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Dermatologists role in detecting Gender-Based violence

Abstract:

Gender-based violence (GBV) is a pervasive global health issue with profound physical and psychological repercussions for survivors.

Dermatology, as a medical specialty, plays a crucial role in recognizing and addressing child abuse cases and separating them from other similar-looking skin pathologies. Skin lesions can be the most visible sign of gender violence. Bruising, burns, lacerations, traumatic alopecia, or external genital injuries can be indicators of abuse, and can be easily identified by routine dermatologic examination. The lecture will begin by highlighting the prevalence and impact of abuse on individuals, particularly focusing on the association between abuse and dermatological manifestations. By attending this lecture, participants will gain valuable insights into the complex relationship between GBV and dermatology. They will acquire the skills and resources necessary to provide trauma-informed care, ultimately contributing to improved outcomes for GBV survivors. Keywords: abuse, gender-based violence, dermatology, multidisciplinary care, dermatological manifestations, trauma-informed care, interdisciplinary collaboration, research, policy changes, comprehensive care models.

Biography

Huda Alabdullah has completed her Master degree in Dermatology and Venerology at the age of 28 years from Aleppo University Hospital and postdoctoral studies from Aleppo University of Medicine. In addition to her work in dermatology, Huda is a dedicated GBV specialist. Her role with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in Sudan and Syria involved supporting the development and implementation of Standard Operating Procedures and referral pathways for all actors involved in GBV response. She played a crucial part in capacity building for health providers, training them on GBV minimum standards and clinical management of rape. Huda also provided case management training for GBV survivors and diligently followed up on their cases, ensuring they received the necessary support and care.