

Process and timing of cardiovascular revolution in selected European countries

Abstract

Structure of mortality according to age, sex and causes of death is changing over time. Several authors are trying to describe or generalize these changes and create theories or concepts about the changes in mortality structure. One of these concepts is cardiovascular revolution. This concept describes changes in mortality in Europe in the second half of 20th century. Nevertheless in some European countries these changes are still in progress. The concept of cardiovascular revolution concerns the decrease of cardiovascular disease mortality. Within cardiovascular diseases the highest mortality is caused by ischemic heart diseases. The prevalence of some chronic or degenerative diseases is not decreasing or is slightly increasing and overall mortality shifts to higher ages. The aim of this thesis is to evaluate process and timing of cardiovascular revolution in selected European countries. The objective was achieved by means of interpretation of the basic demographic methods. In the first part of this thesis were these methods calculated and presented for every single group of causes of death separately. Cardiovascular diseases were split into four more detailed subgroups in the next part of thesis and the analysis was made also for these subgroups. The results of analyses were discussed in theoretical framework and the conclusion about process and timing of cardiovascular revolution in selected European regions were drawn. It was found that timing of cardiovascular revolution in four selected countries in most cases corresponds to the theory.

Keywords: mortality, causes of death, cardiovascular diseases, cardiovascular revolution, Europe