Associations between disability status with IPV among married women in Nepal

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Background

- According to the World Health Organization, 15% of the world’s population lives with some form of disability.

- Very little data from lower income countries on disability status and vulnerability to violence.

- Disability and IPV in Nepal
  - Out of 475 women living with a disability, 57% reported lifetime violence (family, neighbors, husbands).
  - 39% of the violence was perpetrated by husbands (Puri et al. 2015).
Key Research Questions

- Are women with disabilities more likely to report experiencing IPV than women without disabilities?

- Are women with disabilities more likely to report experiencing violence from in-laws than women without disabilities?

- What are levels of support and help seeking for women with disabilities and women without disabilities?
Change Starts at Home Project

- Social and behavior change communication intervention on norms and experience of IPV
  - N=36 Village Development Committees, 3 districts
  - N=1800 married female participants of reproductive age

Analysis

- Logistic regression
  - Age
  - Education
  - Number of children
  - Husband's education
  - Income stress
  - Caste/ethnicity
Key Measures

► Disability
Do you have difficulty seeing, even if wearing glasses; hearing; walking or climbing steps; remembering or concentrating; speaking?
► Response options: No difficulty, some difficulty, a lot of difficulty, cannot do it at all
► Coded as:
► “No disability” (answered no difficulty to all)
► “Some disability” (answered some difficulty to any, no to severe disability)
► “Severe disability” (answered a lot of difficulty or cannot do it at all to any)

► Past-Year Intimate Partner Violence
► Physical and/or sexual
► Emotional
► Economic
► In-law
► Coded: dichotomous variables; a woman was considered to have experienced a type of violence if any scale item was answered affirmatively
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sample</th>
<th>N (%)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Disability</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Disability</td>
<td>1075 (60%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some Disability</td>
<td>635 (35%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Severe Disability</td>
<td>89 (5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intimate Partner Violence (past year)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Emotional</td>
<td>522 (29%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physical / Sexual</td>
<td>455 (25%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Economic</td>
<td>315 (18%)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Disability and past-year emotional IPV

Notes: AORs controlling for age, education, number of children, husband's education, caste/ethnicity and income stress.
Disability and past-year physical / sexual IPV

- **No disability**: 22.8%  
  - (AOR=1.23, 95% CI 0.96, 1.56)
- **Some disability**: 28.0%  
  - (AOR=1.68, 95% CI 1.04, 2.72)
- **Severe disability**: 37.1%

Notes: AORs controlling for age, education, number of children, husband's education, caste/ethnicity and income stress
Disability and past-year economic IPV

Notes: AORs controlling for age, education, number of children, husband's education, caste/ethnicity and income stress
Disability and past-year In-law violence

- **No disability:** 10.1%
  - (AOR=1.50, 95% CI 1.07, 2.10)
- **Some disability:** 12.1%
- **Severe disability:** 20.2%
  - (AOR=2.80, 95% CI 1.53, 5.11)

Notes: AORs controlling for age, education, number of children, husband's education, caste/ethnicity and income stress
Family support for IPV by disability status

Notes: AORs controlling for age, education, number of children, husband's education, caste/ethnicity and income stress
In-law support for IPV by disability status

Notes: AORs controlling for age, education, number of children, husband's education, caste/ethnicity and income stress
Help seeking for IPV by disability status

Any Help-Seeking

Informal Help-Seeking | Formal Help-Seeking

Note: Descriptive Statistics
Limitations

- 5 out of 6 items of the Washington Disability Group on Disability Statistics were included in survey

- More research needed to understand vulnerability to specific forms of IPV/violence based on degree of disability
Key Points

- High frequency of reported disability, despite inclusion/exclusion RCT criteria

- Disability is associated with increased likelihood of IPV and in-law violence; a gradient was also observed

- Women with disabilities have fewer familial resources to intervene, leaving them to seek recourse within formal sector; a gradient was also observed

- Future research may seek to examine disability status with other markers of social disadvantage as they pertain to IPV vulnerability and help-seeking

- Future research may seek to examine potential variations in treatment effects among women living with disabilities