

CONCLUSION

The findings of the study are as follows:

- 1) There is a significant difference in frequency, magnitude and nature (total, physical and psychological) of DV by husbands during the past year, experienced by married women with mental illness, with physical illness and no illness (healthy women); being highest in married women with mental illness, followed by married women with physical illness and least in married women with no illness.
- 2) There was a significant difference in frequency and nature of DV by all relatives during the past year, experienced by married women with mental illness, with physical illness and with no illness. All types of violence (Total, Psychological, Physical, Economic, Sexual and Dowry related) perpetrated by relatives, male and female (assessed by VWHQ), were found to be reported significantly more in married women with mental illness than in married healthy women. In addition, Physical violence was reported more in married women with mental illness compared to married women with physical illness.
- 3) Married women with mental illness had longer duration of illness, longer duration of treatment since marriage, more severe disability (Total and on all the domains, personal, social, occupational, and overall, and burden of care on key relative) compared to married women with physical illness.
- 4) The married women with physical illness had significant greater total number of investigations, and expenditure on treatment (on investigations, on treatment and total) compared to the women with mental illness.

- 5) In married women mental illness there was a positive correlation between total disability score and total score on DVQ, and negative correlations between education of women and visit expenditure, and total score on DVQ.
- 6) In married healthy women positive correlation was observed between husband's age and total score on DVQ and negative correlation between age of married woman and total score on DVQ.
- 7) Significant differences were found between the 3 groups of victims of DV (married women with mental illness, with physical illness and with no illness) on 12 perceived causes of DV. 11 perceived causes of DV: Conflicts (Conflict over domestic chores and alleged disrespect to elders), Patriarchy (Considers wife property of husband), Work performance (Slow / Unsatisfactory work, Family member complained about deficiencies in her behaviour), Sex and appearance (Husband has extramarital affair), Family tradition (Violence against daughter-in-law (DIL) has approval by family, instigated by family members), Mental illness (Unacceptable abnormal wife / DIL, unacceptable wife / DIL with mental illness), and Status of Women (Non-working so has low status), were reported significantly more in by married women victims with mental illness than married women victims with physical illness.
- 8) 8 perceived causes of DV: Conflicts (Conflict over domestic chores and alleged disrespect to elders), Patriarchy (Considers wife property of husband), Work performance (Slow / Unsatisfactory work, Family member complained about deficiencies in her behaviour), Mental illness (Unacceptable abnormal wife / DIL, unacceptable wife / DIL with mental illness), and Status of Women (Non-working so has low status) were reported significantly more by married women victims with mental illness and married women victims with no illness.
- 9) 4 perceived causes of DV: Conflicts (Conflict over domestic chores and alleged disrespect to elders), Patriarchy (Males domination), and Status of women status

of women (Non-working) so has low status were reported significantly more by married women victims with mental illness and married women victims with physical illness.

10) 10 perceived causes were reported exclusively by the married women with mental illness: Alleged disrespect to elders, considers wife as property of husband, disability, Instigated by family members, Violating family norms, Tradition of wife abuse in the family, Unacceptable abnormal wife / DIL, unacceptable wife/ DIL with mental illness, Antisocial personality traits and Cannabis Use Dependence.

Thus it may be finally concluded that:

- i. Married women report DV violence both by husbands and relatives at home during the past year.
- ii. DV (spousal) is most frequent and severe in married women with mental illness, then in married women with physical illness and least in healthy married women.
- iii. All types of DV (both spousal and by relatives) are more severe and frequent in married women with mental illness compared to married healthy women.
- iv. Married women with mental illness are subjected to more physical violence by relatives compared to married women with physical illness.
- v. Amongst the potential objective causes, magnitude (total and types) of disability, literacy level of the women, and lesser expenditure on visits to hospital were predictors of DV perpetrated by husbands in married women with mental illness in the last year.
- vi. Higher husband's age and lower wife's age were predictors of DV perpetrated by husbands in married healthy women in the last year.

- vii. Victims of DV by all relatives perceived several (35) different causes of DV. Married women victims with mental illness reported many more causes than married women victims with physical illness and those with no illness. The latter perceived least number of causes. 10 causes were perceived by only married women victims with mental illness
- viii. Married women in general, but those with illness, especially mental illness, are frequent victims of DV. There is evidence for some objective (disability, age, visit expenditure, education and age of women, and age of husband) and several subjective causes of DV, which may help in predicting DV.

