



A screening tool for GBV among internally displaced populations: improving access to GBV services and HIV testing and care in Colombia

Bangkok, Thailand 2013

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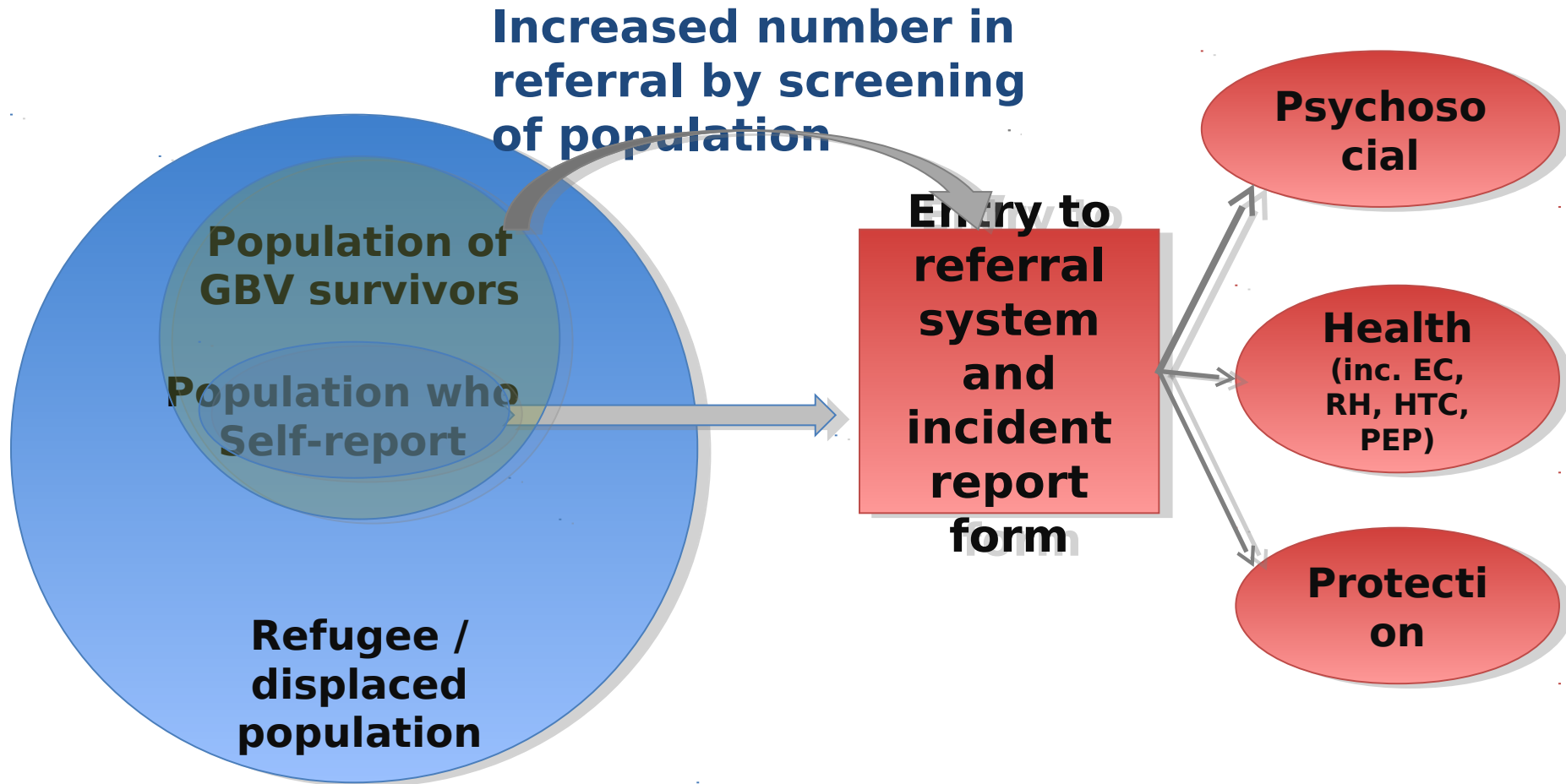
D Cuspoca, S Singh, L Rubenstein, A Vu

