client? | | | | | | P .value |
|---|--------|---|------|-----|------|-------|-------|----------|
| | | Yes | | No | | Total | | |
| | | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | |
| Lack of Medication | Yes | 71 | 12.4 | 131 | 22.9 | 202 | 35.3 | 0.702 |
| | No | 136 | 23.8 | 234 | 40.9 | 370 | 64.7 | |
| Too much patients | Yes | 207 | 36.2 | 178 | 31.1 | 385 | 67.3 | 0.001 |
| | No | 0 | 0.0 | 187 | 32.7 | 187 | 32.7 | |
| Insufficient staff | Yes | 120 | 21.0 | 100 | 17.5 | 220 | 38.5 | 0.001 |
| | No | 87 | 15.2 | 265 | 46.3 | 352 | 61.5 | |
| Doctors busy with health program statistics | Yes | 45 | 7.9 | 35 | 6.1 | 80 | 14.0 | 0.001 |
| | No | 162 | 28.3 | 330 | 57.7 | 492 | 86.0 | |
| Doctors busy in administrative work | Yes | 122 | 21.3 | 154 | 26.9 | 276 | 48.3 | 0.001 |
| | No | 85 | 14.9 | 211 | 36.9 | 296 | 51.7 | |
| Total | | 207 | 36.2 | 365 | 63.8 | 572 | 100.0 | |

In 40 % of health providers questioned, the afternoon work is medical (either in people’s clinic or in private clinics). Not surprising, 56.0 % of health providers have an afternoon work. The remaining of providers seems to be satisfied with the governmental work only (Fig 1).

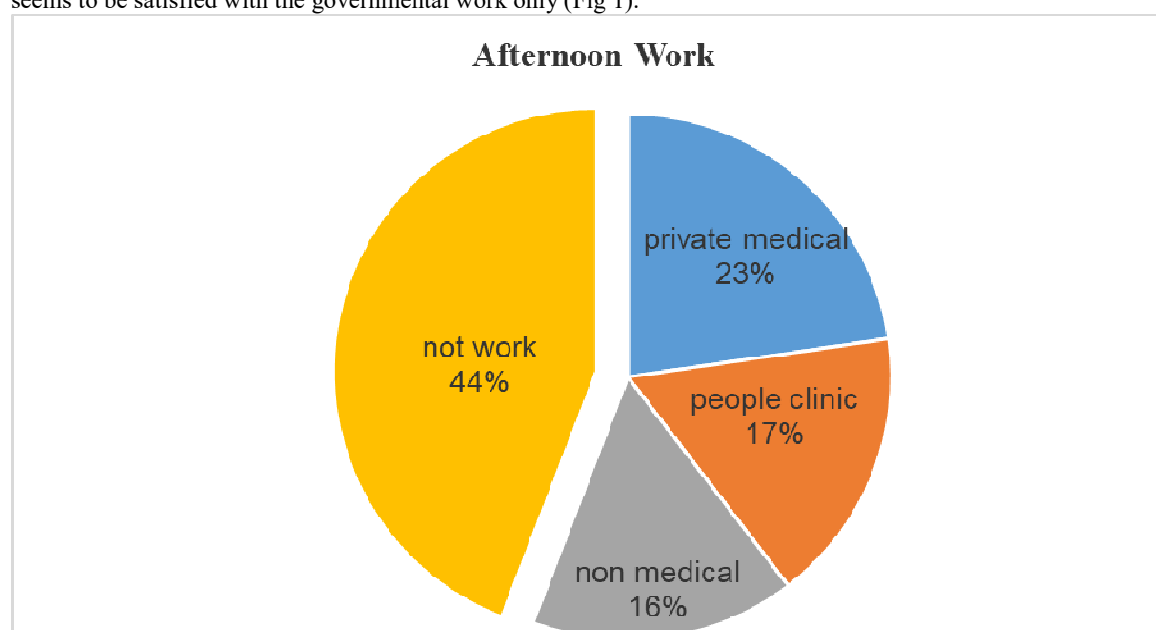


Fig (1): Afternoon work category of health providers

Sixty-seven percent of health providers prefer the application of a family health care system and Forty-

three percent of health providers agree that an application of a social (health) insurance system is need. There is a highly significant relation between opinions of health providers on family care and social insurance systems (p. value = 0.001) (table 4).this result may be due to increase needing of the community to health services and increase the diseases that effecting the people such as heredity and cancers diseases specially at last 10 years, therefore this system will be available enough information to a family doctor about health problem of family and expecting the future disease and how can preventing and treating of it, the researchers don't found any study about Health (social) insurance system and family health care system that may be due to this system conducted in the majority status of world .

Table (4): Health providers' opinions on application of Health (social) insurance system and family health care system

| Question's | | Do you agree with health insurance, in which each family pays a monthly fee (according to its ability) for getting most health services free? | | | | | | p. value |
|---|----------|---|------|----------|------|-------|-------|----------|
| | | Agree | | disagree | | Total | | |
| | | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | |
| Do you agree with having a family doctor for each area responsible for family members' health, and can be contacted or visited in afternoon? | Agree | 383 | 67.0 | 19 | 3.3 | 402 | 70.3 | 0.0001 |
| | disagree | 46 | 8.0 | 124 | 21.7 | 170 | 29.7 | |
| Do you agree with prevent mix of private and governmental work, i.e. the doctor or pharmacist works either with the government or in private? | Agree | 246 | 43.0 | 22 | 3.8 | 268 | 46.9 | 0.0001 |
| | disagree | 183 | 32.0 | 121 | 21.2 | 304 | 53.1 | |
| Total | | 429 | 75.0 | 143 | 25.0 | 572 | 100.0 | |

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