Corruption in Health Care Delivery: Perceptions of Corruption by Students in Health Care Management Department

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ABSTRACT

Corruption, defined as the abuse of public power for private interests, is an important problem in all sectors. Health services, on the other hand, are more sensitive to corruption due to their distinctive characteristics. In the study, it was aimed to determine the perceptions of the students of Ankara University, Department of Health Care Management about corruption in health care delivery. The corruption levels in different areas of health care delivery, examples of corruption-related incidents and perceptions about the prevalence of this case in Turkey were evaluated. The population of the study consists of 280 students studying at Ankara University, Department of Health Care Management in the 2015-2016 academic year. The sample was not chosen and it was aimed to reach the whole universe. Analyzes were made with 248 questionnaires filled in completely and accurately. 88% of the universe was reached. Questionnaire method was used in the research. The mean and standard deviations of the questions asked to the participants in order to identify their perceptions of corruption in health services were determined. When the opinions of the participants about the examples of corruption in the provision of health services were examined, the average of the acceptability section was found 1.48 and its standard deviation was 0.727. In the acceptability section, the statement “Invoicing the patient by showing the unused material as if they were used” was determined as the least acceptable example of corruption with a mean value of 1.23 and a standard deviation of 0.775. The general average of the participants about the corruption examples in the provision of health services was found 4.52; its standard deviation was 1.171. In the section of prevalence, the statement “the political power’s allocation and prioritization of health resources (money, manpower, etc.) in order to win the re-election” was determined as the most common example of corruption with an average value of 5.49 and a standard deviation of 1.631. The main reason of corruption in health care delivery in Turkey was determined as the lack of accountability the average result of 5.88 sorunlabilirlik deficiency. Finally, when the effects of corruption in different areas of life were examined, it was found that it was most effective on political life with an average of 6.11.