

Physical abuse during pregnancy.

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Abstract:

A study was conducted at the Pattani Hospital, Pattani, Thailand to determine the prevalence and predictors of physical abuse in pregnant women seen during the period 1 July-21 November 2003. 99 (16.2%) women reported past physical abuse (during a prior pregnancy or during the preceding year), 24 (3.9%) reported experiencing abuse during the current pregnancy, and 58 (9.5%) reported physical abuse both in the past and during the current pregnancy. Physical abuse was associated with parity, marital status, length of relationship, women's education, smoking and alcohol intake by the partner. The strongest risk factor for physical abuse during pregnancy was alcohol intake by the partner.