

FAMILY VIOLENCE, SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROBLEM AND PUBLIC HEALTH PROBLEM

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Domestic violence is a social problem that has consequences for the physical and mental health of the exposed individual, but also for the safety and well-being of the entire community. It often manifests as physical, psychological, sexual and economic violence. The mentioned forms of violence are rarely observed individually, but mostly as a combination of two or more forms. There is also so-called passive abuse, which is very subtle and includes victimization and spiritual and intellectual neglect. That is why domestic violence is a public health problem and its solution requires a determined multisectoral approach

The aim of the work was to analyze the socio-demographic characteristics of victims of domestic violence as well as their consequences. A retrospective analysis of the protocols of the Adult Health Care Service of the Niš Health Center on a sample of 232 respondents, for the period from 2013 to July 2024, showed that the dominant form of violence in the family is physical violence. It is most often reported by urban residents, who are married or cohabiting, but serious physical injuries are less often reported. Domestic violence in the examined sample predominantly appears in the age group 34-49 years. The most applications were in 2019, and the least in 2021.

The results of this research should enable the design of appropriate standards, as well as preventive programs and strategies in the fight against domestic violence, where primary health care can be of great benefit.

Keywords: domestic violence, health, primary health care