Reindeer-herding Sami experiences of seeking care in the mainstream society

Anette Edin-Liljegren¹, Klas-Göran Sahlén¹, Lars Jacobsson¹, Laila Daerga¹

¹Umeå University, Sweden, laila.daerga@vll.se

Background

The Sami people are one of the five recognized national minorities in Sweden. A minority of the Sami is working with reindeer-herding reindeer that periodically involves harsh working conditions that probably can lead to injury and disease. Previous studies [1, 2] indicate that the confidence in primary health care and psychiatry was lower among the reindeer-herding Sami in Sweden compared with a control population taken from the same environments in northern Sweden.

Aims

To identify possible underlying causes of the previously reported deficiencies in confidence between Sami and staff in health services and social services respectively. The research will highlight subjectively perceived experiences of seeking health care services.

Methods

Data will be collected through semi-structured research interviews and analyzed by qualitative methods.

A grounded theory approach will be used. Both men and women of various ages from reindeer-herding families in northern Sweden will be interviewed. The selection of informants will be chosen through a mix of purposive stratified sampling and snowball sampling.

Results

Collection of data has just started so there are no results yet. Preliminary results will be presented at conference in Oulu.

References
