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TITLE

UNDERSTANDING DETERMINANTS OF UNEQUAL DISTRIBUTION OF STILLBIRTH IN TEHRAN, IRAN

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ABSTRACT

Context: Economic inequality in history of stillbirth

Objective: To determine the economic inequality in history of stillbirth and understanding determinants of unequal distribution of stillbirth for the first time in Tehran, Iran.

Methods: A population-based cross-sectional study was conducted on 5170 pregnancies in Tehran, the capital of Iran since 2015. Principal component analysis was applied to measure the asset-based economic status. Concentration index was used to measure socioeconomic inequality in stillbirth, and then decomposed into its determinants.

Results: The Concentration index and its 95% confidence interval for stillbirth was -0.121

(-0.2351361 to -0.001628). Decomposition of the concentration index showed that economic status had the largest contribution (31%) to socioeconomic inequality in stillbirth. Mother education (30%), father occupation (25%) and mother occupation (23%) had the next high positive contribution to measured inequality in stillbirth history, respectively.

Conclusions: Stillbirth is unequally distributed among the Iranian women and is mostly concentrated among low economic status people. Although, economic status have most positive contribution and explained about one-third inequality in stillbirth history but remained inequality can be eliminated by managing the other studied determinants such as mother and father education, employment and etc.

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