

Evaluation of the development of a healthy city in municipalities using basic minimum needs indicators

ABSTRACT

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The objectives of this study were to: 1) compare the results for the healthy city development process of municipalities that had met and those that had not yet met the healthy city process criteria of the Department of Health (DOH), Ministry of Public Health, by using the Basic Minimum Needs (BMN) indicators, and 2) study the relationship between the ability to meet the healthy city process criteria and the ability to meet the BMN indicators. This was a cross-sectional analytical study with a sample size of 136 municipalities that had met the healthy city process criteria and 76 municipalities that had not yet met the healthy city process criteria. The BMN data present 42 indicators for quality of life in six categories. The data were classified in terms of average success rate and number of BMN indicators accomplished and were analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics such as the Mann-Whitney U test and Chi-Square Test.

The results revealed that the municipalities that had met the healthy city process criteria were not more likely to have an average success rate (neither for individual categories nor the total for BMN indicators) than were the municipalities that had not yet met the healthy city process criteria, and there was not a significant relationship between the ability to meet the healthy city process criteria and the ability to meet the BMN indicators. These results indicate that the DOH healthy city process did not apparently affect the favorable results for the BMN indicators of the municipalities due to the existence of other development processes with other health partners that also support the development of the healthy city concept. Thus, integration of processes by municipalities is required.

Keywords Evaluation Healthy city Municipalities Basic minimum needs