

The response of CEPAM (Ecuadorian center for women's advocacy and action) on the issue of gender-based violence in Ecuador.

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Introduction:

- The issue of gender-based violence (GBV) is alarming and threatening to women's lives. The type of violence represents a major cause of mortality and morbidity of women during their reproductive years. They suffer from physical and emotional pain.
- It can jeopardize a country's overall development. The problem of GBV has placed a huge economic burden onto Ecuador. Approximately \$109 million U.S. dollar based on the 2012 U.S. currency is spent during the 2003-2004 year to provide health care services for about 255,267 GBV victims.
- The problem of GBV is especially prevalent in Ecuador.
- The Ecuadorian Center for Women's Advocacy and Action (CEPAM) is a nongovernmental organization that worked with the Government of Ecuador to implement service provision and prevention intervention for GBV victims and survivors.

Methods:

- CEPAM deals with GBV by including multiple aspects of violence that can affect women and children and by focusing on service provision with complementary activities for advocacy and prevention.
- CEPAM also work together with the Guasmo Health Center to establish a place that offers comprehensive health services, legal services, education, and prevention activities.
- I did online research to obtain information on CEPAM.
- The way I came up with the results that CEPAM's work is successful is by looking at how comprehensive the services provided are and how the GBV victims and survivors have benefited from those services. Also, I look to see if that program helps women to make right decisions such as reaching out to seek help and ending harmful relationships with their abusive partners.

Results:

- The comprehensive services provided by CEPAM are based on a multi-sectoral approach . Its clients can obtain many different services such as health care, legal services, psychological counseling, and social services in one location.
- Long-term assistance and counseling are provided for GBV survivors to help them break free of violent relationships.
- CEPAM is also able to secure government funding to sustain and provide improved quality for its service provisions and prevention programs by working with the government.

Conclusions:

- CEPAM uses a multi-sectoral approach and a government-civil society partnership to solve the issues of GBV that is especially prevalent in Ecuador.
- CEPAM is effective in raising awareness of GBV and reproductive health rights among individual and in providing extensive follow up and guidance for GBV victims.
- Despite the successes, there are challenges that need to be confronted in order to keep improving this strategy.

Resources Cited:

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Figure 1. Pathways and health effects on intimate partner violence

