

Violence Against Women (VAW) & Violence Against Children (VAC)

PAHO and WHO Publications

2015-2025 Strategy and Plan of Action on strengthening the health system to address violence against women

POLICIES



This strategy was approved by PAHO's Directing Council which is composed of Ministers of Health from 38 Member States. It offers a concrete road map for health systems to address the Region's priorities in the area of violence against women, provides a situation analysis, proposes four concrete lines of action, and suggests a set of indicators for monitoring progress.

2016-2030 Global Plan of Action to strengthen the role of the health system within a national multisectoral response to address interpersonal violence, in particular against women and girls and against children

Available in full-text and as a summary focused on violence against women and girls.



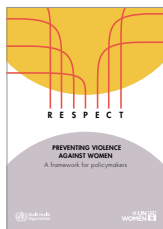
Adopted by Ministries of Health at the World Health Assembly (WHA) in 2016, the Global Plan of Action aligns fully with PAHO's Strategy and Plan of Action and provides a strong mandate for health systems to address VAW and VAC as urgent public health problems.



RESPECT: Preventing Violence Against Women.

A framework for policy-makers

PREVENTION



This framework is intended for policy-makers but is also likely to be of interest to practitioners and others involved in the design, implementation, and monitoring of programs and interventions to reduce, respond to, and end VAW. It provides key information across the following domains: assessing risk and protective factors; implementing 7 strategies to prevent VAW; assessing evidence for interventions; applying the guiding principles for intervention; adapting and scaling-up effective interventions; developing a theory of change; and monitoring, evaluating and measuring progress.

Preventing intimate partner and sexual violence against women:

Taking action and generating evidence



This manual, jointly developed by WHO and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, describes interventions of known effectiveness, those supported by emerging evidence, and those that could potentially be effective. It presents a six-step framework for planning, implementing, and evaluating such prevention programs and policies.

Responding to intimate partner violence and sexual violence against women: WHO clinical and policy guidelines

Full text and summary



Evidence suggests that women who have been subjected to violence seek health care more often than non-abused women, even if they do not always disclose the violence. Survivors of intimate partner or sexual violence identify health care providers as the professionals they would most trust with disclosure of abuse. These guidelines are an unprecedented effort to equip health care providers with evidence-based guidance on how to respond to survivors of intimate partner violence and sexual violence against women.

Health care for women subjected to intimate partner violence or sexual violence: A clinical handbook



Health care providers are likely to be the first professional contact for survivors of intimate partner and sexual violence. This handbook, based on the WHO clinical and policy guidelines (see above), offers easy steps and practical suggestions for health care providers, including those who are not specialists, to provide compassionate and effective care to women subjected to violence.

Strengthening health systems to respond to women subjected to intimate partner violence or sexual violence: A manual for health managers.



This manual is based on the WHO policy and clinical guidelines and is a companion of the WHO clinical handbook for health care providers previously mentioned. The manual helps managers at all levels of the health system to design, plan and manage health services for women who have been subjected to violence. It provides health care managers with practical information, job aids, checklists, and other resources to support health care providers' efforts to identify and respond to survivors of VAW.

16 Ideas for addressing violence against women in the context of the HIV epidemic: A programming tool

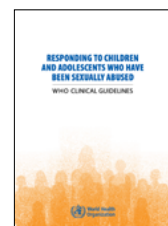


This tool provides evidence-summaries for 16 programming approaches for preventing and responding to violence against women in the context of the HIV epidemic.

The four areas where changes need to happen include:

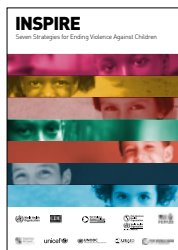
- integrated, multi-sectoral empowerment of women
- transforming gender social and cultural norms;
- integrating violence against women and HIV services;
- promoting and implementing laws and policies related to gender equality and violence against women and HIV prevention and response services.

