

First stratified diabetes prevalence data for Republic of Macedonia derived from the National eHealth System

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Background: Republic of Macedonia is estimated to have the third highest diabetes prevalence in Europe. National eHealth System has been introduced in the country since 2013 covering total population across primary, secondary and tertiary healthcare. Diabetes related data have been integrated into National eHealth System, thus enabling, the first time, stratified diabetes prevalence calculation based on diagnosed diabetes cases.

Aims: To find diabetes prevalence of diagnosed cases, stratified by gender, age and urban or rural population in Republic of Macedonia, based on data derived from the National eHealth System.

Method: National eHealth System was searched for all patients with ICD-10 diagnoses E10-E14 in their electronic healthcare records stratified by age, gender and place of living.

Results: Total number of diagnosed diabetes cases was 84,568: 36,119 males (42.71%) and 48,449 females (57.29%). Diabetes prevalence of diagnosed cases in population 20-79 years was 5.01% ($n=78,233$; $N=1,562,203$). Diabetes prevalence of diagnosed cases in total population was higher in females than in males (4.61% vs 3.42%) and it was higher in rural than in urban population (5.62% vs 3.59%).

Discussion: These were the first findings on diabetes prevalence of diagnosed cases in Republic of Macedonia derived from the National eHealth System, stratified by age, gender and urban / rural population. These study results could enable further analysis of the risk factors leading to higher diabetes prevalence in females and rural population in Republic of Macedonia.