

Alcohol, Violence Against Women and Girls and Mental Health: Pooled analyses from Low-middle Income Settings

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Introduction

- Harmful alcohol use and poor mental health increasingly recognized as **drivers** and **consequences** of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)
- In some populations in low middle income settings, up to 60% of women experience IPV.
- Harmful alcohol use recognized driver of VAWG, but importance has been contested, and most research emerges from global North.
- Similarly, poor mental health recognized as both a driver and outcome of VAWG.
- Evidence of a bidirectional relationship between alcohol and VAWG and poor mental health and VAWG.

Research Questions

- Two sets of analyses sought to establish the association between alcohol and poor mental health and VAWG perpetration and experience, respectively.
 - To understand the intersections between alcohol use and violence perpetration and experience in four LMIC in Africa
 - To understand the intersections between poor mental health (depression and PTSD) and violence perpetration and experience in LMIC in Africa and Middle East
- To illustrate the impact of violence prevention interventions on Alcohol, VAWG & Mental Health



Methods

- Pooled analysis of cross-sectional baseline data
 - **Alcohol** : 8104 men and 5613 women 18+ years old
 - Comparable measures of alcohol use (past year alcohol use and AUDIT)
 - Physical and sexual IPV & NPSV (WHO)
- **Mental Health** :
 - 7021 men and 4,525 women 18+ years old
 - Comparable measures of mental health (depression and PTSD)
 - Physical and sexual IPV & NPSV (WHO)

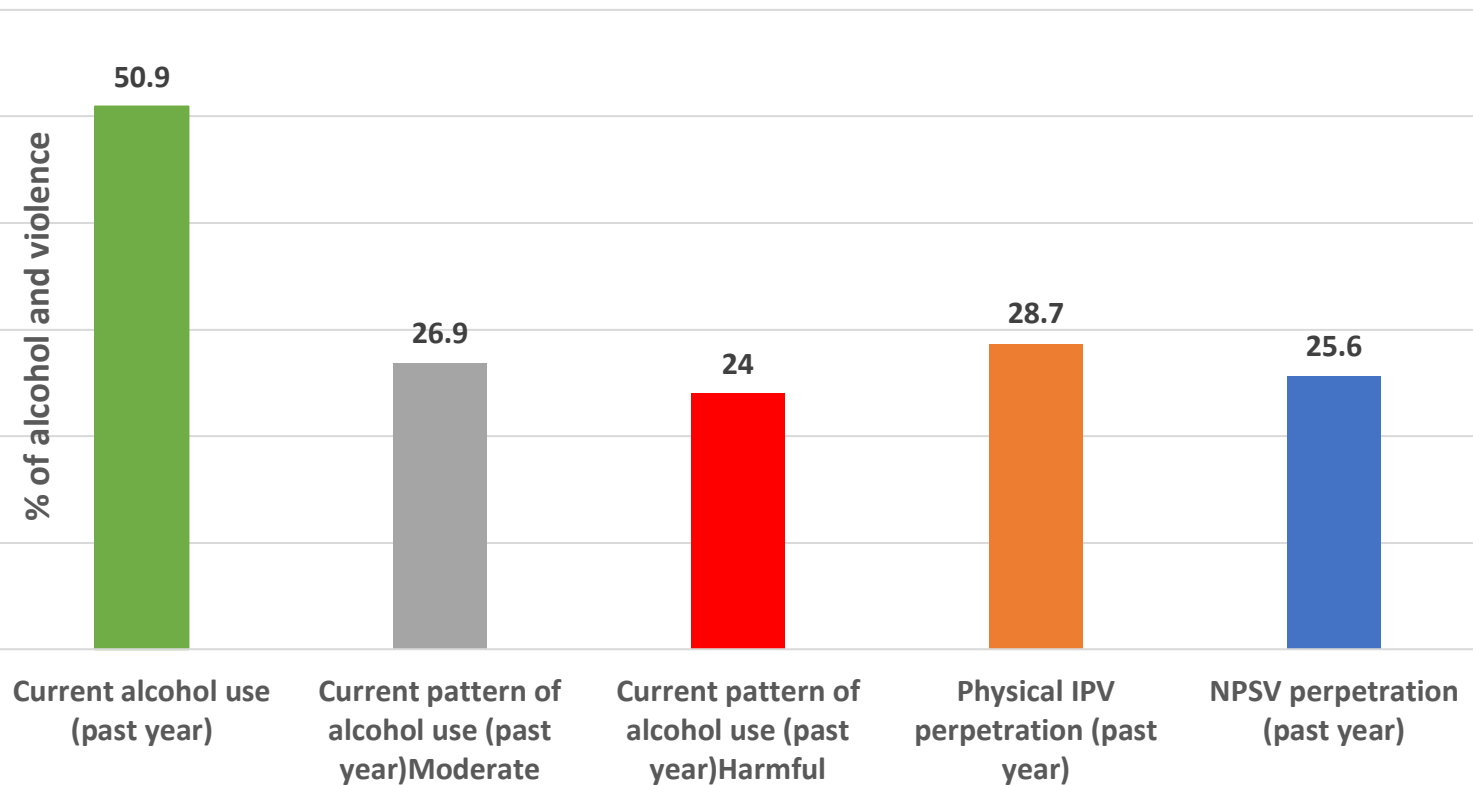


Main outcomes:

- Physical and non-partner sexual violence perpetration (men)
- Physical and non-partner sexual violence experience (women)

Men's Alcohol & IPV & NPSV Perpetration

Men's alcohol use, IPV and NPSV perpetration (%)

