



Kerman University of Medical Sciences

Faculty of Management & Medical Informatics

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Title:

**Measuring health related quality of life in Kerman health system employees during
the Pandemic of COVID-19 disease in 2021**

By

Mahdi Asghari

Supervisor

Dr. Anahita Behzadi

Advisors

Dr. Reza Goudarzi | Noorolhoda Fakhrzad

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Abstract

Introduction: The outbreak of the Covid-19 virus was one of the most important health issues in Iran and the world. This virus can affect both the physical and mental performance of people and has affected all the people who deal with it. Since the human resources of the health sector are at the forefront of the fight against this disease, they are naturally affected by Covid-19 and its challenges. During the outbreak of the Covid-19 disease, the health related quality of life among health workers has decreased, and the need to Measuring the health related quality of life among health workers is felt. Therefore, the aim of this study was to measure the health related quality of life in the employees of the health system of Kerman during the epidemic of Covid-19 in 2021.

Methods: The present study was performed by a combined sequential variable design method in two phases. The data collection tool in the first phase of the research included two questionnaires, one of which was a standard questionnaire (SF-36) and the second was a researcher-made questionnaire whose validity and reliability were calculated and confirmed. The statistical population of the research was the health workers of Kerman city, and multi-stage sampling was done in two groups of hospitals and comprehensive health service centers. In a qualitative method, to identify factors affecting the health related quality of life in the health system workers of Kerman city, the semi-structured interview method was used according to the interview guide. In this step, the purposeful sampling method was used. The collected data were analyzed quantitatively using SPSS software and qualitatively using MAXQDA software.

Results: The findings of the study showed that 78.7% of the studied group were women and the majority (67.1%) were married. 80.6% of these people were working in hospitals, most of them

(52.9%) had a bachelor's degree and 36.5% had more than 10 years of service experience. Also, 96.5% of the respondents lived in the city, 64.5% were nurses, and 68.1% of the respondents worked in inpatient units. Among the investigated dimensions, physical limitation had the highest average (70.22) and general health had the lowest average (54.09). The results of the investigation through both questionnaires showed that there is a significant correlation between the variables of gender, occupation, marital status, education and work experience of employees with all the investigated dimensions ($p < 0.05$). In the qualitative study, the most important factors affecting the related health quality of life among employees included individual, organizational, social and environmental factors.

Conclusion: The general results of the study showed that the outbreak of the corona virus had a greater effect on the mental dimension of the health system workers than on the physical dimension, and this effect was more in women. On the other hand, it has been felt more among nursing staff and staff working in inpatient departments. The outbreak of corona has affected married people more than single people, and people who worked in hospitals were more affected by this virus. Finally, people with lower educational qualifications and also with high work experience were more influential than other groups.

Keywords: health related quality of life, covid-19, health system employees, Kerman