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Healthcare Providers

Even though healthcare providers and doctors take an oath to treat all the patients equally, but it is not necessary that they abide to every word they say while taking oath. For patients who belong to a minority, population discrimination can cause limited access to healthcare facilities. Not all the healthcare providers are racist and discriminate their patients, but some doctors work in such an environment where such practices are common, and they cannot do anything about that. Most of the time the oath, taken by doctors or medical students are written by them which has no importance for them and they do not take the oath seriously, normally it is considered as hypocrite oath. From the last few decades, racism is becoming a serious concern for healthcare providers. In America alone, due to the politics in 2016 and the hate speeches during the election campaign, it was seen that minorities faced serious problems when it came to equality in education, employment or healthcare. Mostly it was mentioned by the patients that they were denied treatment because of their political views or skin color. Although the healthcare providers are working on it, the issue is yet to be resolved. Black Americans bear the most serious burden of healthcare issues.

Both discrimination and structural racism plays an important role in healthcare. Mostly if the patients belong to minorities then either they are given less attention or no medical treatment at all. Most doctors treat patients who are white or belong to a specific political party. It has been reported that Muslim women who wear head scars were forced to take it off and denied any medical treatment. These women are scared to avail any healthcare facility. The racial discrimination contributes at a certain level to healthcare disparities by limiting the facilities for the minorities and also when medical treatment is denied. Apart from that the socio-economic factors, political factors also play a role in healthcare disparities (Care, Smedley, Stith, & Nelson, 2003).

Socio-economic factors play an important role to the extent that certain communities face healthcare inequities, and also the reason that why some countries are healthier than others. Social factors are important because they interact with other health outcomes by affecting patients access to healthcare, the ability to maintain healthy behavior and also the safety of the environment where they work or play.

So it is crucial that such policies should be made that will directly target at improving the healthcare facilities and reduce the inequalities. Also, the socio-economic factors should be addressed that affects the root causes of health.

References

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