ID: 518  
Congress: The First International & 4th National Congress on Health Education & Promotion, 2011  
Title: The role of family physician in screening, referral of patient and insurance coverage in the rural areas in Sannandaj province in 2009  
Authors: 1*- khayyati F, MS in Health Services Management, Faculty Member, Kurdistan University of Medical Sciences  
2- kazemeini H, PhD in Social Medicine, Faculty Member, Health Ministry  
Abstract: Background  
Family physician program has been implemented since 2005 in rural areas in the Islamic Republic of Iran. This study evaluated its impacts on accessibility, screening referral of patient, feedback process and insurance coverage in rural health units.

Methods  
This study was quasi-experimental (before after study) and compared the last 3-month function of 4 health centers and 8 health houses in 2004 and 2008. Data were collected through accessible documents in health units and evaluated by SPSS.

Results  
Full time work of physicians and midwives was 75 and 50 percent respectively in 2004, this rate was 100 percent for both groups in 2008. Among 2676 referred cases to hospital, feedback rate was 36% (963 cases).  
Follow up rate by physicians was 0% in 2004 and 3.17% (85 cases) in 2008.  
Case finding in 2004 and 2008 was 189 and 246 respectively. There wasn't a significant difference between 2 years.  
Physician feedback to health house was 19 and 364 cases in 2004 and 2008 respectively. There wasn't a significant difference.  
Insurance coverage in 2004 and 2008 was 28.28 and 97.53 respectively with meaningful p value.

Conclusion  
Comparison of function of health units before and after family physician program implementation showed that availability of physician and midwives in rural area and also insurance coverage increased but screening, patient follow up and referral system had not differed. Training of doctors as family physicians, considering special training courses for them and finding ways to attract specialist's attention to this issue is highly recommended.

Key words: family physician, patient screening, referral system  
Presentation: Poster