



Improving the primary health care response to violence against women in São Paulo

A mixed methods study



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Aim

To develop and test a culturally appropriate intervention, aligned with local health policies, to improve the disclosure, first-line support and referral of women who experienced or are experiencing violence, in sexual and reproductive care in PHC facilities

Objectives

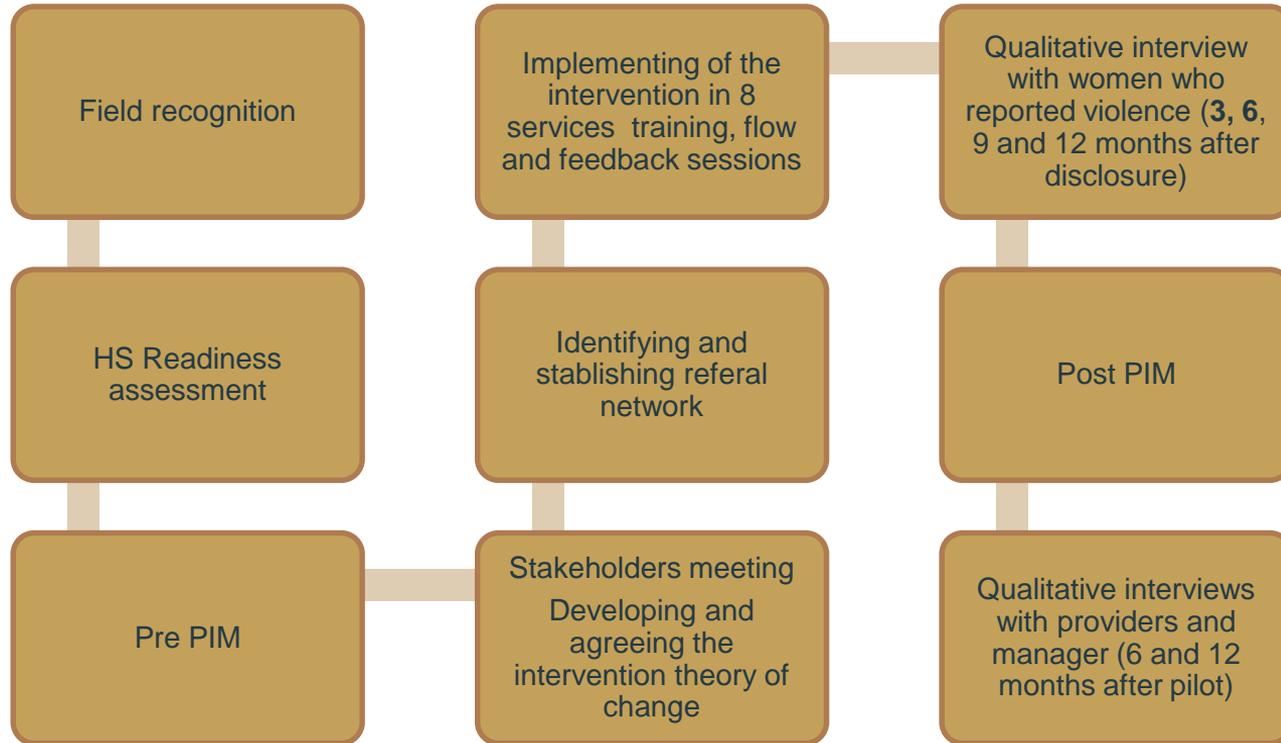
To develop and implement an intervention in 8 primary health care facilities and evaluate:

- changes in the identification of domestic violence, first-line support and referral of such cases by health care providers;
- changes in sexual and reproductive health and occurrence of violence experienced by women who disclosed VAW at those facilities.

Specific objectives

1. To evaluate the health system readiness assessment of the PHC facilities to adopt the intervention
2. To conduct qualitative interviews with patients and providers to inform the development of an intervention previously tested (HERA 1)
3. To pilot the intervention in 8 primary health care facilities
4. To conduct a longitudinal qualitative study of women who disclose domestic violence to understand their experience of changes in sexual and reproductive health, use of services and further experience of violence.
5. To understand the changes in beliefs and actions of health care providers who receive training on violence against women regarding identification, appropriate response and referral of cases.

Study design: a mixed methods study



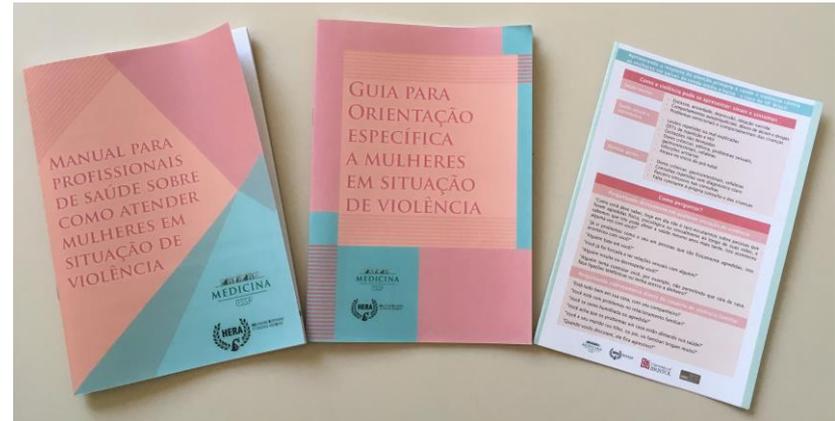
Intervention: training, flow and feed back sessions

1) Training of the NPV in LIVES (first-line support WHO) and referral to specialized VAW services – 8 hours

2) Training of all health care providers on how to ask, respond and refer the women experiencing violence to the NPV, making the flow clear (one sessions of 3 hours)

3) Distribution of educational material to the HCP on violence against women and health – how to identify and respond

4) Monthly feedback sessions in each health unit to NPV and to the whole staff



Outcomes

- ❖ Changes in beliefs and attitudes of HCP to VAW as a health issue and their confidence and comfort in responding to cases of domestic violence: pre and post PIM, qualitative interviews and the content of feedback meetings will be analysed
- ❖ Changes in the detection of VAW (specifically domestic violence): number of cases reported to epidemiological surveillance pre- and post intervention in each health unit, number of cases referred to NPV and to inter sectorial network pre- and post-intervention
- ❖ Changes in women's lives: qualitative interviews and a short questionnaire will be done in a longitudinal study at the time of the disclosure and every three months over a year with all women who disclosed during the intervention period and consented to participate. We will look at experiences of violence, use of the services and sexual and reproductive and mental health (occurrence of condom use, contraceptive use, STIs, unwanted/unplanned pregnancy, vaginal discharge, depression, anxiety, use of medication)



Thank you!

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