

Original Paper

Effect of sociol-economical conditions on mortality rate of under 5 years children, Khuzestan- Iran (2009)

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Abstract

Background and Objective: The child mortality is an index of development and plays an important role in determination of population growth. This study was done to determine the effect of sociol-economical conditions on mortality rate of under 5 years children, Khuzestan- Iran.

Materials and Methods: This descriptive study was done on 372 women aged 20-48 years with at least one child under 5 years who were admitted to the health centers in urban and rural area of Gotvand town in Khuzestan province, Iran during 2004. Individual questionnaires including variables such as mortality, demographic, economic and social index were completed for each subject. Data were analyzed using SPSS-17, ANOVA, Chi-Square and Pearson's correlation coefficient tests.

Results: Providing maternal health care during pregnancy and up-grading occupational status of parents significantly reduced child mortality rate ($P < 0.05$). Child mortality rate increased in mothers of < 18 and > 35 years ($P < 0.05$) and parents' desire to have male infant ($P < 0.05$).

Conclusion: This study showed that up-grading occupational status of parents, maternal health care and maternal age and desire to have male infant play an important role on the child mortality rate in Khuzestan province in south west of Iran.

Keywords: Mortality, Child, Care health, Gender, Maternal age

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