C5-15: Linking Postpartum Depression and Violence: The Experience of Chilean Women

Author List:
Presenting Author: Ana Maria Quelopana
Additional Author: Ana Maria Quelopana

Address: Office 435A CON Building, 760 Rose Street
Lexington, Kentucky 40536
United States
Ph: 859 3234726
Fax: 859 3531057
Email: aqu222@uky.edu
Institution: University of Kentucky

Presentation Preference: Late Breaker poster submission

Abstract Categories:
Research Interest Groups (RIGs): Psych/Mental Health
Thematic Areas: Women's Health

Abstract:

Introduction: The postpartum is a time of great vulnerability to psychiatric disorders such as postpartum depression (PPD). Many factors are associated with this illness. This study examined the prevalence of PPD and its association with history of violence in Chilean mothers.

Method(s): A descriptive correlational study was conducted with a convenience sample of 163 women who were two or more weeks postpartum and attending Primary Care Clinics in Arica-Chile. Data on reproductive history and socio-demographic characteristics were obtained. The Postpartum Depression Screening Scale--Spanish Version and the Women Abuse Screen were used to assess PPD and interpersonal violence, respectively.

Results: Symptoms of PPD were found among 55% of the Chilean women. A history of violence was reported by 64%. Of the women who experienced abuse, 44% reported that abuse was ongoing during the last pregnancy. Significant symptoms of PPD were associated with a low educational level ($x^2 = 3.52, df = 1, p = .04$). History of violence was associated with low income ($x^2 = 7.35, df = 1, p = .005$). Women who experienced violence reported greater symptoms of depression such as anxiety/insecurity, emotional labiality, mental confusion, loss of self, guilt/shame, and suicidal thoughts compared to women who had not experienced violence. Women with a history of violence were 1.9 times more likely (95% CI = 1.39 - 2.60) to have significant symptoms of PPD compared to women who had not experienced violence.

Discussion & Conclusions: PPD was strongly associated with history of violence. Nurses and midwives who identify and help women experiencing PPD and/or violence could play an
important role in guiding and supporting them. Further assessment of postpartum depression and interpersonal violence among women in other regions of Chile during maternity is needed.

Abstract History:
This abstract has not been presented or accepted for presentation in whole or in part at the SNRS or other scientific meeting.

Financial Disclosure:
No, I (or a member of my immediate family) have not received something of value* from or own stock (or stock options) in a commercial company or institution related directly or indirectly to the subject of my presentation.

FDA Disclosure:
I will not be describing any pharmaceutical and/or medical device.

Non-Exclusive License:

Submitted by:
aqu222@uky.edu