

Gender and Corruption in Health: Informal Payments and Moonlighting in Tajikistan

Andrew Dabalen and Waly Wane

World Bank, 2007

Context and Objectives

- Several determinants of individual corruption have been proposed among which the not least controversial is gender.
- Proponents of this theory claim that men's proclivity towards corruption is inherently higher than women's.
- Paper investigates this issue and presents evidence based on data collected during a public expenditure tracking survey (PETS) in Tajikistan's health sector.

Corruption Data

- 2 measures of corruption.
- First consider the average monthly intake of informal payments an individual health worker reports.
- Second, ask the health workers whether they supply labor outside the facility and the average number of hours they provide on a weekly basis.
Note: moonlighting is clearly a strong determinant of absenteeism

Table: Prevalence of Informal Payments (%)

| | Doctor | Nurse/Feldsher | Administrator | Hosp. Att | All |
|-------------------|--------|----------------|---------------|-----------|------|
| Dushanbe | 77.1 | 75.0 | 50.0 | 25.0 | 71.6 |
| Sogd | 56.7 | 52.5 | 40.4 | 16.7 | 48.8 |
| Khatlon | 72.2 | 74.7 | 46.4 | 23.8 | 60.2 |
| RRS | 71.0 | 64.7 | 37.5 | 19.0 | 53.8 |
| GBAO | 4.8 | 4.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 2.8 |
| Men | 67.8 | 63.0 | 40.0 | 75.0 | 60.4 |
| Women | 55.0 | 59.0 | 37.1 | 17.2 | 46.8 |
| Tajikistan | 63.5 | 59.6 | 38.5 | 18.5 | 51.2 |

Source: Authors' calculations from Tajikistan Health PETS 2006 data

Note: Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast (GBAO) and Rayon under Republican Subordination (RRS) are regions

Table: Magnitude of Informal Payments

[Full Official Salary] (in Somonis per month)

| | Doctor | Nurse/Feldsher | Administrator | Hosp Att | All |
|-------------------|-------------|----------------|---------------|-------------|------------|
| Dushanbe | 131.6[73.9] | 59.2[58.7] | 42.5[73.3] | 54.0[58.3] | 95.7[67.5] |
| Sogd | 32.8[56.7] | 16.1[39.5] | 25.9[49.1] | 16.2[28.0] | 22.4[44.8] |
| Khatlon | 64.0[58.1] | 28.9[43.4] | 32.4[46.3] | 8.1[29.1] | 34.1[44.9] |
| RRS | 31.6[67.0] | 22.1[41.8] | 18.0[52.9] | 4.2[27.8] | 20.8[47.8] |
| GBAO | 3.8[58.7] | 1.7[43.8] | 0.0[43.4] | 0.0[33.0] | 1.5[44.4] |
| Men | 64.4[60.9] | 28.0[43.8] | 24.7[50.2] | 122.5[53.5] | 48.2[54.8] |
| Women | 27.0[61.7] | 21.6[42.4] | 25.4[46.7] | 6.0[29.2] | 19.4[42.7] |
| Tajikistan | 51.8[61.20] | 22.7[42.7] | 25.1[48.4] | 8.6[29.7] | 28.8[46.6] |

Source: Authors' calculations from Tajikistan Health PEIS 2006 data

Note: Gorno-Badkshan Autonomous Oblast (GBAO) and Rayon under Republican Subordination (RRS) are regions

Table: Probability of Moonlighting (%)

| | Doctor | Nurse/Feldsher | Administrator | Hosp. Att | All |
|-------------------|--------|----------------|---------------|-----------|------|
| Dushanbe | 25.7 | 20.8 | 25.0 | 0.0 | 22.4 |
| Sogd | 25.8 | 19.0 | 27.7 | 23.3 | 22.6 |
| Khatlon | 17.6 | 9.5 | 17.9 | 8.8 | 12.8 |
| RRS | 33.9 | 36.5 | 34.4 | 9.5 | 30.3 |
| GBAO | 14.3 | 2.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.7 |
| Men | 29.4 | 37.0 | 31.1 | 50.0 | 31.6 |
| Women | 12.8 | 13.0 | 12.4 | 9.2 | 12.1 |
| Tajikistan | 23.8 | 16.9 | 21.4 | 10.1 | 18.5 |

Source: Authors' calculations from Tajikistan Health PETS 2006 data

Note: Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast (GBAO) and Rayon under Republican Subordination (RRS) are regions

Results (1)

- It shows that women are no less prone to extorting illegal payments from patients than men once the proper variables, such as power conferred by position for instance, are controlled for.
- With similar power and opportunities, women are equally likely as men to extract bribes by informally charging patients.

Results (2)

- However, among doctors and doctors only, women are less aggressive than men i.e. they charge smaller amounts.
- Women are, on the other hand, significantly less likely to moonlight than men and this holds true even within positions.