

Gender-based violence

31%

of women in the Eastern Mediterranean Region have experienced violence

Mental health consequences

- Survivors suffer from emotional problems in addition to the physical symptoms of violence.
- These effects can be immediate or emerge over time with immeasurable economic and social costs to survivors, their families and communities.

Health care providers are ideally placed to address these consequences and support survivors:

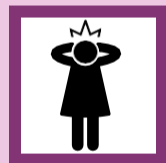
- Evidence shows that survivors of violence are more likely than other individuals to seek health services, even if they do not disclose the associated violence.
- Health services offer a culturally and socially appropriate entry point for survivors.
- The health sector is often women's first point of professional contact after they experience gender-based violence.

What are the consequences?



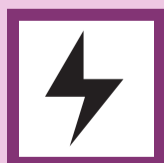
Anxiety, depression & post-traumatic stress disorder

Survivors are 2 times more likely to experience depression



Medically unexplained somatic complaints & grief

Unexplained chronic pain or conditions (pelvic pain or sexual problems, gastrointestinal problems, headaches).



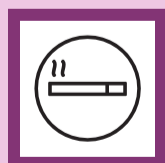
Forcibly displaced

Women who are forcibly displaced are at increased risk of physical and sexual violence



Compounded risk

Survivors are 4.5 times more likely to attempt suicide



Substance use disorder

Survivors are more likely to suffer from substance use disorders