

Detection of bad treatments in female population's sample in a Primary Health Care Center of Barcelona

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Objectives: To identify the abuse in a sample of women that goes for diverse reasons to consultations at the Primary Health Care (PHC) of Barcelona (Spain). To determine the association among abuse and the answers obtained in the subscales of anxiety and depression. To identify the formative training needs regarding gender violence of the nurses involved in the studied consultations.

Methodology: The study was carried over the course of five consultations of PHC, in 2005; a cross-sectional design was used. A randomized sample of 110 women was selected over 18 years old who attended consultations of PHC for any kind of acute or chronic diseases. A survey was done to study the women's anxiety and depression; the scale of Goldberg was used. Finally by means of a focal group, the formative needs were identified regarding gender violence.

Results: A sample of 110 women was studied with a mean age of 54,83 years old (SD: 13,49); 85% were married (CI 95%: 79-81%). Positive results in the scale of anxiety were obtained for 64% (CI 95%: 55-73%) of those surveyed and in that of depression 72% (IC 95%: 64-88%) of those interviewed. Twelve women expressed having been mistreated and insulted, and 8 were victim of abuse by their husbands. No significant differences were observed between the abuse and the anxiety or the depression; 24% affirmed that they would participate in a self-help group related to the gender violence. Main formative needs were: learning how to detect gender violence in the common consultation.

Conclusions: Anxiety and depression affect more than half of the interviewed women, it would be advisable to follow-up with these patients. The nursing staff says that their formative necessities with regards to gender violence are not covered mainly in what refers to capacity of the early detection of the cases.