

Prevalence and risk factors for Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) experience among women in four districts of the central region of Ghana

RESEARCH TEAM:

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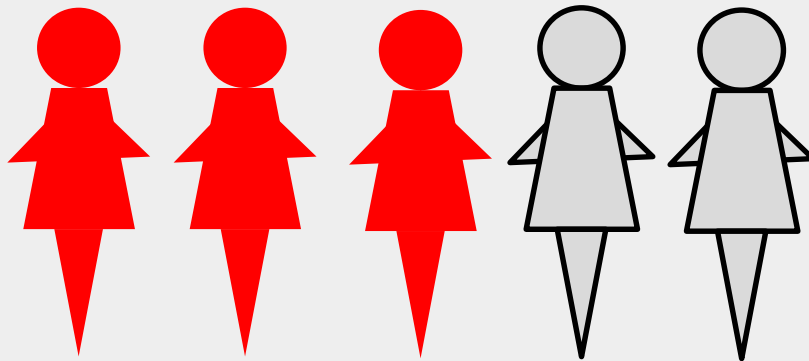


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BACKGROUND TO STUDY

Intimate partner violence (IPV) is an important global public health problem that poses a threat to the health and survival of women (1, 2)



- The main objective of this study was to measure both lifetime and past year prevalence of IPV and to determine factors associated with past year physical or sexual IPV prevalence.



BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF METHODS

Design: An unmatched cluster randomised controlled trial with two arms:

- i) Intervention arm - Receive Gender Centre's RRS /COMBAT package for communities as well as state agencies training
- ii) Control arm – No intervention.

Components – Both Qualitative & Quantitative

Population & Setting:

- Rural and peri-urban communities in 4 districts of the Central Region of Ghana (Two coastal districts -Abura and Komenda & Two inland districts - Agona and Upper Denkyira).
- Population: 2000 women age 18-49 surveyed (control = 1047; intervention = 953)



BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF METHODS

Sampling: Multistage random cluster

Main Outcome: Physical or sexual IPV experience in past year

Study measures/Covariates:

- Background characteristics
- childhood experience of trauma
- mental health, substance use and disability
- sexual behaviour
- partner characteristics
- Gender attitudes and norms

