



UvA-DARE (Digital Academic Repository)

Use of general practitioner in relation to self-perceived health among Turkish immigrants in Denmark and The Netherlands: do patterns differ?

Nielssen, S.S.; Lamkaddem, M.; Folmann, N.; Kreiner, S.; Devillé, W.; Krasnik, A.

Published in:
European Journal of Public Health

DOI:
[10.1093/eurpub/ckq129](https://doi.org/10.1093/eurpub/ckq129)

[Link to publication](#)

Citation for published version (APA):
Nielssen, S. S., Lamkaddem, M., Folmann, N., Kreiner, S., Devillé, W., & Krasnik, A. (2010). Use of general practitioner in relation to self-perceived health among Turkish immigrants in Denmark and The Netherlands: do patterns differ? *European Journal of Public Health*, 20(Supplement 1), 154.
<https://doi.org/10.1093/eurpub/ckq129>

General rights

It is not permitted to download or to forward/distribute the text or part of it without the consent of the author(s) and/or copyright holder(s), other than for strictly personal, individual use, unless the work is under an open content license (like Creative Commons).

Disclaimer/Complaints regulations

If you believe that digital publication of certain material infringes any of your rights or (privacy) interests, please let the Library know, stating your reasons. In case of a legitimate complaint, the Library will make the material inaccessible and/or remove it from the website. Please Ask the Library: <https://uba.uva.nl/en/contact>, or a letter to: Library of the University of Amsterdam, Secretariat, Singel 425, 1012 WP Amsterdam, The Netherlands. You will be contacted as soon as possible.

countries with available data were challenging due to different data sources, time of survey, data collection, measurement of contact intervals, and time cut-off points of contact data.

Conclusions

Harmonized data sources, time of survey, mode of data collection and language (e.g. availability of survey instrument in mother tongues) are essential for valid international comparisons. Possible explanations for differences between the countries will be discussed in the light of the organization of the health-care systems and the groups' social and ethnic characteristics.

Use of general practitioner in relation to self-perceived health among Turkish immigrants in Denmark and The Netherlands: do patterns differ?

Signe Smith Nielsen

SS Nielsen^{1*}, M Lamkaddem², N Folmann³, S Kreiner⁴, W Devillé⁵, A Krasnik¹

¹University of Copenhagen, Department of Public Health, Section for Health Services Research, Copenhagen, Denmark

²Department of Public Health, Academic Medical Centre, University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

³Research Centre for Prevention and Health, Glostrup University Hospital, The Capital Region Glostrup, Denmark

⁴University of Copenhagen, Department of Public Health, Section for Biostatistics, Copenhagen, Denmark

⁵International and Migrant Health, NIVEL, Netherlands Institute for Health Services Research Utrecht, The Netherlands

*Contact details: ssn@sund.ku.dk

Background

Differences in health-care utilization in relation to self-perceived health between immigrants and the majority population have been reported in some EU-countries. Yet, cross-country comparison of data availability and inequalities of immigrants' use of health-care services in relation to self-perceived health has not been carried out.

Methods

Danish national survey data from 2007 containing responses from 1131 ethnic Danes and 372 Turkish immigrants and Dutch national survey data from 2001 containing responses from 6046 ethnic Dutch and 322 Turkish immigrants were used. Both data sets included questions on self-perceived health (SF-12) and were linked to registry data on contacts to general practitioner (GP). Logistic regression models were used.

Results

Preliminary results showed that contacts to GP was more frequent in Turkish immigrants compared with the majority population in both The Netherlands [adjusted odds ratio (AOR) =1.72, 95% confidence interval (CI) =1.35–2.91] and Denmark (AOR =1.43, 95% CI =1.08–1.89) after adjustment for sex, age and income. When also adjusting for self-perceived health, the statistically significant higher odds of contact to GP between Turkish immigrants and the majority population remained in The Netherlands (AOR =1.43, 95% CI =1.11–1.83) but disappeared in Denmark (AOR =1.20, 95% CI =0.90–1.61). Comparisons of ethnic inequalities in the use of health care and self-perceived health between two