

ISPOR *Value in Health Regional Issues (Asia)* Excellent Article Award 2016

The ISPOR *Value in Health Regional Issues* Excellent Article Award was established in 2014 to recognize the best article published in *Value in Health Regional Issues* (ViHRI) from a region, (Asia, Latin America and Central & Eastern Europe, Western Asia & Africa [CEEWAA]). The objective of this award is to promote quality research, originality, and utility in health care decisions for articles published in ViHRI.

The award is given to the best article published in ViHRI from each region biennially. The recognized article will represent a major contribution to the field of pharmacoeconomics and outcomes research [including clinical, economic, and patient-reported (health-related quality of life) outcomes] or its use in health care decision making including original research, development of new methods, health policy analysis, and reviews. Articles such as editorials, commentaries, and letters are excluded from consideration for this award.

And the recipient is . . .

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Burden of Disease Studies in the Asia-Pacific Region: Are There Enough Being Performed to Provide Information for Evidence-Based Health Policy?

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KEY POINTS:

This paper demonstrated the output and provided conceptual analysis of the original burden of disease (BOD) research carried out in the Asia-Pacific (AP) region

The overall research output of the AP region has been increasing since 1993, and from 2002 the increase quickened; however, there was imbalanced development across disease and geographic areas. Emerging economies showed a more stable increase of BOD publications in the recent years

This study is of particular relevance to the AP region as it identified the research gap in terms of the quality of study and the neglected disease areas

ABSTRACT:

Objective: To review published studies of Burden of Disease (BOD) performed in the Asia-Pacific (AP) region. Method: Overlapping strategy of searching four electronic databases was used to identify studies of BOD published during 1993-2009. The quality of identified studies was assessed according to the categories of burden reflected and scope of BOD information included. Chronological and regional distributions of research output were analyzed. **Results:** Among 524 articles identified for review, 27.7% (n=145) were classified as complete summary measures as being most informative BOD studies from health policy maker's perspective and 72.3% (n=379) as using only partial measures. Although an increasing trend of publication of BOD articles was observed, the quantity of publication was not commensurate with the number of diseases, especially for researches using summary measures. Unbalance of research output of BOD among different diseases areas and selected countries/regions was observed. **Conclusion:** The paucity of specific studies in AP region needs to be addressed. Furthermore, in order to improve the quality of research, a clear definition of BOD study and a uniform template for the research method from health policy-makers' perspective would be necessary.

Additional information:

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