Prevalence rate of intimate partner violence by WHO region: an appraisal by current data

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DEAR EDITOR IN CHIEF

Intimate partner violence (IPV) is a major public health concern that annually affects 1 in 3 (35%) of women worldwide. The term “intimate partner violence” defines as physical, sexual, or psychological harm by a current or former partner or spouse 1. Women with the characteristics like: low level of education, history of abuse among parents, history of childhood, abuse, antisocial personality disorder, attitudes accepting violence and male privilege are more susceptible to IPV ². Consequence of this violence, victims may experience some serious short- and long-term physical, mental, sexual and reproductive health problems such as injuries, chronic pain, gastrointestinal, and gynecological problems including sexually-transmitted diseases, depression, homicide or suicide, and post-traumatic stress disorders ³. According to CDC’s National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS), nearly 25% of adult females and 15% of adult males have experienced severe physical violence from an intimate partner in their lifetime. This survey showed that the prevalence of sexual contact violence among females and males were 16% and 7% respectively ⁴. Prevalence rate of IPV by WHO region in 2010 are presented in Figure 1, as shown the wide variability in levels of violence within and among regions the higher prevalence belong to south East Asia and east Mediterranean regions with 37.7% and 37% respectively, the rate of IPV violence within and among regions the higher prevalence belong to south East Asia and east Mediterranean regions with 37.7% and 37% respectively, the rate of IPV violence within and among regions the higher prevalence belong to south East Asia and east Mediterranean regions with 37.7% and 37% respectively, the rate of IPV violence within and among regions the higher prevalence belong to south East Asia and east Mediterranean regions with 37.7% and 37% respectively, the rate of IPV violence within and among regions the higher prevalence belong to south East Asia and east Mediterranean regions with 37.7% and 37% respectively, the rate of IPV violence within and among regions.

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REFERENCES


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Figure 1: Prevalence rate of intimate partner violence by WHO region in 2010.