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Serum 25-hydroxyvitamin D3 and risk of type-2 diabetes among Japanese: The Hitachi health study

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Statement of the Problem: Women who have experienced intimate partner violence (IPV) are at greater risk for physical and mental health problems including posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and alcohol dependency. On their own IPV, PTSD and alcohol dependency result in significant personal, social and economic cost and the impact of all three may compound these costs. Researchers have reported that women with these experiences are more difficult to treat; many do not access treatment and those who do, frequently do not stay because of difficulty maintaining helping relationships. However, these women's perspective has not been previously studied. The purpose of this study is to describe the experience of seeking help for alcohol dependency by women with PTSD and a history of IPV in the context in which it occurs.

Methodology & Theoretical Orientation: An inter-subjective ethnographic study using hermeneutic dialogue was utilized during participant observation, in- depth interviews and focus groups. An ecological framework was utilized to focus on the interaction between the counselors and the staff to understand this relationships and the context in which it occurs.

Findings: The women in this study were very active help seekers. They encountered many gaps in continuity of care including discharge because of relapse. Although the treatment center was a warm, healing and spiritual place, the women left the center without treatment for their trauma needs and many without any referral to address these outstanding issues.

Conclusion & Significance: Women with alcohol dependence and PTSD with a history of IPV want help however the health and social services do not always recognize their calls for help or their symptoms of distress. Recommendations are made for treatment centers to become trauma- informed that would help this recognition.

Biography

Shamima Akter has her expertise in Nutritional Epidemiology. Presently, she is working as a senior researcher in Department of Epidemiology and Prevention, National Center for Global Health and Medicine, Tokyo, Japan. Her publication covers epidemiological research on non-communicable diseases, especially type-2 diabetes and metabolic bio-markers. She has published many papers on this field in prestigious international journal. She also received best young investigator award in 13th International Conference on Endothelin.

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