EDITORIAL

Health and Society: A brief overview of journal articles summary _____

Prof. Asoc. Dr. Voltisa GJERGJI ———

In this issue of Medicus journal we collected articles which are focused on health patterns, health care and economy, as well as health behaviours.

A study from Germany shows models of care for elderly people and the alternative policy strategies such as to stay at home with the help of live-in care.

Another study reports on the attitudes (acceptability, preferences, and needs) of Albanian physiotherapists and the general population toward telerehabilitation. This cross-sectional observational study is conducted among the physiotherapists and the general population asking them about their experiences with telerehabilitation in physiotherapy in order to evaluate how recognized and applied is this field in Albania.

There are included two literature reviews in this issue. One literature review is about Alzheimer's disease, one of the most prevalent neurodegenerative illness. It is not yet fully understood how neuronal shrinkage and synaptic loss occur across the cerebral cortex and the interplay of genetic and environmental risk factors. This paper gives an overview of Alzheimer's disease and its pathogenesis. The second literature review aims to understand the kidney-brain interconnection. Cognitive impairment is a significant concern in chronic kidney disease patients, manifesting as a spectrum ranging from mild cognitive deficits to clinically relevant dementia. This literature review explores the clinical significance and the potential mechanisms underlying cognitive impairment in patients with chronic kidney disease. Its approach also highlights ongoing research initiatives, structural and hemodynamic similarities between the kidney and brain.

It is included an epidemiological study which measures the incidence and prevalence of rheumatoid arthritis in the Elbasan district of Albania during the last decade. The study also reports the correlation of different genetic, lifestyle factors

(smoking, alcohol consumption, meat and fat consumption) and comorbidities with other chronic diseases such as cardiovascular diseases and diabetes in patients diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis.

Pneumomediastinum is a rare complication that occurs in patients with Pneumonia caused by COVID-19 and the authors of a case report shows how a timely diagnosis of pneumomediastinum in patients with Covid-19 would prevent the occurrence of life-threatening complications.