

Title: Health care provision for, access to, quality and equity in mental health care services in Bangladesh.

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Description

Although mental disorders cause one of the greatest burdens on public health and this will even increase in the near future, those have never been addressed effectively. In Bangladesh, like in most other countries in the world, mental health has not gotten enough attention.

There is not enough data on different aspects of mental health services in Bangladesh, which makes it difficult to determine the gaps and plan effectively to address the real needs. Until now no research has been conducted to look into the level of access, quality and equity of existing mental health care services in Bangladesh. Thus, this study aims to address this serious gap and wants to assess the extent to which the need for mental health care in Bangladesh is covered, which special reference to quality, equity and disadvantaged population groups.

This is primarily a facility based descriptive study which will be conducted among the patients and their relatives coming to National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), the only mental health institute in Bangladesh catering for tertiary level of care for the whole population, for mental health services, and also among the care providers using a mixed methods design. Moreover, the overall infrastructure, service options and human resource of NIMH will be assessed. Beyond NIMH, the study will also assess the overall coverage of mental health care in Bangladesh.

Time frame: 3 years

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