

Suggestions for health services in Libya

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Over the last decades, there has been a continuous debate about health services in Libya among educated, non-educated, healthy and unhealthy people. Health services sector is of interest to all Libyans and is one of the largest sectors in every nation as education. This sector is the most complex, so talking about health services is not that easy or thinkable for a person until knowing all the problems and requirements of this sector. However, even for a small group or a committee, no matter how they are skilled and professional, they will not be able to offer effective solutions to this sector. Solutions to health problems in Libya and suggestions for future planning will only come from all health providers and from citizens by an integrated program between all the groups which based on e.g., dialogue and communications e.g., debates, seminars, conferences, meetings and media. There are also other major parts as pharmaceutical services, analysis services, physiotherapy, social and psychological services to benefit from their experiences, advice and opinions to expand and restore health services.

Some major points to be measured to help in improving and restoring health. First, as not to focus infrastructure on major cities but should equally be for each region in Libya. Complementary needs of medical and specialized services (as physical therapy and others) are needed to be distributed similarly all over the state. Promote primary health-care and encouraging "family doctor" function to cover all parts of Libya without exception. Expand emergency services with their requirements throughout the country. Reinforce laboratory services, radiology and modern examination devices (as MRI) in every region. More, equal distribution of the qualified health providers in all the regions without allowing overcrowding in major cities and centers. Additional vital points are establishment of the pharmaceutical supply authority to provide all the essential drugs and medical equipment to all the regions in appropriate way. This shall be affiliated to Ministry of Health to avoid any deviation. An interesting point is to minimize sending of patients for treatment abroad and replace it by bringing in expertise from abroad when necessary. Health and medical education is a key point in health services. Revising and updating medical and health education in Libya to match the international standards is directly desirable. This can be achieved by specialized committees that prefer to be national and focus on how to get rid of concentration on quantity. As well, a close cooperation between university and teaching hospital as well as national and international universities. Finally, emphasis on training to all the health workers, especially nursing staff. In conclusion, if the above mentioned points are considered by policymakers may will help to restore health services in Libya.