

Review of: "The Hidden Aspects of A Century of Substance Use Policymaking in Iran"

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I read the article. I thank the authors for compiling a history of policy making in the field of addiction in Iran. Because it is not easy for students in Iran to access such resources and documents. However, I have some suggestions that I hope will be helpful:

1. In my opinion it's better that the standard of a scientific article should be observed throughout the all parts of the article so that the article can be understood and acceptable by all readers, and not only by Iranians. A) In some parts, there are ambiguities that can only be understood by Iranian readers. B) Or, in one or two cases, the mentioned claim seems to be an opinion and a claim resulting from the authors' experiences, while it is necessary to refer to an authentic reference. C) Or some of the HIV prevalence values are too high and I suggest matching them with several different references.
2. It is better to add the "method" to the sections of the article and specify what kind of literature review study it is? (Comprehensive or narrative review? Rapid, scoping or systematic review? And ...) and the article should be adjusted according to the desired type.
3. Some of the criticisms and recommendations expressed in the article are not practical, considering the complete security conditions of dealing with the supply and smuggling of drugs in Iran.
4. Despite all the criticisms on the performance of the countries in the region, one point should be mentioned in the article in order to obtain a more complete judgment for the reader and young students. And that is that in the last three or four decades, the governments ruling Afghanistan have fueled this problem by increasing poppy cultivation. On the other hand, the transit route from Iran has also become the basis of many trials and errors. According to the world drug report 2022, Iran ranks first in opiates seizures in the world. Separately, Iran has the first place in the world with the raw opium seized, the second place in morphine seized and the third place in heroin seized. Stating these statistics will give the reader a better view.
5. Some necessary journalistic and scientometric information has not been provided accurately and completely.