10th World Congress on

HEALTHCARE & TECHNOLOGIES

July 17-18, 2017 | Lisbon, Portugal

THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES HEALTH POLICY-MAKING PROCESS: LESSONS IN MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH

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According to the WHO, the maternal and child mortality rates in the United Arab Emirates are the lowest in contrast to the other 21 countries within the Middle Eastern region. Therefore, the UAE is seen as a best practice in the region for lowering mortality rates and improving the overall Maternal and Child Health (MCH) through policy-making. In working towards the lowering of the mortality rates, WHO mandated for the adoption of the policies and strategies. Ten countries within the Middle East are struggling with the adoption of the policies and strategies towards improving Maternal and Child Health (MCH). The research agenda is to provide an overview of the health policy-making process in the UAE with the use of the Andersen Model. The paper understands how specific MCH policy issues recommendations are designed to carry out such a course of action through health policy development as examples to positively influence the policy-making processes of the struggling countries. The policy-making process in the UAE includes 5-stages: Preparation; Formulation; Adoption/Legitimization; Implementation; and Evaluation. The study uses a quantitative research design approach with ANOVA and regression analysis of health professionals' demographic factors, including nationality working experience and education, on their involvement in the MCH policy-making processes. The results of the analysis determine which demographic factors influence the policy-making process within the UAE and reflect how these factors can help and better understand those struggling countries within the Middle Eastern region.

Biography

Immanuel is the Assistant Professor of Health Policy at the Mohammed Bin Rashid School of Government, Formerly the Dubai School of Government. He has a Doctor of Philosophy Ph.D. in Health Services: Leadership from Walden University, USA. He has published over 51 publications in peer-reviewed journal articles peer-reviewed international conferences, policy briefs and reports, co-authored books and book chapters thus far. His research interest is in public policy, education healthcare management & leadership, maternal & child health, nutrition, and quality management.

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Notes:

J Health Med Inform, an open access journal
ISSN: 2157-7420

Healthcare Summit 2017
July 17-18 2017

Volume 8, Issue 3 (Suppl)

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