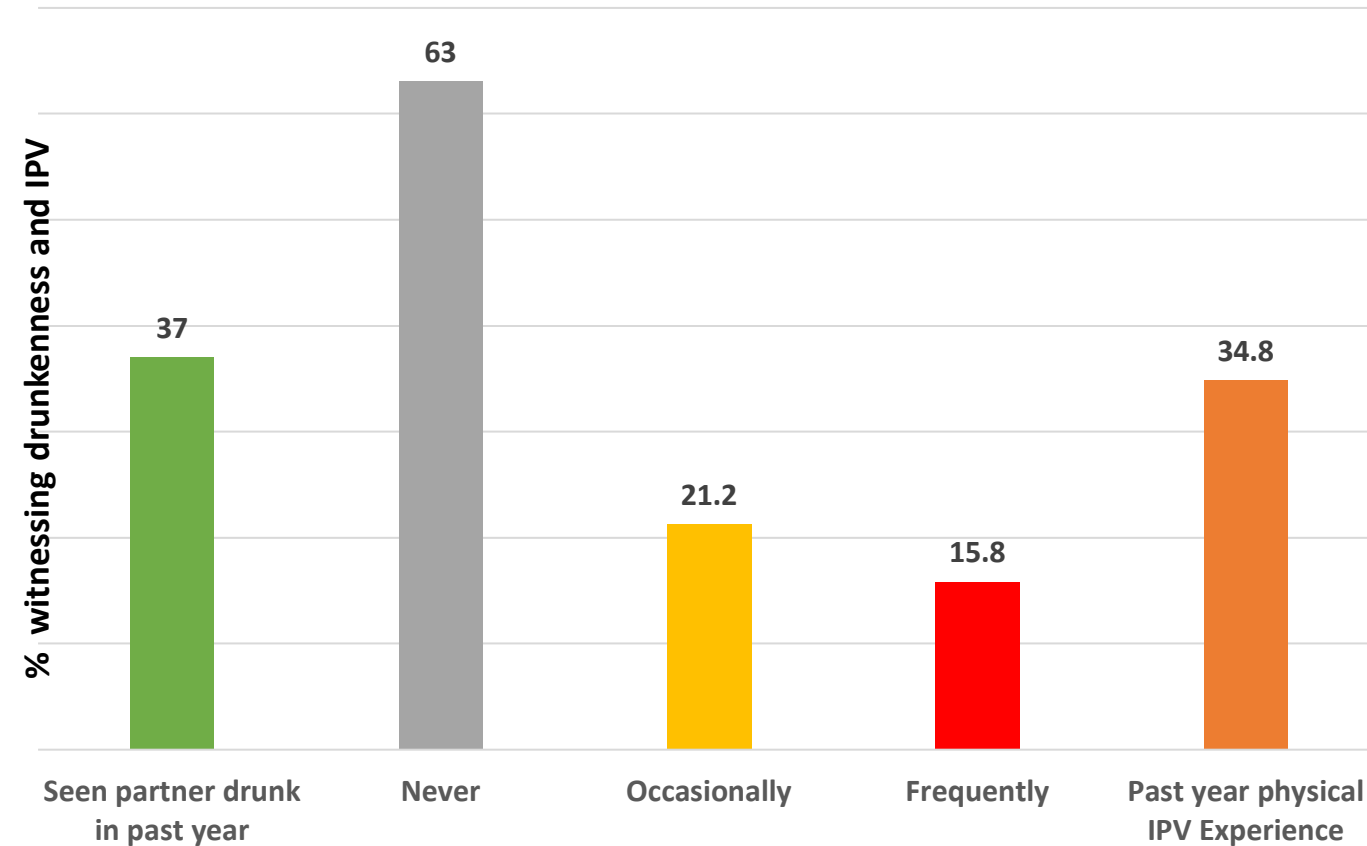


- Among the 8104 men 51% consumed alcohol in the past year
- Range: 37% to 69%
- 24% of men reported past year harmful alcohol use was 24% range: 11%–44%
- Almost 1/3 of men (29%) perpetrated IPV
- 25% perpetrated NPSV



Women's Witnessing of Partner Drunkenness & IPV

Women's reports of partner drunkenness & IPV (%)

