Special Issue Healthy Cities

Message from the Guest Editor

Healthy Cities (HC) projects, proposed by the World Health Organization (WHO) in 1986, are the best-known of the settings-based approaches to health promotion for citizens living in cities. Over 5000 cities and communities have implemented HC projects worldwide, since their inception. HCs were encouraged to recognize their own efforts toward integrating health in all policies through a supporting team from private sectors, academia and NGO members. HC indicator data should improve estimates, allowing for diagnoses of the overall needs of citizens and illuminate developing trends, thereby allowing the program to move forward appropriately, in both policy settings and in problem solving. Although various cities around the world have been implemented in the HC program for a brief period of time, empirical-based evidence was determined by a whole-hearted effort from the international society. It is needed to witness the effectiveness or benefits through HC programs to demonstrate to solve citizens' needs to incrementally upgrade their health status and quality of life.

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