

Purpose: The aim of this study is to analyze multiple issues of different genders in victims suffering from domestic violence.

Methods: This study is a retrospective cohort study from January 01, 2007 to December 31, 2008. All victims of domestic violence visited emergency department of a university medical center.

Results: A total of 866 patients are enrolled in the study; 190 male victims and 676 female victims. Age is an important factor of different genders victims in domestic violence. Majority of female victims are localized between ages of 18 to 65 years old. There are more male victims than female victims in the age groups of less than 18 years and greater than 65 years. Men are the dominant perpetrators of all domestic violence. The relationship between female victim and the perpetrator is mostly intimate partner. Parents and siblings account dominant perpetrators of the male victims. In cases of child/teenager abuse and senior abuse, there are more male victims. The recidivism rate of male victim is less than female victims.

Conclusion: The main difference between the genders in victims of domestic violence lies in the distribution of age. Researchers have concentrated mostly on the females being victims of domestic violence. The steady increase of male domestic violence victims every year exhibits the lack of focus on the importance placed upon male victims.

FP-076

Personnel Development Programs for Regional Health Risk Management Staff in Japan

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Objectives: In Japan, training for public health workers has been provided by the central government, prefectural governments and so on. This study was undertaken to identify open issues related to personnel development for regional health risk management workers.

Methods: The study involved a questionnaire survey, included questions about training of health risk management for staff members, planned and implemented by prefectural institutions involved in health risk management (hereinafter “in-house training”) provided in 2007 and the health risk managing competency expected to be acquired by staff members through that training (hereinafter “expected competency”). Subjects were the directors of 517 public health centers and 79 regional public health institutions across Japan.

Results: Response rate was 62.9%. The median of in-house training provided per institution was 2, training pertained most frequently to infections (28.4%). When asked about the expected competency, the most frequent answer was “knowledge and skills needed to estimate the impact of an incident” (48.7%), and relatively infrequent answers were capability to “summarize a series of countermeasures into records or scientific paper”(7.2%),

“devise and implement a regional health risk management plan” (8.5%) and “collect sufficient information for estimation of impact” (12.0%).

Discussion and Conclusion: In-house training did not appear to be sufficient for facilitating acquisition of high-level knowledge/skill or the types of competency requiring relatively long-term training. It was thought that the role of us in providing high-level and sufficiently long-lasting programs in order to elevate the quality of personnel development related to regional health risk management systems across Japan.

FP-077

Unintentional Poisoning Mortality Trends by Sex, Age, and Cause in Taiwan

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Recently, melamine a compound illegally used in cheap baby formula caused panic in Taiwan, while many unintentional poisonings are caused by reasons other than food poisoning. Pesticide poisoning and drug poisoning are commonly seen in Taiwan, where in 2007, 324 deaths were caused by unintentional poisoning, an average of almost one death per day. To understand the types of unintentional poisoning, developing prevention methods for high-risk populations is quite critical. Data was obtained from the Death Certification data file provided by the Department of Health from 1986 to 2007. There were 12,916 fatal cases of unintentional poisoning occurred in Taiwan during the past 22 years, involving more men (68.7%) than women (31.3%). Most deaths occurred in the 25-29 years (12.5%). Pesticides and drugs were two dominant poisoning agents (38.3% and 33.7%), followed by alcohol (7.3%). Showing a tendency of decrease by sex, age, and type, the mortality rate of unintentional poisoning was 2.37/100,000 (males 3.66/100,000; female 1.75/100,000), and the age preference was 80-84 years. Pesticide poisoning caused the highest mortality rate (an average of 1.04/100,000) which decreased the largest during the past 22 years (from 1.99 to 0.11), while drug poisoning, in second place, overtook pesticide poisoning, and become the first leading cause of death since 1999. This finding suggests that government should focus on male aged 30-34 years to develop preventive programs about drug safety.