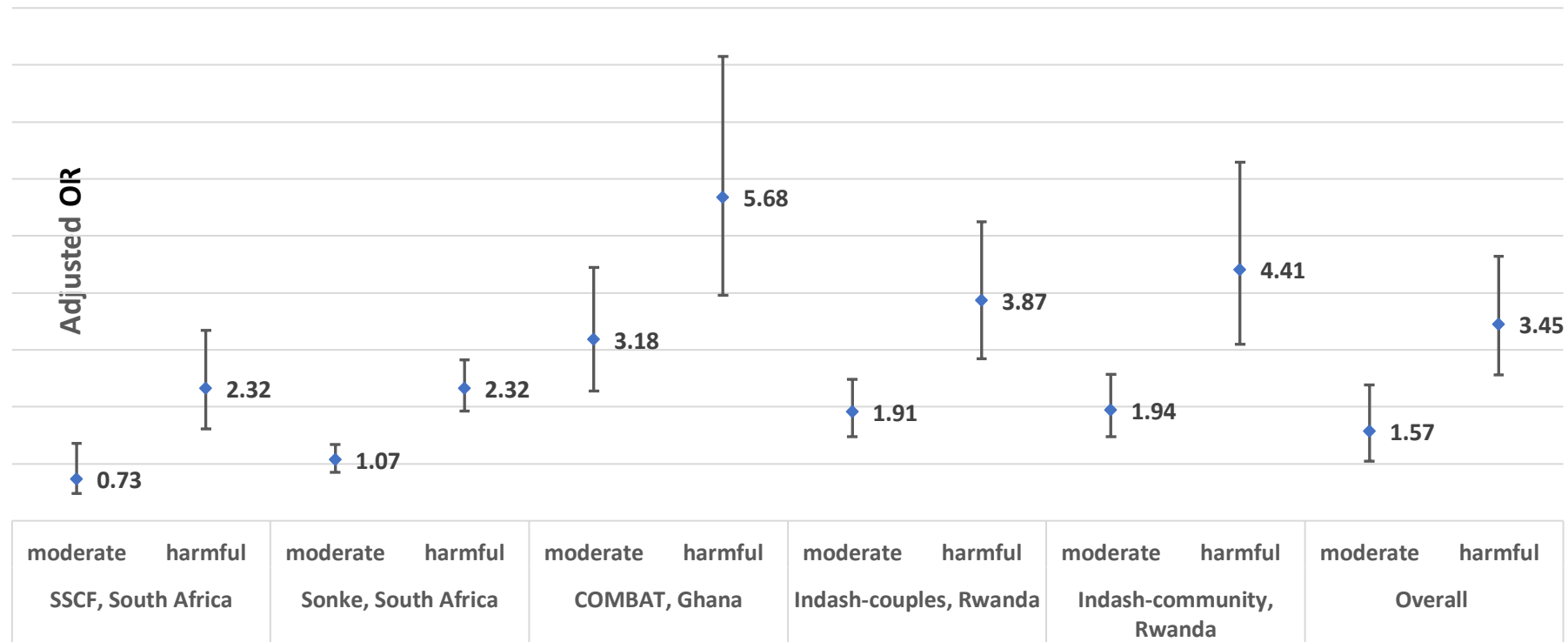


- Among the 5163 women, 37% reported having seen their partner drunk in the past
- Range: 14%-53%
- 16% reported seeing their partner frequently drunk in the past year
- Range: 8%–23%
- 35% of women reported experiencing IPV in the past year



Men's Alcohol Use & Odds of IPV Perpetration

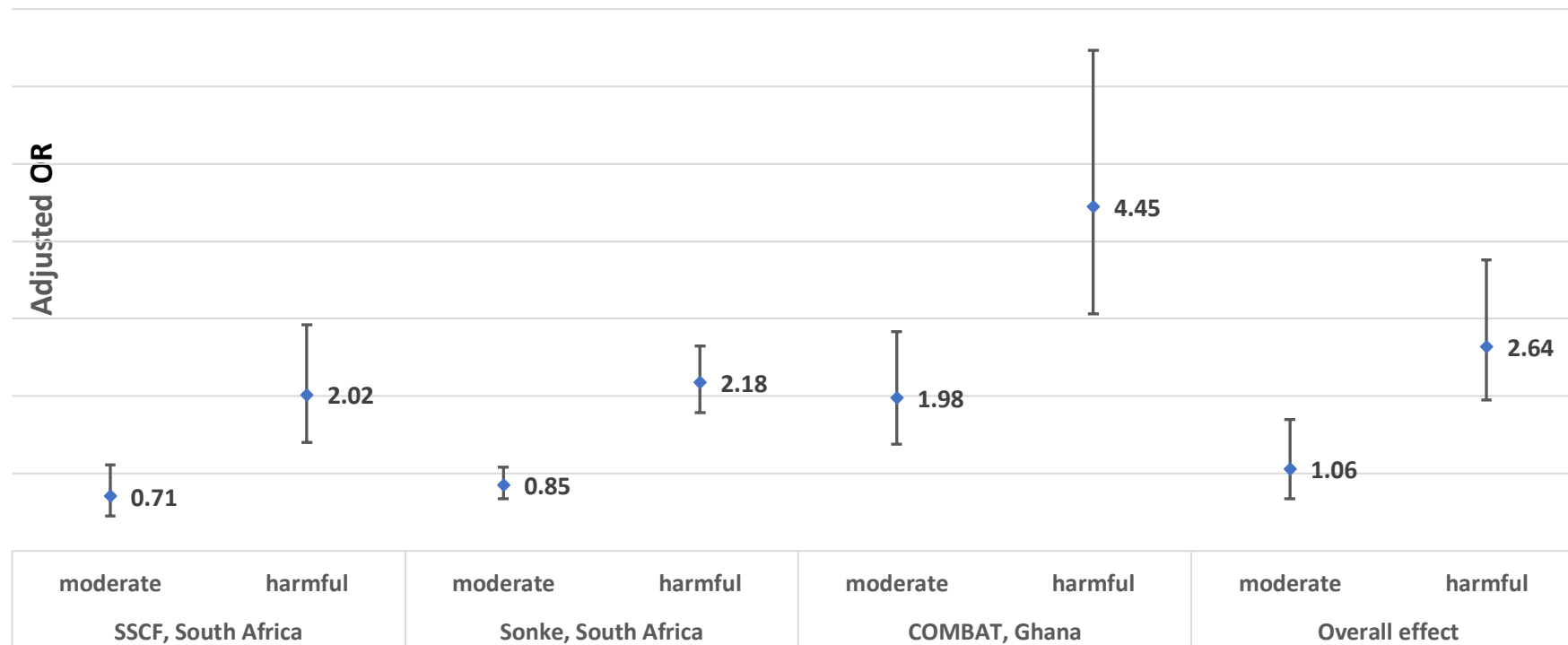
Men: Patterns of alcohol use odds of perpetrating IPV



- Consistent associations between harmful alcohol use in the past year and past year physical IPV across all individual studies, and in the pooled analysis

