Assessment and evaluation of signs and symptoms related to mental disorder among general population of Iraq and ISIS fighters

Darya R. Ahmed, Iraq

Abstract

Background and Objectives: Most of the population worldwide is suffering from mental illness due to one reason, or other but very limited data is available specifically in Iraq. Iraq has had long history of wars and terrorist activities during the last four decades. Limited research is carried out that focus specifically on mental health and its related subheadings to understand the trends of research in this field. Therefore, this systematic review aims to understand the connection between the studies in a special period on mental health and the areas that these papers cover in this field.

Methods: by using the protocol of PRISMA, 33 full-length English language articles were searched in the major databases, (PubMed, EMBASE and MEDLINE). With the help of specific keywords like "mental health in Iraq," "anxiety," "depression," "Iraq survey," "Psychosis," "postpartum," "prevalence of mental illness in Iraq," "Prevalence of Mental disorders in Iraq." 14 articles were finally selected for further data extraction.

Result: findings revealed a wide coverage of different factors like violence, war, individual with diabetes, stress environment, infertile women, parents of children with cancer, and old aged are responsible for the mental health problems. Topics such as child and adolescent mental health include hospital-based studies on psychiatric problems of children, community-based investigation on the mental health of a different group of minorities, the prevalence rate among different age groups child and adolescent population, and studies on prevention and intervention strategies for boosting mental health care in the area should be considered for further detail investigation.

Conclusion: This systematic review indicated that research in the mental health field needs to be reconsidered regarding the priorities and focuses according to the need of country. Though major factors have been identified but there is an uneven distribution of the present mental health situation and published studies.

#	Authors	Year	Sample	Disease	the prevalence
1	Jasim & Zainab	2015	infertile women	depression	68.90%
2	Riyadh, Saba, Waleed & Ameel	2016	Junior Doctors	depression and anxiety	45.5% & 50.8%
3	Abbas & Mansour	2007	diabetes	depression	43.30%
4	Al-Shawi, Lafta, Al-Youzbaki & Khalil	2019	children	depression	49%
5	Shukrya, Jasim, Akeel & Sabah	2016	parents of children with cancer	depression	70.50%
6	Ahmed, Faris, Riyadh & Yousef	2017	elderly (residing in nursing homes (NHs) and those living with their families (WF)	Mental disorders (depression, anxiety and amnesia)	depression (35.4% vs 16.6%), anxiety (32.6% vs 9.9%), dementia (19.3% vs 5%),
7	Hawkar, Verena, Claudia, Azad & Frank	2018	Yazidi survivors	Trauma and depression	high levels of PTSD and depression
8	Eman	2017	IDPs	PTSD	67.00%
9	Ameel, Nesif, Jawad & Diar	2011	university students	PTSD	22.90%
10	Ameel	2018	IDPs	PTSD	20.80%
11	Hadi	2015	Medical Students	Anxiety	47.90%
12	Ameel, Abdulrahman, Mohammad, Russul & Mohammad	2018	university students	stress	77.50%
13	Asma & Shatha	2007	children 1 - 15 years	childhood mental disorders	37.40%
14	Maha & Lava	2012	case study/ adolescents	Anorexia nervosa	1%

Table 1: Ratio the prevalence of mental disorders



Biography

My name is Draya, I'm 28 from Kurdistan region of Iraq. I have B.Sc. in clinical psychology with a top graduate award. I worked with several local and international agencies and NGOs. Currently I'm mental health consultant with Americares, clinical provider with ComPsych and assistant lecture at Koya university. Moreover, I conducted and developed many tools and research all of them under review currently, Also I served as reviewer in some international peer0reviewed journals such as Global Psychiatric and UKH social science journals.

Email: darya.144415@gmail.com