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The positive impact of medical tourism in the Indian healthcare system

标题改为 in India

Medical tourism is a form of travel for tourists to obtain medical services. Its growth has been phenomenal. Medical tourism has now developed into one of the fastest growing emerging industries in the world. One representative of this is medical tourism in India. It has become an important topic to know what are the positive impacts of medical tourism in India. Medical tourism in India attracts poor people from developed countries to seek treatment due to its low cost compared to developed countries, and boosts the local Indian economy, but there are also some safety hazards and illegal issues.

第一点 改为 增加就业机会(来印度医疗旅游的人多了，需要的服务岗位也多了，变相增加了就业机会)

First of all, Medical tourism attracts poor people from developed countries to India for treatment. According to a student in Australia (2017) in Rao's article (2017), he was diagnosed with a hepatitis C infection that is rapidly progressing to cirrhosis. If treated in Australia, the cost would be about $100,000. He couldn't afford it. Fortunately, he learned that the same drug was legally available in India for about $300. Greg traveled to India and received treatment there. Within 11 days, all his liver functions returned to normal and within 4 weeks, no virus was detected in his blood. He was cured. Even considering his airfare and hotel costs, he saved approximately $80,000. For developed countries, the control of medicines is quite developed. For a particular drug, the price may be very high due to drug patents and national policies. And, regardless of whether the drug is covered by Medicare, patients may not be able to pay for it. In some developing countries, pharmaceutical patents are not recognized. In India, the Patents Act states that only process patents are granted for food and pharmaceuticals, not products, which means that as long as you can make it another way, it's perfectly legal. Therefore, in India, generic drugs are not illegal. This results in a huge price difference between two drugs with nearly the same potency. This is why poor people in developed countries choose India for medical tourism. In addition, medical costs continue to rise in developed countries, which face increasing resource burdens, forcing patients to seek cross-border medical options to save costs or avoid long waiting times for treatment (Sanghavi, 2017, p. 1 ). These poor people from developed countries either pay high prices or wait longer to get medical care in their home countries. The most taboo of medical services is the time delay. Therefore, these poor people have to travel to countries like India where treatment is cheap to get corresponding medical help.

Second, Medical travel can improve the economy of India. Sanghavi(2017) notes that Every year millions of people come to India for treatment and then to enjoy recuperation holidays across India. In a developing country like India, the main component of its hospitals are private hospitals. These hospitals are usually richly decorated and offer friendly service. Their level of care is comparable to the United States, but the cost may be one-sixth the cost of the United States. At the same time, some local special services will be interspersed in the medical process, such as yoga, Thai massage, etc. In this way, people from all over the world come here for medical tourism, and in the process of medical tourism, people will also visit some local attractions, and at the same time promote the development of the local economy. According to a organization in America (2020) in Kerry's article (2020), Medical tourists spent an average of $3,550 per recent visit. This includes medical-related expenses, cross-border and local transport, hospitalization and outside accommodation. Among them, India and Thailand are the most popular destinations. As developing countries, especially India and Turkey, perennially top the list of medical tourism destinations. The value of medical tourism is estimated to have exceeded $100 billion and is growing rapidly ( Makinde, 2016, p. 1). India's economy is growing as a large number of tourists travel to India for medical treatment.

第三点帮助医疗工作者获得更多的全球视野和经验

Finally, while medical tourism in India has many positive effects, there are also some safety hazards and legal issues. Snyder(2012) notes that some agencies are considering reproductive services for female tourism, including the use of paid surrogacy or the purchase of human eggs. Paying for these services raises some illegal issues. According to Hamid’s article(2019), Patients also travel abroad for medical procedures banned in their home countries, such as stem cell therapy for Parkinson's disease and stroke. Different countries have different views on medical services. Performing medical services abroad, such as surrogacy or organ transplants, that are prohibited by domestic law, is bound to cause turmoil in the medical industry. For example, it may spur an increase in the use of illicitly obtained organs. Additionally, if medical tourism not organized properly, can spread infections and antibiotic resistance.

Medical tourism in India attracts poor people from developed countries to seek treatment, and boosts the local Indian economy, but there are also some safety hazards and illegal issues. The government should pay attention to avoid some ethical issues when developing medical tourism. Because different countries have different customs, if they are treated the same way, it may cause some conflicts. Therefore, medical policy needs to be more refined in response to cultural clashes. This will enable better development of medical tourism.

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