Men's Alcohol Use & Odds of NPSV Perpetration

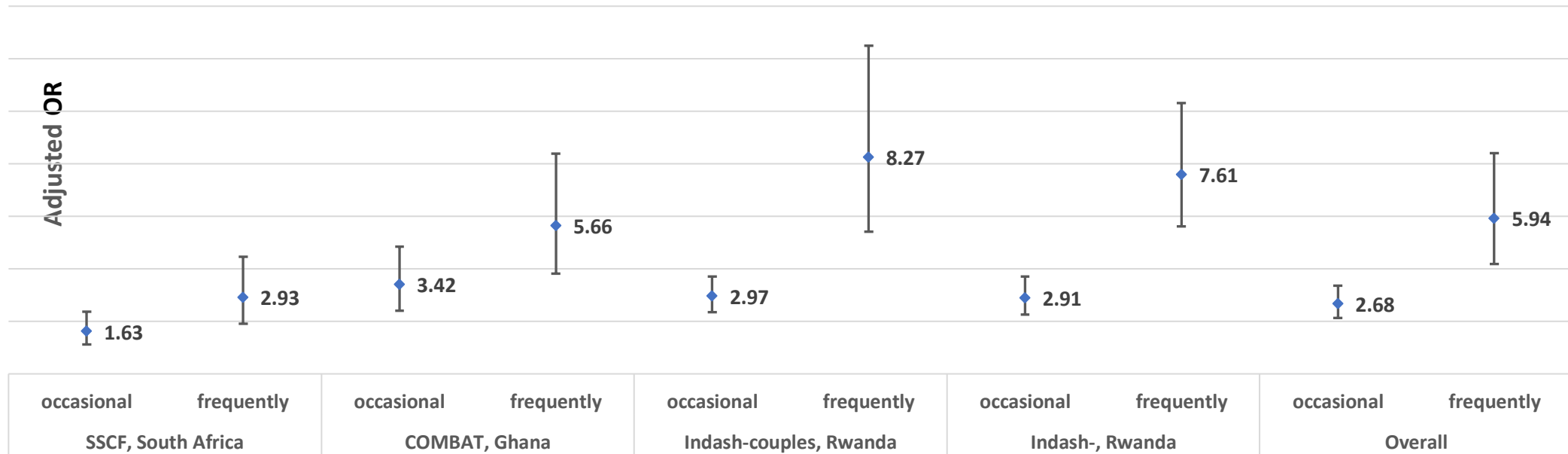
Men: Patterns of alcohol use odds of perpetrating NPSV



- Consistent associations between harmful alcohol use in the past year and past year Non-Partner Sexual Violence IPV across all individual studies, and in the pooled analysis

Women's Reports of Partner and Alcohol Use & Odds of Violence Experience

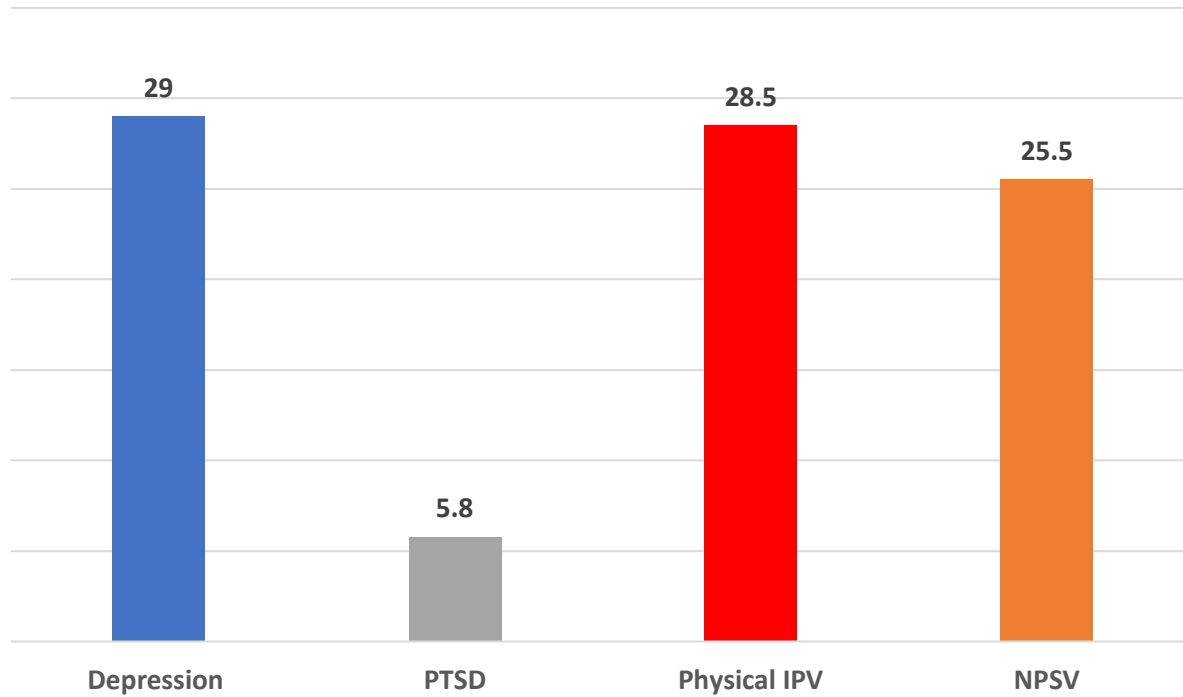
Women's reports of partner alcohol use
& odds of experiencing IPV



