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Socioeconomic determinants of access to health services in Turkey

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Today, various efforts are being conducted to improve basic health indicators and provide access to health services. Despite these efforts, there are significant differences in the access of individuals to health services. This study aims to analyze which socio-economic factors are effective on access to health services, by examining the Turkish case. Binary Logistic Regression method was preferred in the analysis and the micro data of the Turk Stat was used. According to the analysis, it is observed that lower education and income level also means lower likelihood of accessing health care and this poses a significant problem against equity. However, income level becomes insignificant on access to healthcare with the sample of individuals stating poor health, probably as a result of increased health insurance coverage by the General Health Insurance Reform. Expanding the scope of the arrangements made in the healthcare and insurance systems to include measures and improvements for the disadvantaged in terms of education and income is important to overcome the inequalities in access to health services..

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