

C124a

*1. Care systems and access, quality and economics***CHALLENGES TO PROVIDE EQUITY IN HEALTH CARE SERVICES IN IRAN**N. MOOHAMMADI<sup>1,\*</sup>, M. SHAMSHIRI<sup>1</sup>, T. SADEGHI<sup>1</sup><sup>1</sup>Nursing and Midwifery Faculty, The Department of Critical Care Nursing, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran, Islamic Republic Of

**Abstract Content:** Although life expectancy has a progressive trend in Iran, like most of countries, poverty and social inequality influence on Iranians' quality of life and health. It is not surprising to find huge variation in health status and the quality of life of Iranians within a specific province. For example, in north and south areas of Tehran, the capital city of Iran, there is a 12-year gap between people life expectancy within a 30 km radius of a single city. The low life expectancy in among people who lives in south areas is often poverty that prevents their access to positive lifestyle and lack of access to health care services. Reducing social inequalities in health and meeting human needs are two crucial issues in Iran. The critical questions in this regards is "how does the Iranian health care system deal with social inequalities in health and provision human needs in order to provide an equitable health services to diverse communities?" The article emphasizes on two crucial issues of access and utilization in health care in Iran.

**Disclosure of Interest:** N. Moohammadi Grant/ Research Support from: Principle Researcher, M. SHAMSHIRI Conflict with: Co-researcher, T. SADEGHI Conflict with: Co-researcher

**Keywords:** Access, Health Care System, Iran, Utilization