

# Forms and determinants of domestic violence in pregnancy: a case of pregnant women in Mukono Municipality-Uganda

Authors: Richard Mulindwa<sup>1</sup>, Proscovia Namuwenge<sup>1</sup>, Jonathan Izudi<sup>3</sup>, Dinah Amongin<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Health Sciences, Uganda Christian University, Mukono, Uganda, <sup>2</sup> Association of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Uganda, Kampala, Uganda, <sup>3</sup> Institute of Health Policy and Management, International Health Sciences University, Kampala, Uganda

contact: muwonge2005@yahoo.co.uk, / amongdinah2003@yahoo.com

**Background:** Violence against women, whether pregnant or not is a common occurrence all over the world. Domestic violence has been a long-standing problem in Uganda, particularly in rural areas. About 41% of pregnant women in Uganda had ever experienced physical threats or physical abuse. There is little information existing regarding domestic violence among pregnant women in Uganda. This study established the forms and determinants of domestic violence upon pregnant women in Mukono Municipality.

**Methods:** This cross sectional study involved 323 women attending ANC at the public health facilities in Mukono Municipality. Data analysis was by SPSS. Factors found to be statistically significant at bivariate analysis were subjected to multivariate analysis, logistic regression.

**Results:** About half of the pregnant women (170, 52.6%) reported to have ever experienced domestic violence during their current pregnancy. Forced sexual activity (130, 40%), physical (72, 20%), psychological (87, 27%), and financial abuse (87, 27%) and were the most experienced forms of violence reported. More than half of the pregnant women (52%) did not agree to domestic violence and men being the over controllers of the house hold.

At multivariate, demographic factors associated with domestic violence during pregnancy were; increasing age of woman ( $p=0.000$ ), having 5 or more household members ( $P=0.014$ ), increasing age of spouse ( $p= 0.003$ ). Socio-economic factors were; woman not having an occupation ( $p=0.006$ ), spouse lack of formal employment ( $P=0.002$ ), and spouse having attained secondary level of education ( $p=0.003$ ). Socio cultural factors were; women agreeing to norms that their husbands are not supposed to have sex with them during



**UGANDA MATERNAL AND  
NEWBORN HEALTH  
CONFERENCE**

**Moving from Policy to  
Practice: *Saving Mothers and  
Newborns at National and local  
level***

**15TH-17TH JUNE 2015**

**SERENA HOTEL, KAMPALA,  
UGANDA**

**PROGRAM  
BOOK**