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GBV among displaced populations

- **Ongoing conflict in Colombia**, since 1960's
→ 5.7 mil IDPs
- **UN Definition of GBV**: “any harmful act that is perpetrated against a person’s will, and that is based on socially ascribed (gender) differences between males and female”
 - Includes acts of sexual coercion, sexual physical, psychological, and reproductive violence including forced pregnancy, sterilization, abortion
- IPV well-documented in Colombian population and LAC
- IDPs particularly vulnerable to GBV due to family disruption, loss of protective structures, slow response by justice system
 - May be perpetrated across different periods of

Screening tool and the referral pathway



Objectives of the Tool

- Collaboration with UNHCR & Ministry of Social Protection to develop screening for Colombian IDPs
- **Primary:** Routine, confidential use of a screening tool to identify unreported GBV and offer referral to GBV services
- **Secondary:** to increase awareness of GBV and GBV-specific services
 - Routine discussion can begin to change norms

Phases of Research

1. Formative:

Guaviare &
Quibdo

2. Validation:

Guaviare

3. Generalizability:

Mocoa



Development – Formative Research

- San Jose de Guaviare and Quibdo, June 2012
 - Qualitative interviews with 25 survivors who had/were receiving services
 - 6 focus groups discussions and 4 interviews with service providers (n=31 participants)
- To determine breadth of violence
- Acceptability of screening, types of questions to ask, appropriate wording
- Understand barriers to reporting
- Assess needs of service providers to identify GBV

Formative Research:

Results from Quibdo and San Jose de Guaviare

- Participants revealed **multiple and diverse GBV** and contexts
- **Emerging themes:**
 - ***In conflict-affected area***: threats of violence, forced labor, early marriage / child kidnapping or coercion, rape, physical violence, sexual humiliation; typically perpetrated by armed groups
 - ***In host community***: physical violence, sexual violence, kidnapping/drugging for rape perpetration; typically strangers
 - ***Across settings***: physical violence, forced sex, forced pregnancy, forced abortion, isolation, threats of violence, trafficking; inter-generational violence; typically family members, partners,
- **Barriers to reporting/services**: low awareness of services; little trust/confidence in services; delay between institutions

Draft tool

- Adapted current tool from formative, qualitative research
- Brief set of direct questions about recent GBV
- Begins with information about GBV and consent

1. Threats of violence
2. Physical violence
3. Rape /sexual violence
4. Sexual coercion
5. Forced pregnancy
6. Forced abortion
7. Forced marriage

