Health Researches; Progress and Challenges- 10/90 Gap

It is evident that health researchers are the best economic investments that respond to people needs, and comprehensive care of public health as the corner stone of sustainable development. However, health researches suffer from—some scientific and managerial defects. One famous defect is the 10/90 gap in health research which was created in 1998, showing that only 10% of health researchers are related to public health needs. Despite the title of 10/90 gap, much progress has been made in the past few years, however, with different status in different countries. This challenge still persists in the south countries. Therefore, as the first area of action at national level, it is necessary for all governments, institutions and universities to measure their investments in health researches and bring them in line as far as possible with their country's burden of disease, using a systematic methodology for research priority setting.

Particular attention should be paid to research outside the biomedical sector which has been neglected and not well considered by health researchers, even though it is considered an important issue with its impact on people's health.

In Iran, malignancies are the 10th reasons for burden of diseases with 3.1% of whole DALYs and 4th cause of Years Life Lost (YLL) with 7.2 percent after injuries, cardiovascular and prenatal diseases. More than 90% of burden of cancers are related to YLL .

Cancer causes are multi factorial: Genetics(less than 10%); tobacco consumption; diet; physical activity; stresses and so on. These factors need to have special researches even outside the biomedical section defining the case.

We need to conduct more researches on defining major risk factors affecting health(burden of cancers in particular) and we also need to organize priority setting through health researches and accounting into action nationally, regionally, and globally.

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