

Women's Health Syllabus in Israel

Nili Ben-Zvi^{1,2} Silvia Nussbaum^{1,4} Shlomit Sayag^{2,3}

¹ Tel-Aviv University, Tel-Aviv, Israel

² Clalit Health Services, Israel

³ The Technion, Haifa, Israel

⁴ Leumit Health Services, Israel

The syllabus in women's health in Israel was written in 2003 for residents in Family Medicine within the diploma course. The goal was to raise the awareness of the learners for the special needs of women patients in order to improve their health condition. Questionnaires were used to evaluate the needs of the learners and the satisfaction from the course. The learners had to give an oral presentation or a written case presentation and discussion using relevant literature. The syllabus was implemented in several residents programs in Israel. The topics in the need questionnaires included mainly menopause, contraception, oncology, incontinence and also gynecological infections, preventive medicine, domestic violence sexuality and depression. The written presentations included cases with physical and psychosocial aspects of women's health (eating disorders, terminal illness, domestic violence, alopecia, vulvodynia, somatisation, post partum depression and more). The results show high level of satisfaction from the course. The conclusion is that women's health issues raise interest among primary care physicians and teaching programs should continue in order to improve their knowledge, skills and attitude. Implementation of women's health teaching programs as part of medical schools and CME programs needs to be examined.