



IPV puts Women at Risk of Acquiring HIV: Intervening Among Nurses and Other HCP is Critical in Sub-Saharan Africa

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Background

- IPV is a significant global human rights issue.
- 30% of women globally report IPV.
- Understanding relationship between IPV & HIV has resulted in prevention & response programs.
- Limited attention has been given to nurses and their experiences of IPV in their personal lives.

Purpose

This study will inform future integrated IPV/HIV prevention interventions that include HCPs.

Prevention of IPV/HIV is not only a human rights issue but essential in protecting the health care capacity in the developing world.

Methods

- An anonymous survey was distributed to nurses/midwives from 8 African countries attending the African Midwives Research Network in Dar Es Salaam, TZ.
- Nurses from Central Africa Republic, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe participated.
- We explored issues related to Universal Precautions, availability and use of protective apparel, PEP, work place and IPV.

Results

- 219 surveys were returned (mean age 41 years, 88% female).
- 31% reported threat of violence in past 12 months; 20% reported actual physical violence, and; 15% reported sexual violence.
- This is consistent with women in the general population.

Results (cont'd)

- 14% of female participants reported same sex partners.
- These women reported nearly three times the risk of IPV compared to women in heterosexual relationships (OR=2.9, 95% CI 1.2-7.0,p=0.019)

Conclusions and Implications for Practice

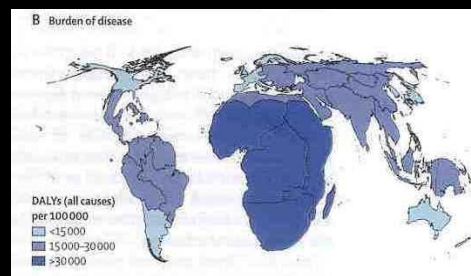
- Study findings will inform interventions to reduce IPV & HIV.
- These interventions need to identify nurses and other HCPs as needing information on increasing safety in their own lives while providing information to patients and clients.

Conclusions and Implications for Practice (cont'd)

- Work with organizations (ANAC, AMRN, ICN, ICM, and STT) to develop universal strategies support nurses, midwives and other HCP in responding to violence.
- Need to hold perpetrators accountable and address societal gender norms that allow violence against women and girls to be a common experience globally.

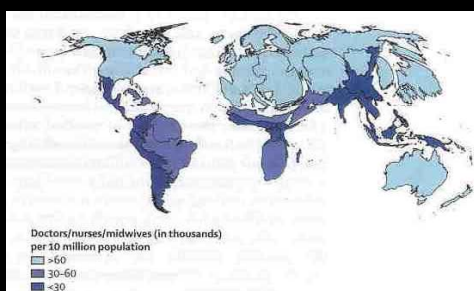
Remember Global Burden Of Disease

(the Lancet Vol. 376, Dec 4, 2010 pg 1923)



Doctors/Nurses, Midwives

(the Lancet Vol. 376, Dec 4, 2010 pg 1923)



Remember reducing violence helps preserve a critical global resource, nurses and other HCPs!

Questions?