FP-078

Mortality Trends of Submersion and Suffocation in Taiwan

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Fatal accidents caused by submersion and suffocation, such as drowned at the beach or in the river and suffocated eating jelly or rice dumplings, were frequent. In order to understand the epidemiology of these fatal cases, this study analyzed mortality data from

Department of Health between 1986 and 2007. During 22 years, there were 30867 fatal cases of submersion and suffocation in Taiwan, and involved more men (73%) than woman (23%). Children aged 1-4 years (N=2493, 8.3%), under 1 years (N=2408, 7.8%) and 15-19 years (N=2318, 7.5%) were high risk age groups. Submersion (74%) was the leading causes of these fatal cases, followed by suffocation of foreign bodies (10.6%) and food (8.9%). Showing a tendency of decrease by sex, age and types, the mortality rate of submersion and suffocation was 3.64/100,000 (males 9.3/10,000; female 3.6/100,000), and the age preference was over 85 years (3.4/100,000). The highest mortality rate was in submersion (an average of 4.95/100,000), which rate decreased largest during 22 years (from 7.9 to 2.2), the aged preference were 1-4 years and over 75 years. Suffocation by foreign bodies overtook that by food and became the second leading cause of death since 1998. The aged preference was under 1 year and over 80 years. This finding suggests that government should enhance the submersion prevention programs for people who aged 1-4 years and over 75 years in the future.

FP-079

Method-Specific Suicide Rates in Kaoshiung City, 1994-2006

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Background Method-specific suicide trends varied across countries, and studies of the trends in different countries can contribute to the understanding of the epidemiology of suicide. The purpose of this study was to examine the changes in suicide trends by sex, age and method in the years 1994 to 2006 in Kaoshiung City. Methods Mortality data files of suicide and undetermined deaths for the years 1994-2006 were obtained for analyses. Age-, sex- and method-specific suicide rates were calculated by seven age groups (0-14, 15-24, 25-44, 45-64, 65-74, 75-84 and ≥ 85 years old) and five suicide methods (solids/liquids poisoning, other gases poisoning, hanging, jumping, and others). Results Both sexes experienced upward trends from 1994 to 1999, and then an upward trend since 2000. People aged 85 years and above had the highest suicide rates throughout the study periods. However, females aged 25-34 years and males aged 35-54 years experienced the steepest increasing trends. As to suicide methods, an annual increase, since 1994, of people jumping from heights to commit suicide, and a marked increase, since 1999, of people completing suicide by poisoning with other gases (mainly charcoal-burning) were observed. Conclusion Suicide by measure of charcoal-burning and jumping from heights has become a serious public health problem in Kaoshiung City. Preventive measures to curb these increasing trends are urgently needed.

FP-080

Gender Differences in Types of Injuries at Different Age Levels

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Purpose: This study is to analyze gender differences for all types of injuries in different age groups. Methods: Injury data of Neihu District of Taipei City were drawn out from injury surveillance system of Taiwanese Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion Association. A total of 16013 cases registered during the period of January 1, 2005 to December 31, 2008. Results: In general, age groups of 15-24 years and over 65 years have higher injury rate; and over all gender ratio of male to female is 1.43:1. The gender difference is affected by age levels and types of injuries. For intentional injuries, females are the main victims of domestic violence, whereas males are usually injured from homicide and infliction by other persons. As to unintentional injuries, more males than females were seen for most of types of injuries except for injuries from animals and plants and poisoning. In traffic accident, driver victims are mostly males and passenger victims are mostly females. At age 45 or above, more females suffered from falls than males. Men tend to be involved in human caused unintentional injuries more than women by 2.32 times. Conclusion: Gender difference varies according to types of injuries and age levels. We must put gender, age, and situation into consideration when planning an injury prevention program. Preventive tactic should be evaluated with more profound data analysis to show its effectiveness.

FP-081

Association between Obesity and Low Back Pain among Taiwanese Adults

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Objective: To examine the association between low back pain (LBP) and obesity. Methods: This was a retrospective cohort study. Data from two sources were used: the 2001 National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) data and the 2002-2004 National Health Insurance (NHI) claim data. Our sample consisted of 12,862 adults who were aged 18 years or older in 2001 and gave consent to the linkage of their survey data with corresponding NHI claims data. We defined "obesity" according to the WHO-Asia Pacific categories of Body Mass Index (BMI in kg/m²). Cox's proportional hazards regression was used to identify factors associated with LBP.