Responding to children and adolescents who have been sexually abused. WHO clinical guidelines



Health care providers have an important role in identifying and providing care to children and adolescents who have been subjected to sexual abuse. These guidelines, grounded in human rights standards and ethical principles, provide recommendations for health care providers on how to: assess and promote children's and adolescents' safety; ensure confidentiality and privacy; offer choices in provision of care; respect their autonomy and wishes, and address the specific needs of boys and girls with additional vulnerabilities, such as those with disabilities, from low socio-economic groups, ethnic minorities, and LGBTI groups. WHO will soon publish clinical guidelines on child maltreatment and neglect.

INSPIRE: Seven strategies for Ending Violence Against Children. Technical package



INSPIRE: Seven strategies for ending violence against children is an evidence-based technical package to support countries in their efforts to prevent and respond to violence against children aged 0-17 years. The package includes the core document, *INSPIRE: Seven strategies for ending violence against children* that describes a select group of strategies that have shown success in reducing violence against children; the *INSPIRE handbook: action for implementing the seven strategies for ending violence against children* that explains in detail how to choose and implement interventions according to specific needs and contexts, and the *INSPIRE Indicator Guidance and Results Framework*, designed to help define and measure indicators to monitor progress and track change over time as INSPIRE strategies are implemented. (This package was developed jointly by PAHO, WHO, UNICEF, UNODC, World Bank, CDC, the Global Partnership to End Violence against Children, USAID, PEPFAR, Together for Girls and the Care and Protection of Children Learning Network).

Global and regional estimates of violence against women: Prevalence and health effects of intimate partner violence and non-partner sexual violence



Full-text and summary

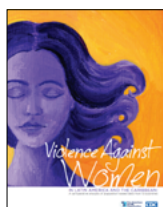
This report presents the first systematic review of scientific data on the global and regional prevalence of intimate partner violence and non-partner sexual violence. It shows, for the first time, aggregated global and regional prevalence estimates of these two forms of violence and also details the effects of violence on women's physical, sexual and reproductive, and mental health.

Intimate partner violence against women in the Americas: an infographic



This document summarizes a systematic review of national, population-based estimates of intimate partner violence against women and presents comparative estimates of such violence across 23 countries. It also documents changes in prevalence levels over time for 7 countries with 3+ rounds of data.

Violence against women in Latin America and the Caribbean: A comparative analysis of population-based data from 12 countries



Full report and summary

This report, produced by the PAHO, in collaboration with the CDC, highlights that intimate partner and sexual violence against women are widespread in Latin America and the Caribbean. The 122 tables and graphs present a comparative analysis of data from 13 nationally representative surveys from the region and illustrate prevalence, risk factors, consequences, and attitudes towards violence against women in these countries.

Violence against women and violence against children – The points of intersection



This document presents a review of the global evidence on the intersection between VAC and VAW, including: 1) VAC and VAW have many shared risk factors; 2) Social norms often support VAW and VAC and discourage help-seeking; 3) Child maltreatment and partner violence often co-occur within the same household; 4) Both VAC and VAW can produce intergenerational effects; 5) Many forms of VAC and VAW have common and compounding consequences across the lifespan; 6) VAC and VAW intersect during adolescence, a time of heightened vulnerability to certain kinds of violence.

Understanding and addressing violence against women



The information sheets in this series summarize what is known about various aspects of violence against women with the aim of facilitating access to high quality data and promoting evidence-based policy and programs.

Researching violence against women:

A practical guide for researchers and activists



This manual, produced in collaboration with PATH, outlines some of the methodological and ethical challenges of conducting research on violence against women and describes a range of innovative techniques that have been used to address these challenges.

WHO ethical and safety recommendations for researching, documenting and monitoring sexual violence in emergencies



The highly sensitive nature of sexual violence poses a unique set of challenges for any data gathering activity that touches on this issue. This document is designed to inform those involved in information collection on sexual violence in humanitarian settings, but it is also applicable to non-emergency contexts.

WHO ethical and safety recommendations for intervention research on violence against women (VAW)



This document provides crucial guidance on how to address questions of ethics and safety when conducting research on VAW. The recommendations address specific questions related to research on health-based interventions or that use health or health care as an entry point for preventing and responding to VAW. However, the guidance included in this tool may be relevant to researchers working on other kinds of VAW interventions.

SCAN THE CODE TO ACCESS ON YOUR DEVICE

www.paho.org/violence



Pan American
Health
Organization



World Health
Organization
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE Americas