

Research Priorities of Network of Infectious and Tropical Disease of Iran in 2009

Ali-Asghar Kolahi, Seyed Mohsen Zahraei, Parisa Abdi, Latif Gachkar

Associate Professor of Community Medicine, Department of Community Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences,

Tel: 2387 2567-8, Fax2243 9936, Cell : 0912 134 0541

Email: a.kolahi@sbmu.ac.ir

Abstract

Background: It is obvious that because of the lack of resources, we should devote our limited resources to priorities in order to reach an acceptable level of health. The objective of this study was research priority setting of infectious diseases using COHRED (Council on Health Research for Development) model.

Materials and methods: This Health System Research (HSR) performed with participation of 16 research centers and dependent organization of Infectious and tropical disease network of Iran in 2009. First of all, the stakeholders were identified and the situation of the field of infectious diseases was analyzed. Then, research areas and titles were specified Finally, research priorities were specified by giving scores according to the criteria.

Results: eighteen research areas were obtained as priorities of national infectious diseases network. These areas are nosocomial infections, HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted infections, seasonal flu, H1N1 and avian flu, infectious disease surveillance system, preparedness in different levels of health system for pandemics, epidemics, outbreaks, disasters and unpredicted events, The role of migrants in the distribution of Infectious diseases in Iran, drug resistance, pulmonary tuberculosis, protecting health personnel and needle stick injury, pneumonia, meningitis, acute viral hepatitis, brucellosis, infections in high risk and special hosts, viral hemorrhagic fevers of vector born fevers, gastrointestinal infections and food poisoning.

Conclusion: eighteen fields defined through studying 78 research priorities. Three subheadings including surveillance system, epidemiology, prevention and control methods got the most priorities, respectively. Although about half of the priorities were the same as last priority setting in 12 years ago, but there was more attention on health system preparedness, emerging and re-emerging diseases, bioterrorism and surveillance system in this study.

Keywords: Research Priority setting, Infectious disease, Research network