

The Historical Evolution of Concepts of Health in China and Implications for Health Care System

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Abstract

Based on the field habitus theory of Bourdieu as the theoretical foundation, This article reviews the process of historical evolution of health concept, points out the question of the current health concept in China. According to Bourdieu's theory, it provides some suggestions for the development of medical insurance system. The main points of this paper is that the concept of health in every period results from the interaction of their own habitus and field, based on the relationships of the concept of health and medical security, the right medical security system of the value-oriented is not only providing basic health treatment but also focusing on health prevention.

Keyword: The Concept of Health Medical Security System Field Habitus

1. Field Habitus Theory

When we study a kind of economic system or social system, the environment of the whole social objective may first into our minds, such as talking about capitalism, we may think the industrial revolution, technology, capital and other objective material things. This is Marx's material determines consciousness. Max Webb's book ——The Protestant Ethic and The Spirit of Capitalism, provided us with a new perspective, it points out that the protestant ethic plays a decisive role in the process of development of capitalism. This is a kind of spirit supreme intelligence theory. The two kind of mode of thinking will make us in a state of partial end. But the French sociologist Bourdieu's "field habitus theory" combine the above two theories, it not advocated from the overall macro perspective, also do not advocate starting from individual micro, it adopted a "middle of the strategy".

Bourdieu think in the highly differentiated society, it is a relatively independent of the social world, the relation between the social world has its own logic and necessity of space, and these small world own logic and necessity is not reducible to dominate other field .In Bourdieu's view, these small social world is a variety of different field, the field is a kind of objective relation system, but the presence of domain activities of the actors is not matter particles one by one, the perception, consciousness, spiritual attribute of man; the field is not a cold the matter is small world, every field has temperament tend to their own system of habitus (habitus).Habit is a kind of social subjectivity. Between field and habitus is not simply determined by the relationship, but a kind of practice as the intermediary formation or constructing a dynamic relationship. There are also many sub field of each field, any social field are not purely materialistic, is not a purely spiritual world; in a certain field of actors, both material properties of the objective and subjective mental property, the effect of their actions is restricted by the objective structure but also by subjective habitus. Only the subjective habitus and field corresponding to tune, then will be able to play the role of habitus feel just like a fish in water in the field. The final individual, collective and even the whole society can "feel just like a fish in water" in the same life.

Welfare field is not only a relatively independent sub field in modern society, but also has unique habitus, namely welfare habitus. The dialectical relationship between domain and welfare habitus of welfare field has an important guiding significance for the practice of social welfare system in china. Then I will review the historical perspective to the sub field of health concept changes in different times, and analyze the relationship between the concept of health and medical care, in order to provide suggestions for the development of the current model of medical insurance.

2. Health Concepts and Historical Review

2.1 The Concept of Health and its Importance

The concept of health include the concept of life and death and the concept of disease.

The concept of life and death is a question about how people understand life and death and how to treat life and death. Concepts of disease is not only thereon people's understanding of disease, also includes the processing mechanism of people after disease.

The former people generally believe that the "health is not a disease, having disease is not healthy". 1990 WHO defined the health: "health is a physical, spiritual life, good adaptability, not merely the absence of disease and the weak state. It is a balanced state between the man and social.

2.2 Historical Evolution Concept of Life and Death

The concept of life and death is hidden deep in the human heart stable ideology, which constitutes the deep cultural psychological structure of each era. Prehistoric humans was in a confused state of reverence for life, because they didn't know the mean of the life and what happens after death. Along with the development of society, human beings have further views on life and death. The traditional society of ideology is dominated by Confucian culture, so Chinese view of life and death are more affected by the Confucian culture. But the view of life and death under the Confucian culture is a fatalistic attitude. As an old Chinese saying: "Life and death, rich in the day." people at that time already understand that the life and death is a natural law, which shows a passive attitude, feel helpless. But fundamentally speaking, Chinese traditional culture adhere to a kind of moral idealism view of life and death color is very obvious. Especially in contradiction with the moral life, the Confucian considered the moral personality is more important than the value of physical personality when the moral have a conflict with life, at last they might advise choosing "sacrifice justice, martyrdom."

Taoism in the life and death view focuses on how to control and conquer death, so they put the life at the first place. Especially the Taoism dynasties by mean of the refining elixir to immortal. For example, there was an emperor of the Ming Dynasty even died of poisoning cases for pursuing ever-young.

Overall, the ancient people's view of life and death is fate and negative, this feel of desiring to life and fearing of death make them in a realm that want to hold their own life, but incapable of action in the helpless.

In modern society. China is unrest and precarious because of the foreign aggression, especially the period of Anti-Japanese War, people's view of life and death has changed. They regard life and death not only their own thing but linking to the state and national crisis. War is no longer a matter of soldiers, the old people participate in the war. People even comprehend the word "Inherent in a death, or be weightier than Mount Tai or lighter than a goose feather". People's view of life and death is no longer limited to life and death, but the mind is the whole country and national interests. This view reflect the concept deep in mind that country can't break, its essence is to Confucian moral outlook on life and death explanation.

