*Abstract*

## Survey of domestic violence prevalence against women and some of it's affective factors in women referred to health centers in Ardabil

***Background & objective:*** *Domestic violence against women is a painful fact bringing important damages to the victim in a way that burden of domestic violence of the health of women aging 15 to 44 is estimated to be more than breast cancer, uterus cancer and accidents. This study is intended to survey the prevalence of domestic violence against women referred to health centers in Ardabil.*

***Methods:*** *This descriptive-analytic study have been performed on 400 married women referring to health centers in Ardabil in 2016. Sampling was performed by stratified random sampling method. Required information, including social and individual information, amount of exposure to physical, verbal, emotional, and economic abuse and confronting acts performed against the violence were collected using a questionnaire whose reliability and validity have been proved in previous studies.*

***Results:*** *Mean age of women in this study was* $31.8 \pm 10.8$. *Overall prevalence of domestic violence was 60.2%. The most common type of domestic violence was verbal abuse which was observed in 87.1%; emotional and sexual abuse (81.2%), economic abuse (50.2%), and physical abuse (32%) were next common domestic violence. There was a significant relationship between the prevalence of domestic violence and women age (pP<0.001), husband level of education (P=0.007), husband job (P=0.004), women's age at marriage (P=0.003), disease history of women (P=0.048), and husband's disease history (P=0.01). Women solutions for dealing with domestic violence included improving life skills (37.3%), compromising with the circumstances (31.5%), referring to consulting centers (15.4%), mediating elders of the family (8.3%), retaliation against husband's behavior (4.6%), and referring to judicial authorities (2.9%).*

***Conclusion:*** *Overall prevalence of domestic violence against women referring to health centers in Ardabil is high and verbal abuse is the most common type of domestic violence and age, education level, job, age at marriage, and disease history are the most effective factors.*

***Key words:*** *domestic violence, violence against women, abused women, urban health centers.*