Abstract

The thesis addresses the issue of perinatal mortality in the Republic of Kazakhstan. The perinatal and neonatal mortality rates in Kazakhstan both decreased in the period from 1994 to 2004, by 20% and 26% respectively. Despite these declines, the 2004 figures were still high compared to the averages in the WHO European Region. The neonatal mortality rate and the maternal mortality ratio were both 89% higher than the regional average for that year, while the perinatal mortality rate was 45% higher. There is also evidence of underreporting deaths underestimating mortality, as the indicators of maternal, neonatal and perinatal mortality reported by WHO for 2000 are all at least three times higher than the Kazakhstan's estimates for the same year. This research analyzed data for the years from 1999 to 2008. This study examined the effect of known risk factors so called social and demographic factors including place of residence, marital status, age of mother and child birth order on perinatal mortality rates. Logistic regression has been used in order to measure the impact of individual explanatory factors on the occurrence of perinatal death and also to control effects of all remaining variables. The analysis revealed significant differences between rural and urban area. Perinatal mortality is much higher in urban area than in rural area. Extra-marital born children were at higher risk of perinatal mortality. Third order born infant or fetus is at higher risk in rural area while the first born children are at higher risk in urban area.
Key words: perinatal mortality, neonatal mortality, maternal mortality ratio, perinatal mortality rate, logistic regression, social and demographic factors.