Justice in Healthcare Systems:
A Comparative Study between Hong Kong and Xi’an

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Abstract

Health justice is the ultimate goal of establishing a universal healthcare system in a place. The healthcare system of mainland China is a combination of social insurance and provident fund while Hong Kong’s two-tiered healthcare system is a kind of universally beneficial social welfare characterized with high affordability and high-quality services. Since health justice is a complex concept, it is not often pertinent to claim which healthcare system performs better in terms of health justice generally. Before making a general judgement, it is useful to compare the two healthcare systems and find out their similarities and differences in terms of different aspects of health justice. Taking Xi’an as a representative city of mainland China, this research is designed to examine the healthcare systems of Hong Kong and Xi’an. A comprehensive framework of health justice in terms of the different aspects of justice, including equality, liberty, respect for persons, utility and responsibility, will be constructed and employed to compare the two healthcare systems objectively and analytically. Some policy recommendations will be made for improving the two systems respectively.

Key words
comprehensive framework of health justice; equality; healthcare system; liberty; respect for persons; responsibility; utility