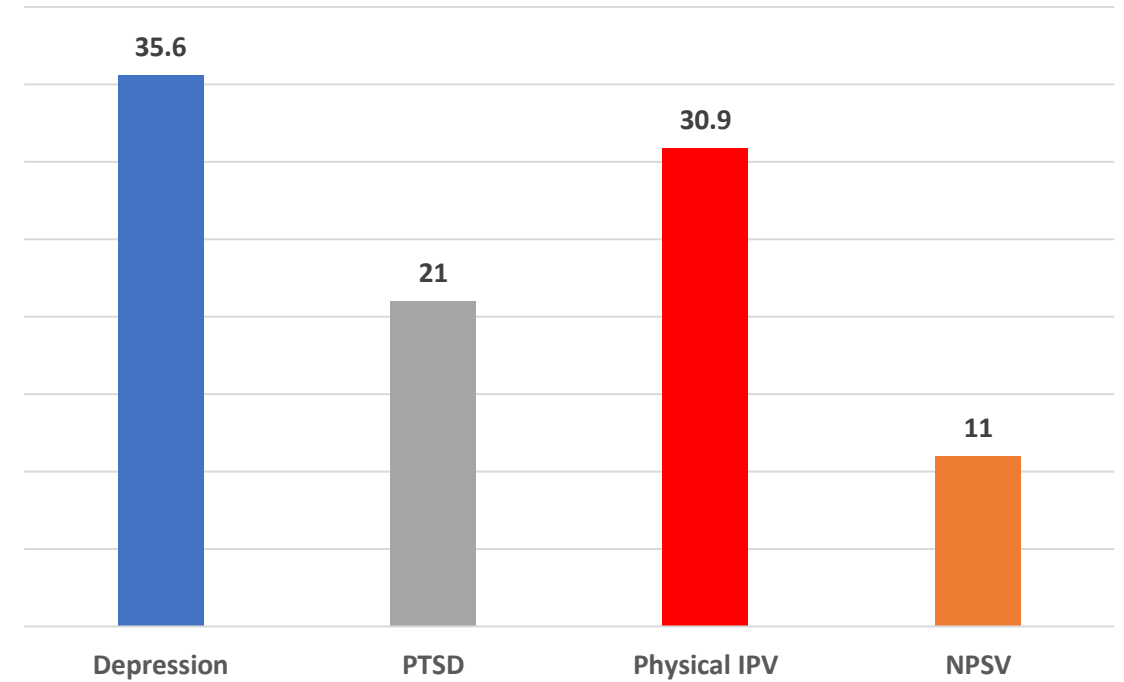
- Consistent associations between women's reports of partner alcohol use and IPV experience
- Women who had seen their partner occasionally drunk or frequently drunk in the past 12 months had an overall increased odds of experiencing physical IPV

Prevalence of Depression, PTSD Physical IPV and NPSV perpetration among men & experience among women

Men's depression, PTSD & IPV-NPSV perpetration (%)



Women's Depression, PTSD & VAWG experience (%)

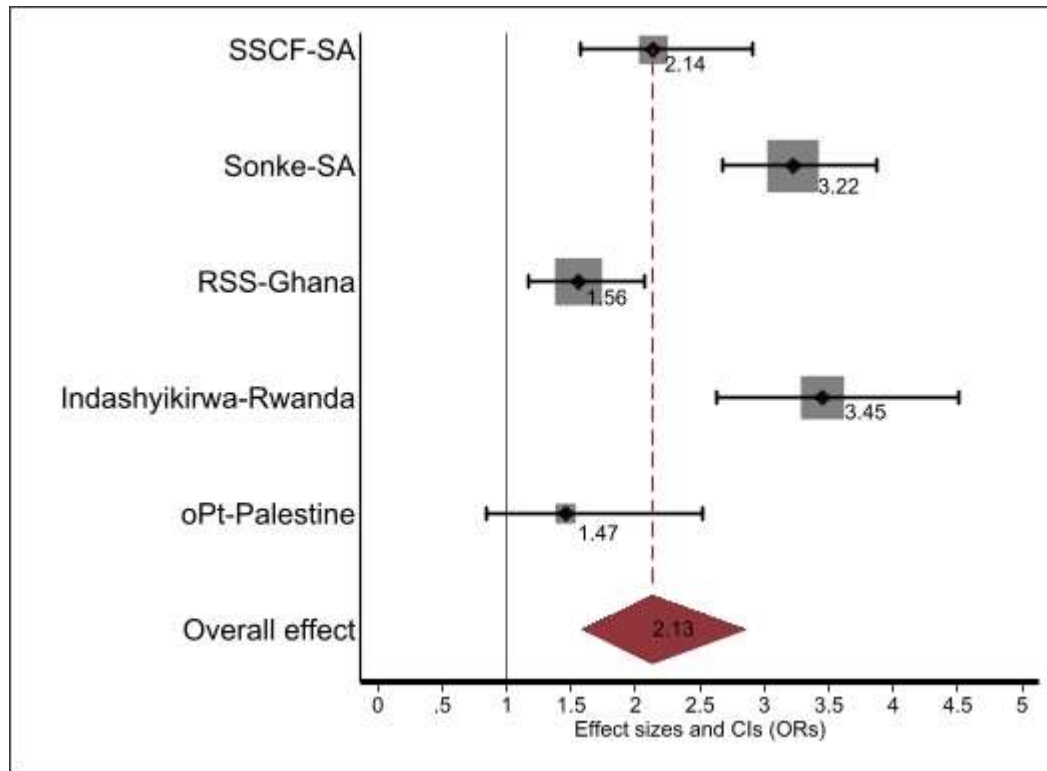


- Overall, 29% of men reported depressive symptoms (range: 18% to 46%),
- Six percent (6%) reported PTSD (range: 5-14.2%)
- 29% reported perpetrating PTSD
- 25% reported perpetrating NPSV

