THE EQUALIZATION OF REGIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH FROM AMULTIDIMENSIONAL STRUCTURE PERSPECTIVE: THE CASE OF JIANGSU, CHINA

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ABSTRACT

Abstract: This paper built a theory of Regional public health services equalization (RPHSE) with a multidimensional structure involving inputs and outputs. On this basis, the paper, by Theil Index(TI), did an empirical analysis on the level of Jiangsu's equalization of public health in the period from 2000 to 2010, and its law of development. The results showed that the development of public health in Jiangsu Province of China was multidimensional-structurally unequal, which included both the inequality in financial input, and manpower and material resources input in health, and also the inequality in the output like the quality of health services; the volatility of the latter was greater than that of the former. Further comparison showed that the formation of the inequality in the structure of different regional health was distinct. Relatively, in recent years, the inequality in Southern Jiangsu, a developed area, developed while being obviously impacted by the government's financial input in health, and the inequality in Northern Jiangsu, a underdeveloped area, was aggravated mainly by the disparity in the quality of health services which was a result of lacking effective market competition in medical services.

Keywords: Equalization of Health; Theil Index; Multidimensional Structure; Jiangsu China.