

Injury and Sociodemographic Characteristics of Intimate Partner Violence in Women in Israel: A Single-Center Retrospective Cohort Study

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Abstract : Background: Intimate partner violence is a growing public health concern worldwide, and nurses are uniquely positioned to help identify and refer patients for services. Yet, intimate partner violence injury patterns and characteristics often go unrecognized. Objective: The purpose of this study is to explore injury and sociodemographic characteristics associated with intimate partner violence in women presenting to a single emergency department in Israel. Methods: This retrospective cohort study analyzed medical records of married women injured by their spouse who presented to a single emergency department in Israel from January 1, 2016, to August 31, 2020. Results: In total, 145 cases were included, of which 110 (76%) were Arab and 35 (24%) were Jewish, with a mean age of 40. Patients' injury patterns consisted of contusions, hematomas, and lacerations to the head, face, or upper extremities, not requiring hospitalization, and having a history of emergency department visits in the past 5 years. Conclusion: Identifying intimate partner violence characteristics and patterns of injury will help nurses identify, initiate treatment, and report suspected abuse.

Keywords : emergency department, female patients, injuries, intimate partner violence, israel

Conference Title : ICN 2025 : International Conference on Nursing

Conference Location : Tokyo, Japan

Conference Dates : January 09-10, 2025