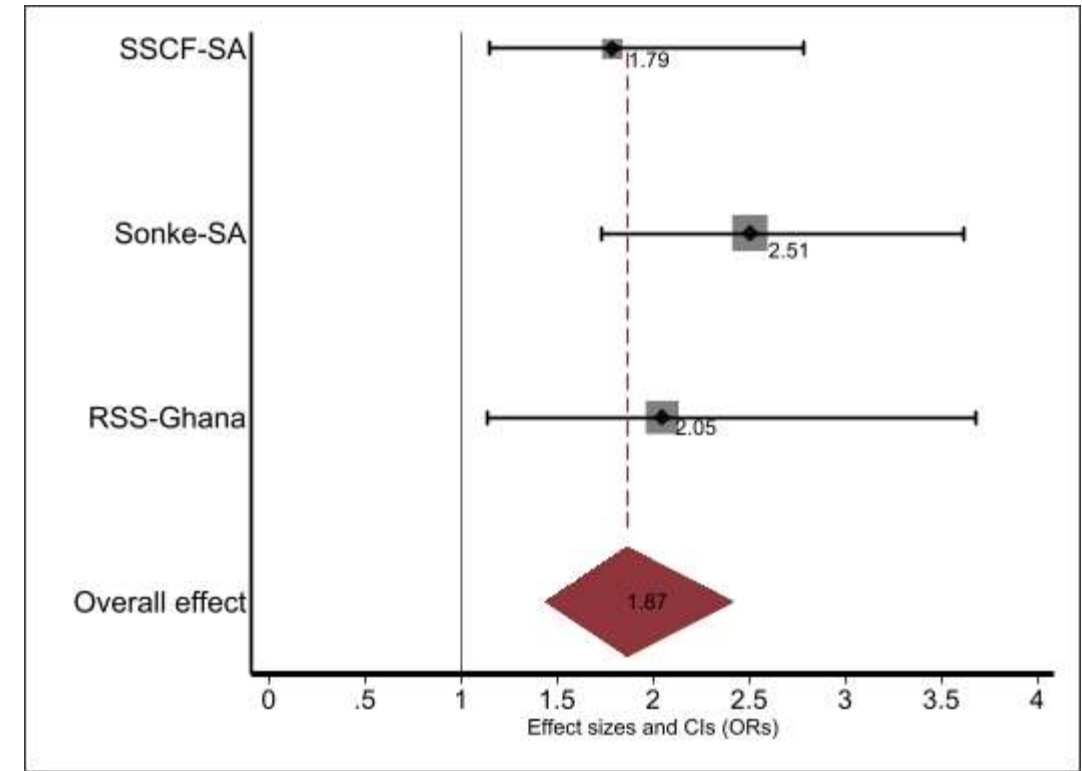
- Overall, 35.6% of women reported depressive symptoms (range: 25.8% to 45.2%)
- 21% reported PTSD (range: 5-14.2%)
- 30.9% reported experiencing IPV (range: 15.5% to 59.5%)
- 11% reported experiencing NPSV (range: 2.8% to 33.7%)

