

income Arab Gulf States, the under-5 injury mortality rate is 22.2 per 100,000, which is higher than any other high-income region in the world. Limited research is available on the burden and risk factors associated with child and adolescent injuries in this area of the world. This panel session aims to address this knowledge gap by sharing results from child-injury studies conducted in three high-income developing countries in the Arab Gulf.

Moderator Dr. Adnan A Hyder, Johns Hopkins International Injury Research Unit (JH-IIRU, USA)

- **Talk 1: Pattern of childhood injuries: Findings from hospital based injury surveillance system in Oman - Dr. Amber Mehmood**, Johns Hopkins International Injury Research Unit, USA
 - **Abstract:** Findings from a trauma registry implemented in two hospitals in the Sultanate of Oman. Results from the registry were used to characterise the burden of injuries among children and adolescents (<18 years). Recommended areas for action will be discussed.
- **Talk 2: Designing a successful intervention program to increase child restraint use in Qatar - Dr. Ruben Peralta/Dr. Rafael Consunji**, Hamad Medical Corporation, Qatar
 - **Abstract:** Considerations and lessons-learned from the development and roll-out of an intensive tutorial to increase child restraint use among parents in Doha, Qatar will be presented along with 5-year time-trends for child road traffic injury rates.
- **Using a burden of disease approach to quantify injuries among youth in the United Arab Emirates - Dr. Kate Allen**, Johns Hopkins International Injury Research Unit, USA
 - **Abstract:** A burden of disease analysis was conducted in the UAE using 2010 data from the Ministry of Health. Age, sex and nationality-specific rates of Years of Life Lost were calculated and used to identify priority areas for child injury prevention in the UAE. Discussion will focus on how such an analytical approach can be used to better understand the burden of injuries.
- **Discussant:** Dr. Olakunle Alonge, Johns Hopkins International Injury Research Unit, USA
- **Q&A - Dr. Adnan A Hyder**, Johns Hopkins International Injury Research Unit, USA

Intimate Partner Violence and Post Separation Stalking

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PROMOTING THE SAFETY OF THE VICTIM OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

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Background The MARAC (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences) is implemented in 22 cities in Finland. The goal of MARAC is to provide a forum for sharing information and taking actions to reduce harm to high-risk domestic violence victims. The MARAC model was first developed in Cardiff, in 2003, in response to lack of systematic risk assessment amongst agencies responding to domestic violence and the need for a forum for

local agencies to share information about victims experiencing extremely serious levels of abuse.

Methods The aim of this presentation is to evaluate in what extent these multi-agency meetings are able to reduce harm to high-risk victims and their children. The data consist of all the cases which have been referred to MARAC in Finland 1.10.2010–31.3.2014 (n = 259). Two forms of data were collected. Firstly, police files were pulled six months after the MARAC was held. Secondly the data was collected through support persons and by interviewing the victims about victims experiences of violence six-months after the MARAC was held.

Results Results showed that the MARAC method has successfully reduced the number of recurrent domestic violence reported to the police. The re-victimisation was reduced in more than 70 per cent of the cases, and no new reports of recurring violence were filed with the police during the six-month follow-up period. Victims themselves reported that even though the physical violence had stopped, almost 40 per cent of them still experienced various forms of stalking.

Conclusions The results showed that is also important to pay attention to the prevention of stalking while helping the high-risk domestic violence victims. Stalking was criminalised in the beginning of 2014. Besides the law, professionals in the social and health care services, law enforcement, and criminal justice need more knowledge and tools on stalking. MARAC also, is one useful method to help the victims of stalking.

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DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY, POST SEPARATION VIOLENCE AND STALKING

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Background Intimate partner stalking is the most common and the most dangerous form of persecution. VARJO-project (2012–2017) focuses on post separation violence and stalking. In most cases, persecution includes digital stalking

Description of the problem By the aid of digital technology, persecution has become even more intrusive. Controlling often starts already during the relationship; PINs and security numbers are known, or stalker has installed monitoring software to spouse's computer or mobile phone. When break up happens, the stalker has already tools for stalking. Digital stalking causes a remarkable fear and distress for the victim, but the use of digital technology in relation to partner violence is a serious problem to which people have awoken only in recent years. It is important that professionals and victims understand how technology works, why it puts them at risk and how they can decrease those risks.

Changes The VARJO-project has looked for partners among the IT-professionals. Cooperation enables the exchange of know-how. As a result of this, the VARJO-project has translated Jennifer Perry's guide and adapted it according the Finnish conditions: Digital stalking In relationship – How To Protect yourself, informed the local IT-experts about the phenomenon of stalking and has trained the workers of The Federation of Mother and Child Homes and Shelters. Security company Lokkit Ltd has trained the workers of Shelters and started cooperation with the National Institute of Health and Welfare.

Conclusions Local co-operation between intimate partner violence workers and IT-professionals enables more effective