25th World Summit on

PSYCHOLOGY, PSYCHIATRY & PSYCHOTHERAPY

October 19-20, 2017 | San Francisco, USA

J Psychiatry 2017, 20:6 (Suppl)

Implementation of health insurance for mentally ill patients: A case study in primary health centres and mental hospital in Yogyakarta, Indonesia

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In 2014, Indonesia launched a national health insurance scheme called Jaminan Kesehatan Nasional (National Health Protection/ Insurance). All Indonesians can expect to receive medical treatment coverages under this scheme. A dramatic increase in the number of patients visiting health facilities was evident shortly after the introduction of the scheme, however mentally ill patients shows a different case. This research aims to explore Indonesia's national health protection schemes' implementation for mentally ill patients in mental hospitals and primary health centers within the special province of Yogyakarta, Indonesia. Public health promotion theory was utilized to increase better service for mentally ill patients. This study used a qualitative case study approach. Data was collected the necessary through surveys, interviews, and group discussions. The sample for the survey includes 237 mentally ill patients and their family members. This study found psychiatric diagnosis, that the Indonesian national health protection covers to include somatoform, dementia, insomnia, anxiety, depression and psychotic disorder. The data indicated the visit of mentally ill patients to primary health centers only slightly increase after the scheme was introduced. Several problems have been identifies on the implementation of the scheme, including the referral system and the use of local health protection. This research concluded that the Indonesian National and Local Health Protection scheme is beneficial for mentally ill patients, despite a number of problems facing the implementation. An improvement of the system should be done to create a better service that could support the recovery process of mentally ill patients.

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