Men's Depression & PTSD & Odds perpetrating IPV

Men's depression and IPV perpetration



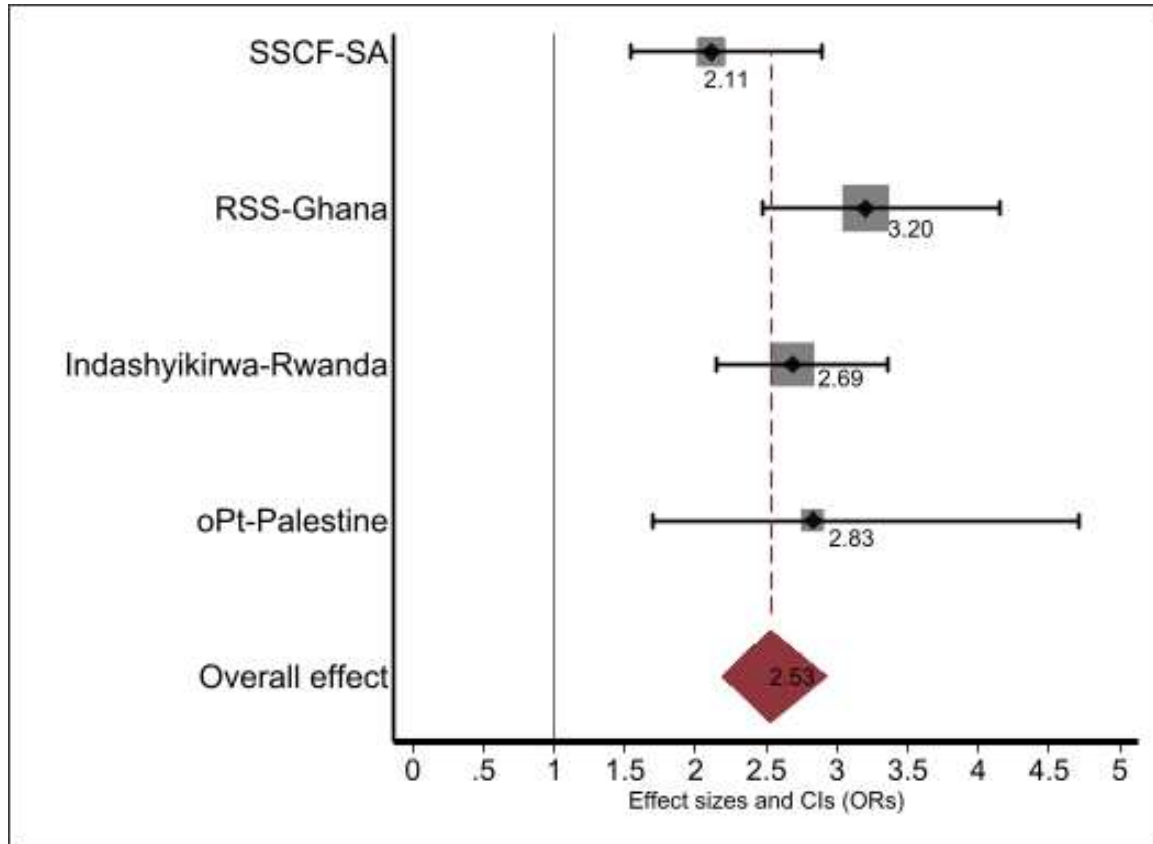
Men's PTSD and IPV perpetration



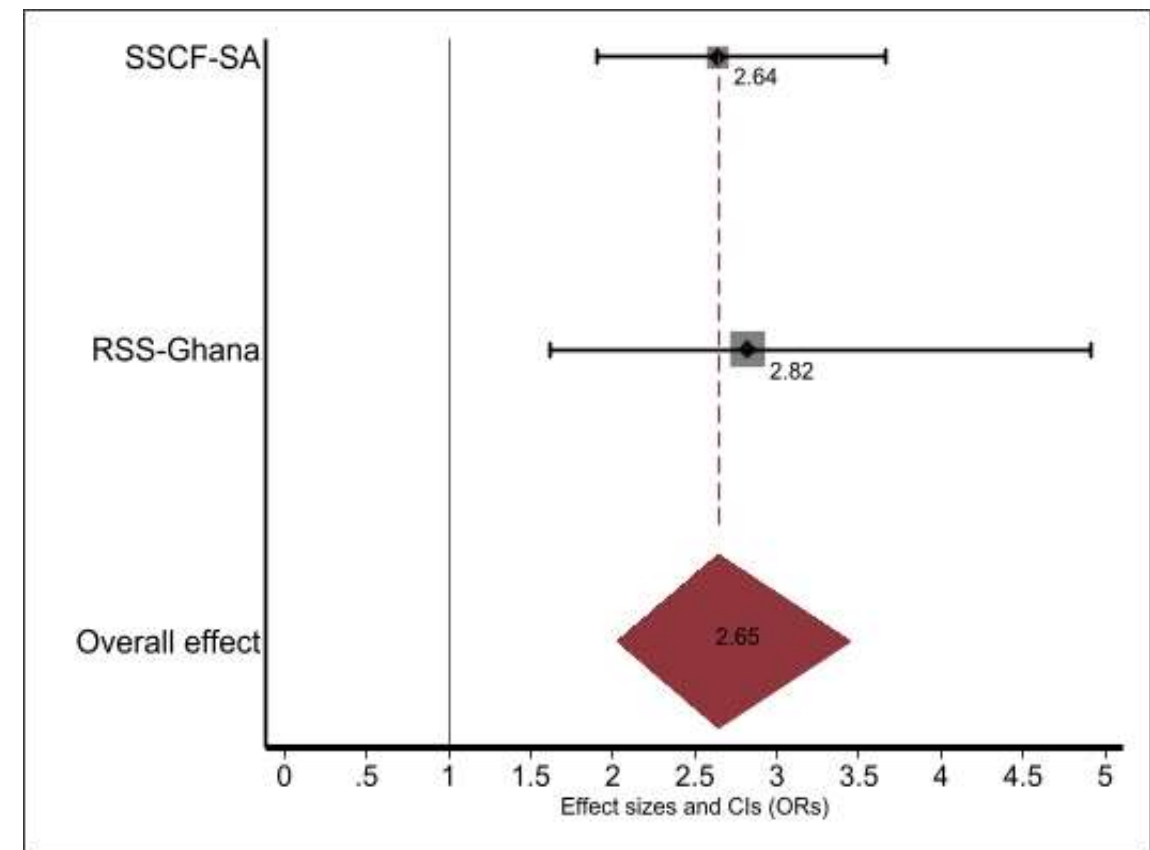
- Across all studies, men who had experienced depression had an increased odds of perpetrating IPV
- Similarly, men who had experienced PTSD had an increased odds of perpetrating IPV across all studies

Women: Association between IPV & NPSV Experience & Depression

Women's IPV experience
& odds of depression



Women's NPSV experience
& odds of depression

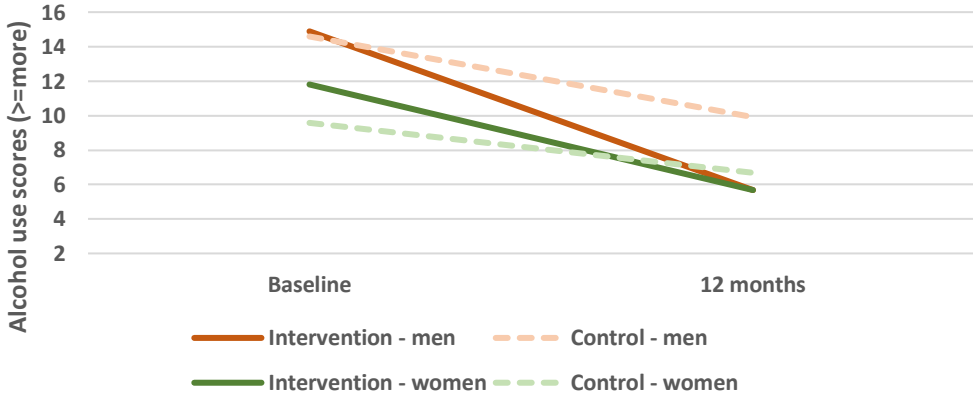


- Across all studies, women who had experienced physical IPV had an increased odds of experiencing depression.
- Similarly, women who had experienced NPSV had an increased odds of experiencing depression.

