

OP31.6

Mobile APP against gender-based violence: an innovative instrument for health professionals

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Background: Gender-Based Violence (GBV) is considered to be a major public health issue. In 2014 alone, there was a total of 54 victims, this being just the tip of the iceberg. 55% of GPs declare that they have received proper training for dealing with GBV cases, while, 49,3%, admit that there is a relevant shortage of resources for assisting victims.

Objective: the development of the Mobile APP “Action against Gender-Based Violence” aims to:

- a. create a mobile application able to integrate the protocols that have to be followed to assist the victim of violence;
- b. improve resource accessibility for health professionals;
- c. test the App usability among GPs.

Method: the achievement of the aforementioned goals requires a systematic review of the updated protocols used in Andalusia for GBV cases. The development of the beta version will be entrusted to an IT Team that, apart from making it available in the “App Store“ and ”Android market”, will include useful instruments for health professionals. Furthermore, once the beta version has been completed, a seminary will be organized in order to test its usability among GPs and integrate possible improvements.

Results: the creation of this application brought an improvement to the battle against GBV. In this sense, health professionals have been able to offer better service to victims of violence. Thanks to this App, access to resources needed resulted faster and easier.

Conclusion: this new instrument is highly recommended in primary care centres since, on the one hand, it guarantees the coordination of social and sanitary activities, while on the other, it allows better management of the health service and, above all, it improves the GPs’ approach to combating gender-based violence.