With the development of modern medical technology, the average life span of people has increased from 30 years to 75 years old. The stable society and improved quality of life especially the development of modern science and technology, making people have sufficient time to pursue ever-young .However, Marx's materialism advocated that we should set up the concept of life and death that should be "people-oriented, people-expensive", which should be science and rational. This sentence means the reality survival condition based on the expansion of self-awareness, neither pursuit of physical life longevity sustainable, no desiring the immortality of the soul, but to seek for the significance and value of man.

2.3. Concept of Disease Evolution

But on the concept of the disease, prehistoric people considered the disease caused by the erosion of the ghosts, the God of their punishment, so ill will ask the witch spell to drive disease. With the development of ancient medicine, people would change the methods of disease treatments and pay attention to the objective material basis of traditional Chinese medicine. Although the change of the way of disease, but the disease has unpredictable and people long-term of fatalism, the causes of disease has some mystery in human's mind. In addition to the doctor believes the disease is the result of an imbalance of yin and yang, most people still attributed to the destiny and the god's punishment, so the only thing people can do is praying not getting sick.

With the development of science and technology and industrialization development, human disease spectrum has undergone great changed, and the main diseases affecting human health and life by the infectious disease gradually become non-communicable diseases. At the same time, with the development of public health and the improvement of the people's education, people's understanding of disease has been improved, they think the cause of diseases isn't the supernatural punishment but link to the daily habits. In their mind, the incidence of the disease is a biological phenomenon, when the disease produce, we should be actively treated.

Secondly, with the continuous improvement of the concept of health, people's understanding of health has changed from "Not sick is healthy" to "Health is the body and the natural, social harmony and unity of the state of human"

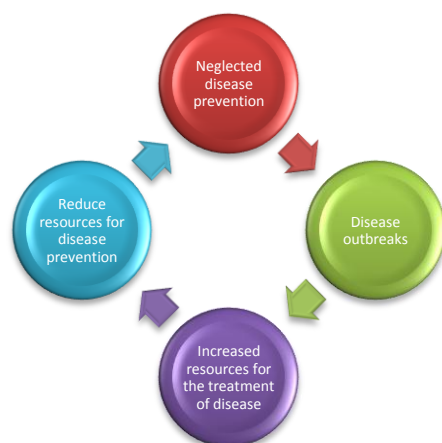
The ecological benefits of change in biomedical model focus on clinic biological individual disease as the center of the traditional concept of health, and focus on the pursuit of human, natural and social harmony .With the emergence of the concept of ecological health and deeply rooted in people's mind, the concept of praying not sick began to turn for the prevention of disease, and actively rescue. At the same time, the health concept of fatalism began to collapse, the right of life and health has become the basic rights of citizens, the state has the obligation to the health of the residents in concept into people's consciousness.

3. The Current Concepts of Health

In the view of life and death, Chinese believed that the death of the individual is a necessary link in the whole chain used in small, individual life has ended, the clan life is perpetual. But with the higher education levels and the awakening of self-awareness, the relationship between individual life and the procreation begins to weak, people pay more attention to self-expression value of life. On health issues, people realize that health is not only a personal problem, with the daily lives of the individual, the surrounding environment, the social environment are closely related. Disease attitude from seeking to protect fatalism to active treatment, today's prevention and longevity for stage.

4. Conclusions and Recommendations

Medical insurance system is social system that country or area raise and use of medical insurance fund in accordance with the principles of insurance to solve the problem of residents disease. But judging from the present situation, influenced by the traditional "Not sick is health" concept, our medical insurance still focuses on people heal, and ignore the control of this important problem. In my opinion, the insurance itself is a kind of risk avoidance mechanism, prevention of medical insurance should be more focused on the disease rather than treatment. As shown, neglecting diseases prevention may increase the probability of the diseases which resulting in increasing the resources of the treatment of disease ,but the health care resources in the area is relatively limited which lead to reduce the disease prevention resources. Finally, the shortage of disease prevention would cause disease outbreaks, forming a vicious spiral.



The Use of Medical Resource Cycle

To sum up, according to the field habitus theory of Bourdieu, only subjective habitus can tune to their respective field, then you can play like a duck habitus role in its field.

The concept of health has developed to the pursuit of longevity, active prevention of state, so the current medical insurance system should be in ensuring the basic medical demand conditions and increase the preventive aspects of security.

There are some Suggestions to government and individual

4.1. The Government

Updating the welfare concept in order to meet the interests of the people when formulate welfare policy, especially the value of medical security in active prevention. Then broaden the scope of medical insurance, universal life and death education and implementation of hospice care, so that people establish a correct, scientific view of life and death. At last, strengthen the health prevention publicity and education work, making health initiative into full members of society.

4.2. Individual

Establishing a scientific, ecological disease concept and abandoning the superstition concept of health science.

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