

# Assessing the Nepalese health system's readiness to manage gender-based violence and deliver psychosocial counselling

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## Objective

Evaluate the readiness of public health facilities in Nepal to manage violence against women and offer psychosocial counselling to survivors.

## Methods

Design: Concurrent triangulation design

Study sites: 11 hospitals and 17 primary health care centres from Madhesh province, Nepal

Data collection and tool: Qualitative and quantitative interviews conducted among 46 health care providers using the WHO tool for policy readiness and the PREMIS.

Data analysis: Descriptive and content analysis was performed.

## Key messages

- Limited evidence on readiness of public health facilities in LMICs like Nepal to support women facing gender-based violence.

- Health facilities without one stop crisis management centres (OCMCs) were unprepared to support violence survivors, and even those with OCMCs lack the resources for optimal care.

- Health care providers were motivated to offer psychosocial counselling to women facing violence but lacked sufficient knowledge about mental health.

- Strengthening public health facilities and training health care providers is crucial for identifying and managing women experiencing violence with appropriate treatment and psychosocial counselling.



Full article available at: <https://academic.oup.com/heapol/article/39/2/198/7595865>