Demographical factors of infertility prevalence in Iran: a systematic review

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Introduction: A growing trend in the prevalence of infertility have been seen among Iranians in the last three decades. The prevalence of infertility in Iran has been reported more than other Asian countries. The prevalence of infertility has been different in diverse cities of Iran that even with the same sampling methods, these differences are still significant. This study aims to determine the demographical causes of infertility prevalence in Iran.

Methods: electronical data base like Scopus, Medline, Cochrane and Iran Medex had been searched using "infertility prevalence", factors, demographic and Iran key words between 2000-2015. After reading all of the articles, they were written in prepared check list. The narrative synthesis method was used to analyze the data.

Results: five original article from Iran had been selected. Demographical factors had been categorized in five groups. These groups were age (marital age and first pregnancy age), race and ethnicity, educational status, divorce and remarriage, and urbanization. Increase in marriage ages and subsequently increase in the age of first pregnancy has been resulted the increased prevalence of infertility in Iran's total population. Selected studies have been shown that illiteracy, divorce and urbanization were associated with higher infertility rate; but race and ethnicity were not significant factors in articles.

Discussion: risk factors and demographical factors relating to the infertility in Iran were considered in this study. Differences in infertility prevalence of diverse provinces have been Dependent on the intensity of factors in each region. Demographical factors are important in infertility prevalence reports therefore researchers should consider this fact and mention the impact of the demographic characteristics in the study population.

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