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Correlation between violence against women by their intimate partners with developmental delay in children aged 6 months

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Background & Aim: Despite advances in medical sciences in diagnosis and treatment of diseases, delayed development of children is still considered one of the global health problems. This study investigates correlation between violence against women by their Intimate partners with developmental delay in children aged 6 months.

Material & Methods: This cross-sectional study was performed on 325 mothers and their 6 month-old infants in medical centers affiliated to Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences Tehran, Iran (2014-2015). Mothers were selected through multi-stage random sampling. For gathering data the instruments used were: A demographic and obstetric specification questionnaire, infant specification questionnaire, domestic violence questionnaire and Ages and Stages Questionnaire to determine the status of children's development. The data were analyzed using SPSS 19 software.

Results: The development delay in infant was 11/1%. About 40/2% of the participants experienced at least one type of violence (sexual 13/8%, physical 11% and mental 35%). Totally there were a significant correlation between maternal domestic violence and delayed infant development ($p=0/004$), between mental violence and developmental delays ($P=0/003$) and between sexual violence and developmental delays ($P=0/008$) but significant between physical violence and developmental delays was not observed ($P=0/55$).

Conclusion: Given the correlation between maternal domestic violence and infant development, it is recommended to screen mothers for violence in order to perform early interventions in developmental disorders.

Biography

Sedigheh Amir Ali Akbari is a Faculty Member of Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences. She has published more than 10 papers in journals that cited in PubMed and more than 50 papers in Iranian journal that cited in Scopus, Google scholar, ISC.

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