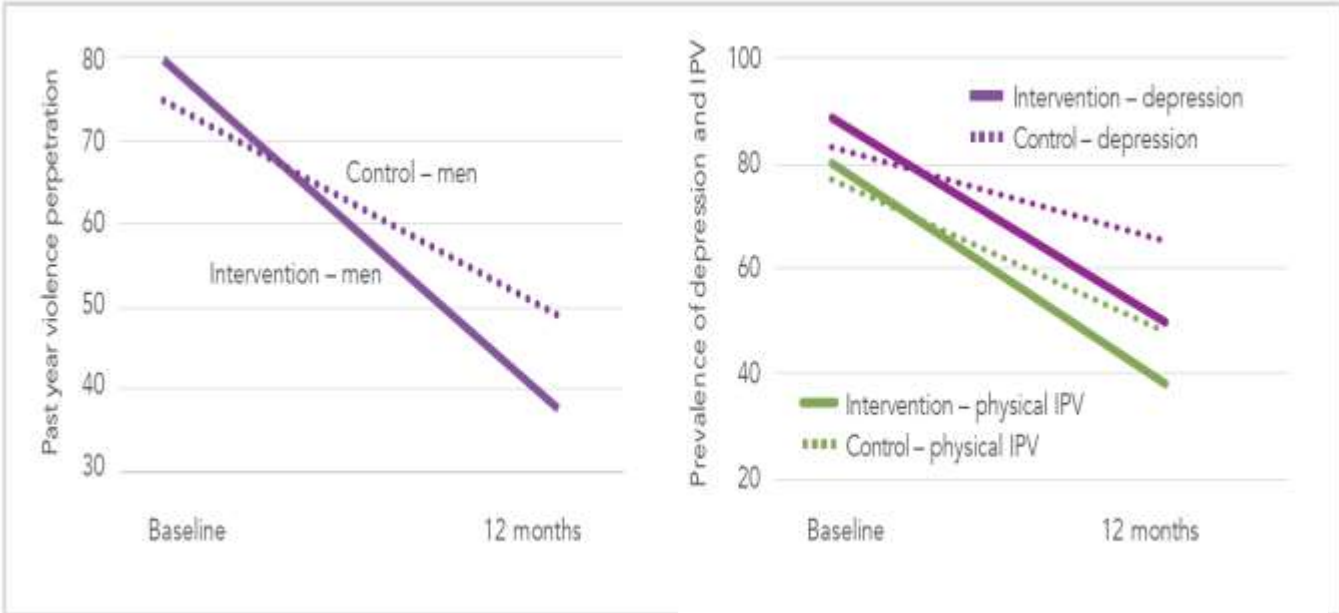
Intervention Impacts on Alcohol, VAWG & Mental Health

VATU, Zambia

Alcohol use for women and men by arm in the VATU trial

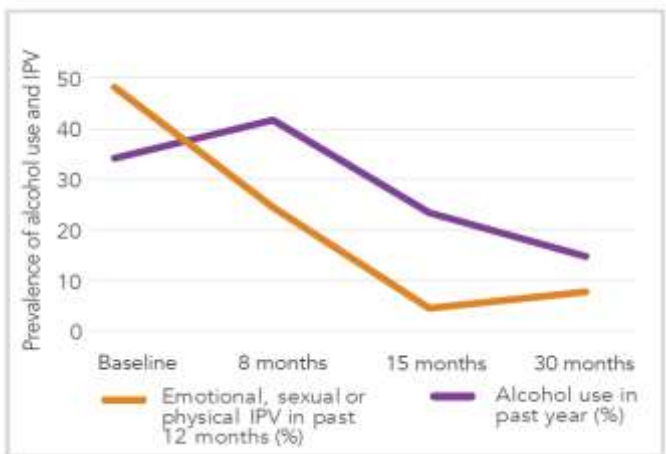
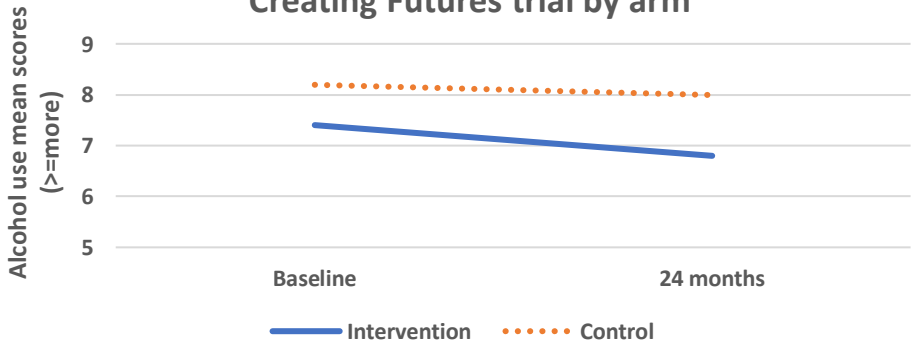


Zindagii Tajikistan



SSCF, South Africa

Alcohol use by men in the Stepping Stones and Creating Futures trial by arm



Discussion

- Both alcohol and men's poor mental health (depression and PTSD) associated with increased IPV and NPSV perpetration among men, and experience for women
- IPV & NPSV increase as alcohol intake increases
- Interventions aimed at reducing alcohol may lead to reductions in IPV & NPSV perpetration and experience.
- Women's experiences of IPV associated with depression.
- Interventions aimed at preventing IPV and NPSV perpetration must take account of men's mental health
- Women experiencing IPV and NPSV must be screened and treated for poor mental health symptoms



THANK YOU

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