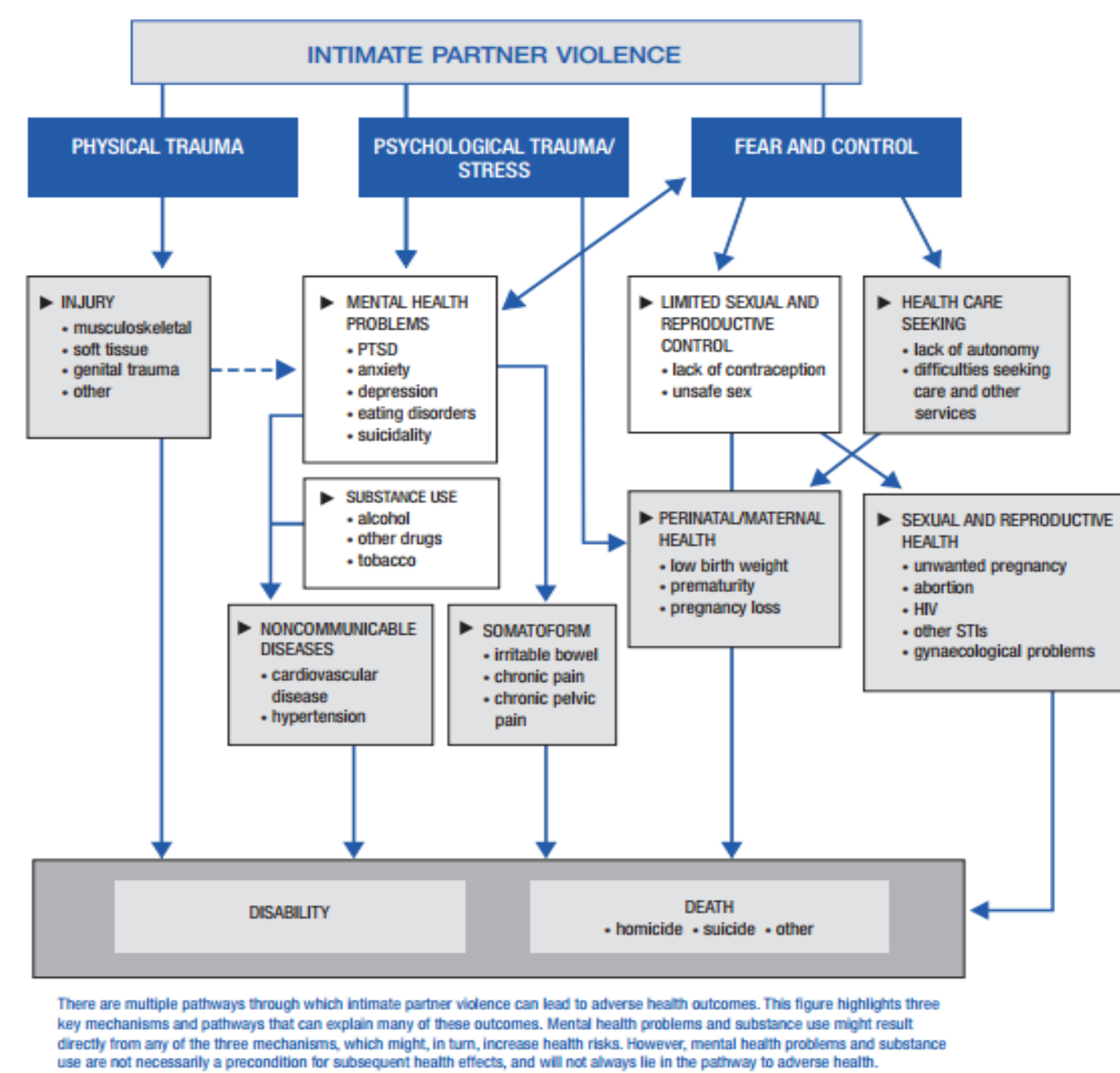


Fig. 1 shows the pathways and health effects of GBV. The ultimate results can be death or disability. (Garcia-Moreno & Pallitto, 2013, p. 8)

Figure 2. Global map showing regional prevalence rates of intimate partner violence by WHO region* (2010)

* Regional prevalence rates are presented for each WHO region including low- and middle-income countries, with high income countries analyzed separately. See Appendix 1 for list of countries with data available by region.

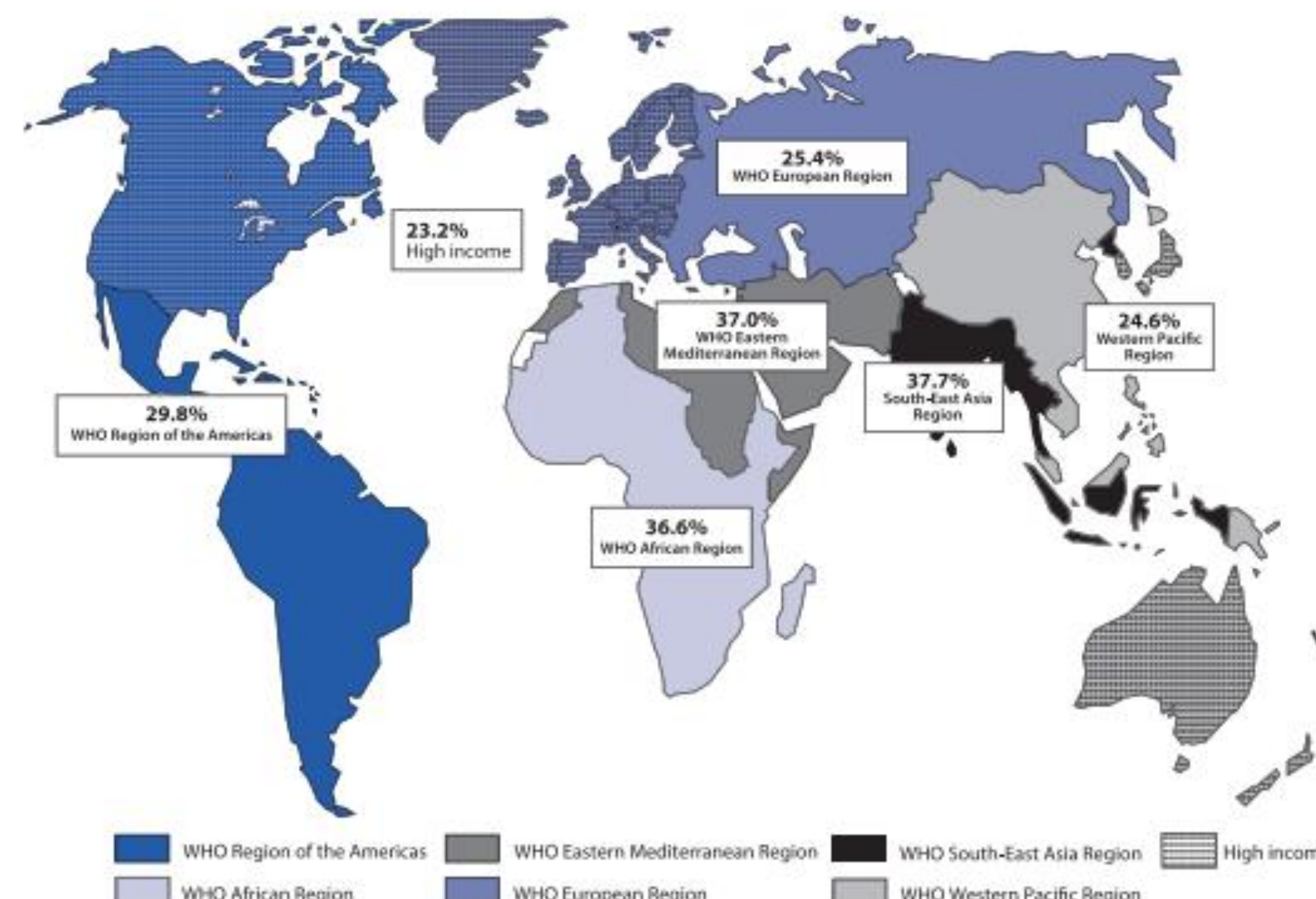


Fig. 2 indicates the prevalence rates of GBV violence. (Garcia-Moreno & Pallitto, 2013, p. 18)