Preguntas:	a. Si sí, quien es/fue/fueron los autores o la persona que cometió la violencia? (Marque todas las que se apliquen)	b. Si sí, dónde ocurre/ocurrió la violencia? (Marque todas las que se apliquen)
<p>1.2 Durante los últimos 12 meses ha sido usted golpeada, apuñeteada, pateada, abofeteada, asfixiada, herida con un arma o de alguna otra forma, herida físicamente por alguien en su casa o fuera de ella?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1. Si <input type="checkbox"/> 2. No <input type="checkbox"/> 77= Se negó a contestar <input type="checkbox"/> 99= No sabe</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> 1. Esposo/ex-esposo <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Pareja/ex-pareja <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Miembro de la familia <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Líder de comunidad <input type="checkbox"/> 5. Religioso <input type="checkbox"/> 6. Trabajador de ONU/ONG <input type="checkbox"/> 7. Alguien de su vecindario <input type="checkbox"/> 8. Alguien fuera de su vecindario <input type="checkbox"/> 9. Policía <input type="checkbox"/> 10. Actor armado <input type="checkbox"/> 11. Profesor <input type="checkbox"/> 12. Funcionario del gobierno <input type="checkbox"/> 13. Miembro del ejército <input type="checkbox"/> 14. Otro → _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 77= Se negó a contestar <input type="checkbox"/> 99= No sabe</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> 1. Casa donde vive actualmente <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Su actual vecindario <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Fuera de su actual vecindario <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Cuando estaba en tránsito a su ubicación actual <input type="checkbox"/> 5. Escuela <input type="checkbox"/> 6. Lugar de trabajo <input type="checkbox"/> 7. Otro → _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 77= Se negó a contestar <input type="checkbox"/> 99= No sabe</p>
<p>1.3 Durante los 12 últimos meses, ha sido forzada a tener relaciones sexuales contra su voluntad?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1. Si <input type="checkbox"/> 2. No <input type="checkbox"/> 77= Se negó a contestar <input type="checkbox"/> 99= No sabe</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> 1. Esposo/ex-esposo <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Pareja/ex-pareja <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Miembro de la familia <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Líder de comunidad <input type="checkbox"/> 5. Religioso <input type="checkbox"/> 6. Trabajador de ONU/ONG <input type="checkbox"/> 7. Alguien de su vecindario <input type="checkbox"/> 8. Alguien fuera de su vecindario <input type="checkbox"/> 9. Policía <input type="checkbox"/> 10. Actor armado <input type="checkbox"/> 11. Profesor <input type="checkbox"/> 12. Funcionario del gobierno <input type="checkbox"/> 13. Miembro del ejército <input type="checkbox"/> 14. Otro → _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 77= Se negó a contestar <input type="checkbox"/> 99= No sabe</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> 1. Casa donde vive actualmente <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Su actual vecindario <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Fuera de su actual vecindario <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Cuando estaba en tránsito a su ubicación actual <input type="checkbox"/> 5. Escuela <input type="checkbox"/> 6. Lugar de trabajo <input type="checkbox"/> 7. Otro → _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 77= Se negó a contestar <input type="checkbox"/> 99= No sabe</p>

- Perpetrator and locations
- Supplementary: History of reporting, History of service

