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Discomfort during vaginal examination, history of abuse and posttraumatic stress disorders in women

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The aim of this study was to assess abuse, sexual abuse and posttraumatic stress disorders associated with experiencing discomfort during the vaginal examination. This descriptive study was carried with 320 women who are hospitalized in Aydin Women Birth and Child Disorders Hospital between July 2014 and August 2015. The data was obtained through Information Form about Women and Posttraumatic Stress Disorder checklist- Civilian Version. Descriptive statistics, t-test, variance, Mann Whitney U, Kruskal Wallis and Chi-square analysis were employed while assessing the data. The average age of the women in the study was 26.32±5.98. The average experiencing discomfort score during the vaginal examination of the women is 3.92±3.34. Also twenty six percent of the women reported strong discomfort during the vaginal examination. It was established that sixty four percent of the women reported Posttraumatic Stress Disorder. It was established that experienced of physical, emotional and sexual abuse in women increased to occurrence of Posttraumatic Stress Disorder. It was found out that 11.9% of women experienced emotional abuse, that 7.8% experienced physical abuse. Also 7.8% of women reported that were forced sexual intercourse by their partners. Forty percent of that women described forcing sexual intercourse by partners as an abuse. Emotional abuse history, Posttraumatic Stress Disorder and live birth rate were associated with a discomfort during the vaginal examination. The study revealed that experiencing discomfort during the vaginal examination of the women more likely reported Posttraumatic Stress Disorder and emotional abuse. Decreasing a live birth-rate increased a strong discomfort during the vaginal examination. There was not an association between strong discomfort during the vaginal examination and a sexual abuse history. Integrating of these results into care during vaginal examination might make a positive difference for vaginal examination experience in women and reduce trauma of women.

Biography

Gizem Güneş is a Research Assistant at Adnan Menderes University Aydin School of Health, Division of Midwifery. She has completed Hermaster at Adnan Menderes University Health Science Institute midwifery. She has worked at Adnan Menderes University since 2013.

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