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PREVALENCE AND ATTITUDE LEVELS OF 'DOMESTIC VIOLENCE' AMONG FEMALE KSU MEDICAL STUDENTS AND WOMEN IN KCUH OUTPATIENT CLINIC, RIYADH, SAUDI ARABIA

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Objectives: To quantify the prevalence and associated factors of domestic violence, the attitude levels towards domestic violence, and observe the association between domestic violence and attitude level among female KSU medical students and female outpatients at KCUH.

Methods: It's an observational, quantitative, cross-sectional study conducted on females aged 15-65 years attending KCUH outpatient clinics and KSU medical college students with a sample size of 513 women. Convenience sampling was used to select the study subjects. A self-administered questionnaire was distributed and it included socio-demographic characteristics, HITS tool for screening of domestic violence, and Attitude Towards Domestic Violence Questionnaire to measure attitude levels towards domestic violence. SPSS PC+ V21.0 statistical software was used to analyze the data.

Result: A total of 513 women, 327 medical students and 186 out-patients, has participated in the study. Thirty one woman (6%) admitted to being affected by domestic violence. 209 women (40.7%) were found to be more accepting of domestic violence. 21 of those accepting domestic violence (10%) were victims of domestic abuse. Significant association between the presence of domestic violence and accepting domestic violence was observed.

Conclusion: The prevalence of domestic violence among our subjects was less than expected when compared to the global prevalence, but similar to previous studies done in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. The odds of being affected by domestic violence were more in those accepting domestic violence, based on their attitude score towards domestic violence.

Biography

Noura Ahmed is a fourth year medical student at King Saud University. Her interests include campaigns against domestic violence and women's rights.

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