Community Health Assessment for Determining the Health Priorities Problems and Community Diagnosis

Abstract:

Background:Community assessment is a process in which the active participation of community members develops strategies and programs to address their strenght and weaknesses of the community and priortize and solve them.So community assessment provides the opportunity to engage multiple agencies and organizations as well as community members in identifying and evaluation health issue .A greater purpose of the assessment process was to improve the health of the community's health and could create an environment for change.

Method: This study provided a comprehensive framework the implementation and assessment collaborative direction based on the North Carolina models. Thereby it was mixed study includes three phases (one was qualitative and two of Mixed methods).It is qualitative study for Community Health Assessment Determining of Health problem and prioritization and conducted cross sectional (Qualitative and Quantities) Study to establish the reasons for the occurrence of priority health. In the Community Health Assessment process of using qualitative and quantitative methods to systematically collected and analyzed data to understand health status of a specific community. During the assessment, we employed Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), Key Informant (KI) interviews, Informal chat with group of elders and review of secondary data from health facility data collection, and a list of health problems generated by stakeholders during dissemination of assessment results. Among the problems included; diabetes, smoking, inadequate knowledge on health issues, high risk sexual behaviors, poor disposal of household waste etc. Although Community Diagnosis be done to assess knowledge, attitude and practices (KAP) of residents in Qala-Sayed village on Diabetes which became the research topic. We used structured questionnaires, stadiometer and weighing scales to collect data from 177 residents of the village during the research. Residents aged at least 19 years were recruited into the study randomly from the village register and collected data was cleaned, coded and entered into computer. Analysis was done using SPSS software version 20.

Result: We used nominal group technique and prioritize problems, Hanlon method was used. Hanlon forms were issued to team members and experts, so that, based on the items in this method including: magnitude, consequence, feasibility, and emergency of the problems, members could mark each of these items to prioritize the health problems during the stakeholder meeting. Insufficient knowledge on health was ranked first followed sequentially by diabetes, oral dental problems, addiction, hypertension and etc.

Conclusion: The Community Health Assessment and Community Diagnosis is much broader and aims to understand many facets of a community including culture, values and norms, leadership and power structure, means of communication, helping patterns, important community institutions, and history. A good diagnosis suggests what it is like to live in a community, what the important health problems are, what interventions are most likely to be efficacious, and how the program would be best evaluated. The Community Diagnosis process addresses many of these competencies in a unique and integrated manner, and provides a ready opportunity for experiential learning in the complex environment of local communities

Key words: Community assessment, community diagnosis and Health promotion