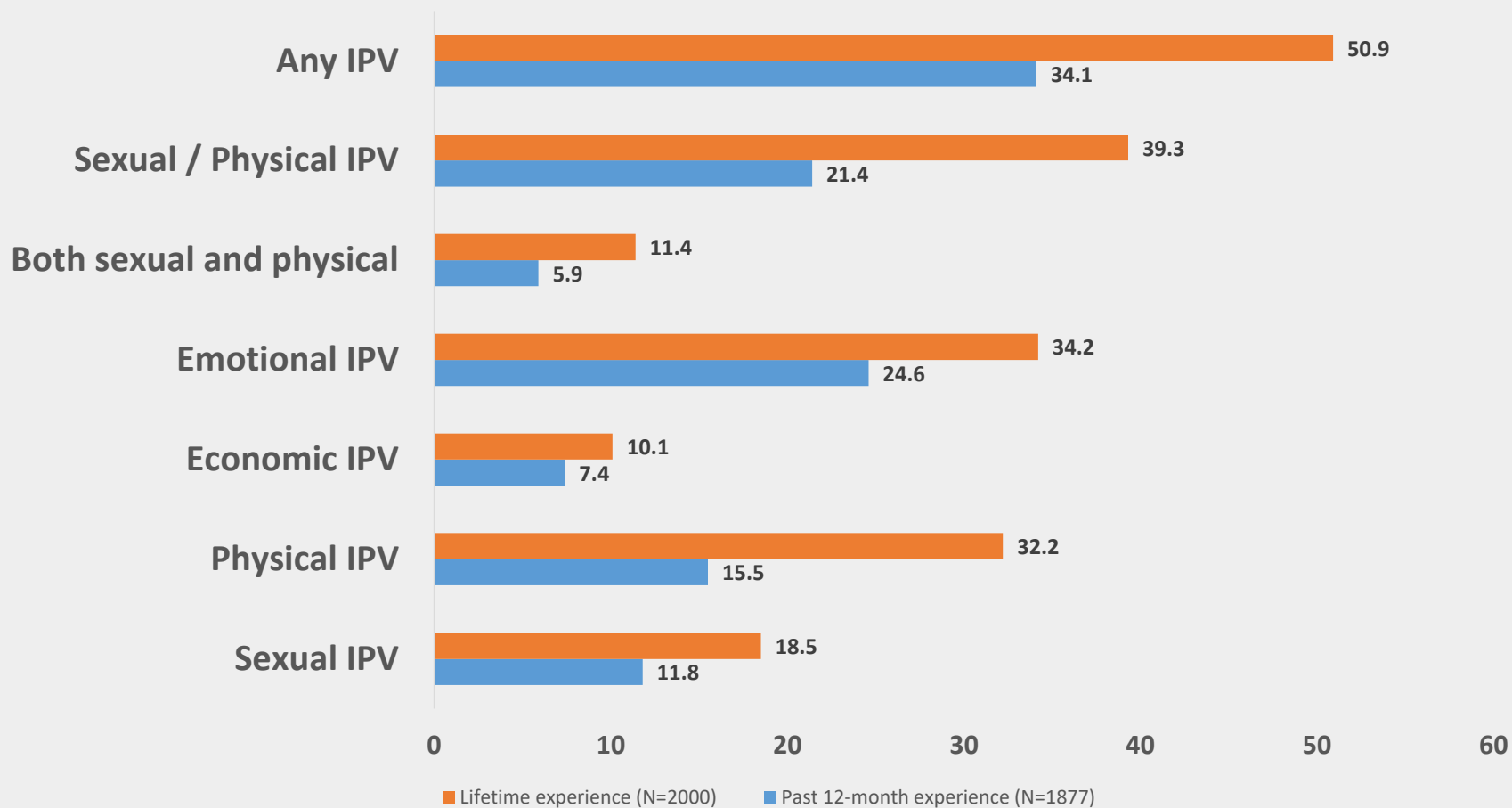


Characteristics of Respondents

Characteristic	Frequency	n/%	LCL	UCL
Age of respondent (mean ([CI]))		31.7	31.1	32.3
Highest Educational level				
None	434	21.7	18.3	25.6
Primary	459	23.0	20.7	25.4
Junior High school	897	44.9	40.8	49.0
Senior High school	156	7.8	5.9	10.2
Post-Secondary School	54	2.7	1.8	4.1
Marital status				
Married	1068	53.4	49.8	57.0
Divorced/separated/no relationship	268	13.4	11.3	15.8
Not married but in relationship	664	33.2	29.9	36.6
Worked or earned Income in past 12 months	1609	80.5	78.7	82.1
Household Food Security				
Food Secure	448	22.4	19.9	25.1
Mildly insecure	103	5.2	3.7	7.2
Moderately insecure	704	35.2	31.8	38.7
Severely insecure	745	37.3	33.5	41.1
Have Biological children	1800	90.0	88.4	91.4
Age at first marriage (mean ([CI]))		22	21.5	22.4
Years lived in community (mean ([CI]))		17.5	16.1	18.9
Number of biological children(mean ([CI]))		3.5	3.3	3.6



Prevalence of Past year and Lifetime IPV experience



Risk factors associated with past year IPV experience (Bivariate analyses)

Significant Risk Factors

Background

Senior high school education: ↓45%

Severe Household food insecurity ↑34%

Mental health, Disability & Substance use

Alcohol use ↑ 2.3X

Depression ↑ 8%

Disability ↑ 2.9X

Sexual Behaviour

Multiple partners ↑3.2X

Transactional sex ↑2.6X

Partner Characteristics

Controlling behaviour ↑5%

Partner infidelity ↑2.9X

Experience of childhood trauma

Witnessed abuse of mother ↑ 2.3X

Experienced Physical violence ↑ 49%

Experience sexual violence ↑91%

Was neglected in childhood ↑ 64%

Multivariate analyses of risk factors associated with past year IPV experience

Characteristics	Unadjusted OR	95% CI	Adjusted aOR	95%CI
Background characteristics				
Respondent age	0.98	0.97-1.01	0.97	0.95-0.99
Highest education				
No formal education	ref			
primary	1.10	0.72-1.68	0.83	0.54-1.26
junior sec	1.00	0.67-1.48	0.87	0.57-1.33
senior sec or higher	0.55	0.39-0.77	0.48	0.31-0.75
Household Food insecurity				
Food secure/ mild insecurity	ref			
Moderately insecure	0.86	0.62-1.18	0.66	0.46-0.95
Severely insecure	1.34	1.04-1.72	0.84	0.62-1.13
Mental Health, disability & alcohol use				
Used alcohol in past year	2.13	1.25-3.61	1.75	0.88-3.47
Depression score(high=depressed)	1.08	1.06-1.10	1.06	1.04-1.07
Disability	2.91	2.03-4.15	2.31	1.59-3.33



Multivariate analyses of risk factors associated with past year IPV experience

Respondent Characteristic	Unadjusted		Adjusted	
	OR	95% CI	aOR	95%CI
Childhood trauma				
Witnessed abuse of mum	2.32	1.81-2.99	1.99	1.49-2.67
Experienced child physical abuse	1.49	1.14-1.94	1.28	0.94-1.74
Experienced child sexual abuse	1.91	1.50-2.42	1.40	1.06-1.85
Experienced child neglect	1.64	1.26-2.14	1.22	0.88-1.69
Sexual behaviour				
Multiple partners in past year	3.22	1.84-5.64	2.41	1.29-4.51
Multiple partners in lifetime	1.46	1.09-1.95	1.17	0.89-1.54
Transactional sex in past year	2.64	1.84-3.79	1.65	1.07-2.52
Partner Characteristics				
Male partner Control (high=controlling)*	1.05	1.02-1.07	1.03	1.00-1.05
Not confident in partner fidelity	2.90	2.28-3.69	2.39	1.85-3.10



Summary of Findings

Women's education



52%

Multiple sexual partners



141%

Depression



6%

Witnessing of abuse of mother



99%

Transactional sex



65%

Disability



131%

Childhood sexual abuse



40%

Male partner infidelity



140%



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Conclusions

- Appropriate interventions needed to address inequitable patriarchal norms that keep women and girls disadvantaged and more vulnerable to all forms of abuse.
- National efforts must be directed at:
 - reducing exposure to violence in childhood,
 - strengthening institutions to better manage victims of child abuse and IPV
 - protecting the rights of persons with disability.



THANK YOU

