Abstract: Community-based participatory research (CBPR) is believed to be a potent means for the promotion of health in the community. To date, Iran has conducted several CBPR projects in various community research centers (CRCs). We aimed to assess the quality of some of these CBPR projects in Iran.

Method: In this cross-sectional study, carried out during 2005, five CBPR projects implemented in Iranian CRCs (Tehran, n=3; Qazvin, n=1; and Bandar Abbas, n=1) were selected. Three academic members involved in each project were interviewed using a structured questionnaire that appraised the extent to which the research project was aligned with the principles of participatory research (higher score denoting higher quality) and consisted of six parts: A) participants and the nature of their involvement (6 items), B) origin of the research question (2 items), C) purpose of the research (4 items), D) process and context – methodological implications (6 items), E) opportunities to address the issue of interest (3 items), and F) nature of the research outcomes (4 items).

Results: The mean quality score was 45.0 ± 13.1. The origin of the research received the highest quality score (53.3 ± 12.5), whereas the process and context received the poorest (40.3 ± 17.5).

Conclusion: The CRCs and the academic members in our CBPR projects should receive further training and consultation. Quality assessment of CBPR projects seems essential from the view point of other participants of such projects, namely community and stakeholders.

Key words: Community-Based Participatory Research, Quality of Implementation, Health

Presentation: Poster