Validation Phase

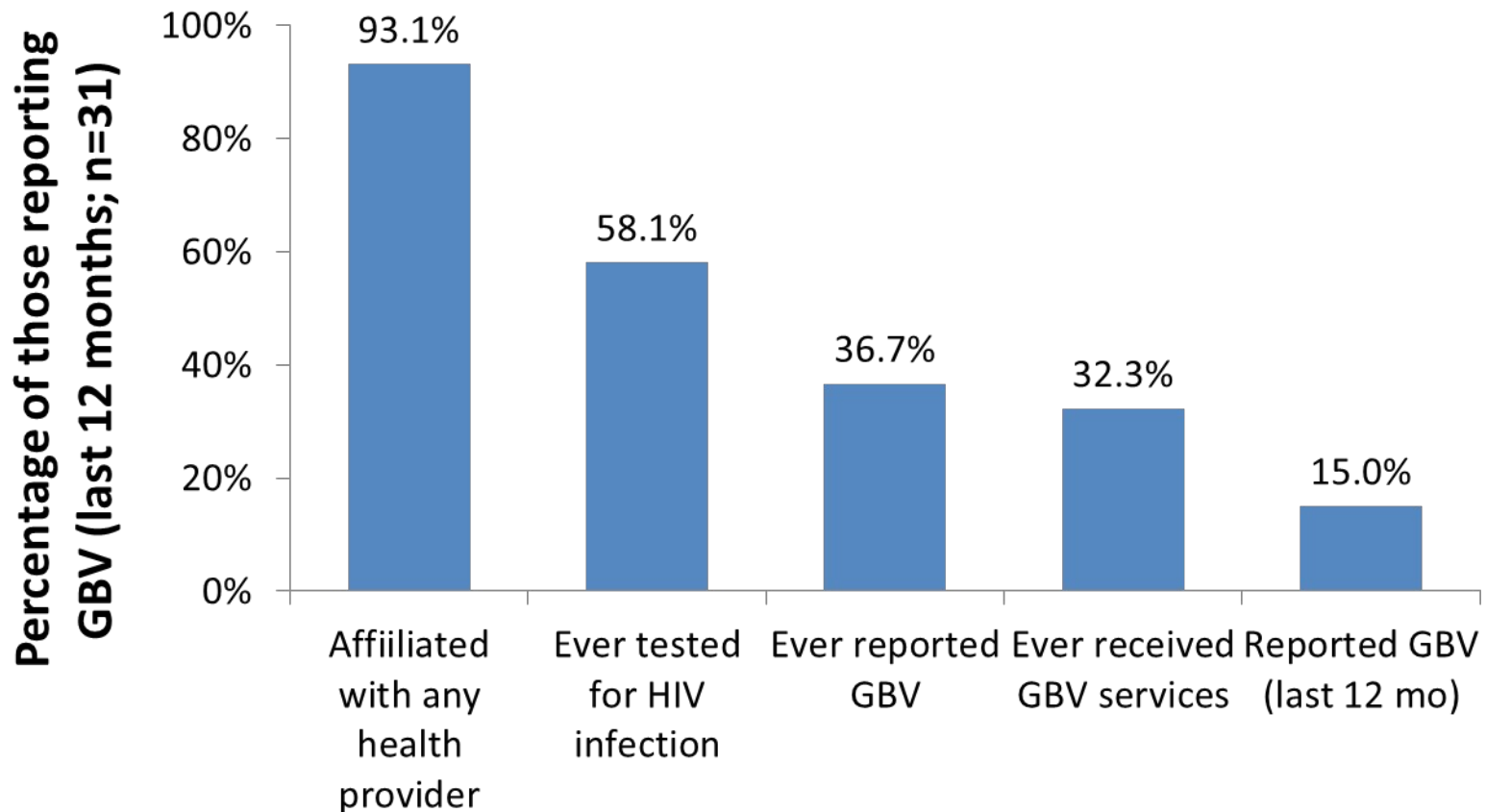
- San Jose de Guaviare, October 2012
 - Tested among 19 self-identified survivors of GBV and 50 women from general IDP population
- Validity tests:
 - Compared to other violence and trauma screening tools used in non-conflict/displaced settings
 - Compared results of those previously self-reported to those who screened positive

Validation Phase: Experiences of GBV

ASIST-GBV type (last 12 mo.)	Self-reported Survivor (n=19)*	General IDP (n=50)	<i>Total</i>
	n (%)	n (%)	<i>n (%)</i>
Threatened with phys./sexual violence	7 (36.84)	11 (22.00)	18 (26.09)
Physical violence	5 (26.32)	8 (16.00)	13 (18.84)
Forced sex	4 (21.05)	5 (10.00)	9 (13.04)
Sexual coercion for survival/protection	2 (10.52)	5 (10.00)	7 (10.14)
Forced pregnancy	1 (5.26)	1 (2.00)	2 (2.90)
Forced abortion	0 (0.00)	1 (2.00)	1 (1.45)
Forced marriage	2 (10.52)	0 (0.00)	2 (2.90)
<i>Screened positive for GBV (i.e. ≥ 1 one of the GBV)</i>	11 (57.89)	20 (40.00)	31 (44.93)

* Self-reported survivors were participants who were enrolled from partner organizations, were known to have experienced GBV within lifetime

Validation Phase Results, Guaviare – Reporting and Service use



- **HIV testing coverage:** half of all participants, including those GBV positive
 - **Much lower (20%) for those who without children**
 - Median time since last HIV test: **2 years** (range: <1-12)

Validation Results – GBV Summary

- 45% of all screened positive for GBV (last 12mo)
 - 19% reported physical, 13% sexual violence
- Only 36% had ever reported GBV; 15% in last yr.
- Tool identifies those who had *never* reported GBV
- Allows for identification of perpetrators and location to assess current risk / ongoing violence:
 - Partner/ex-partner, husband/ex-husband

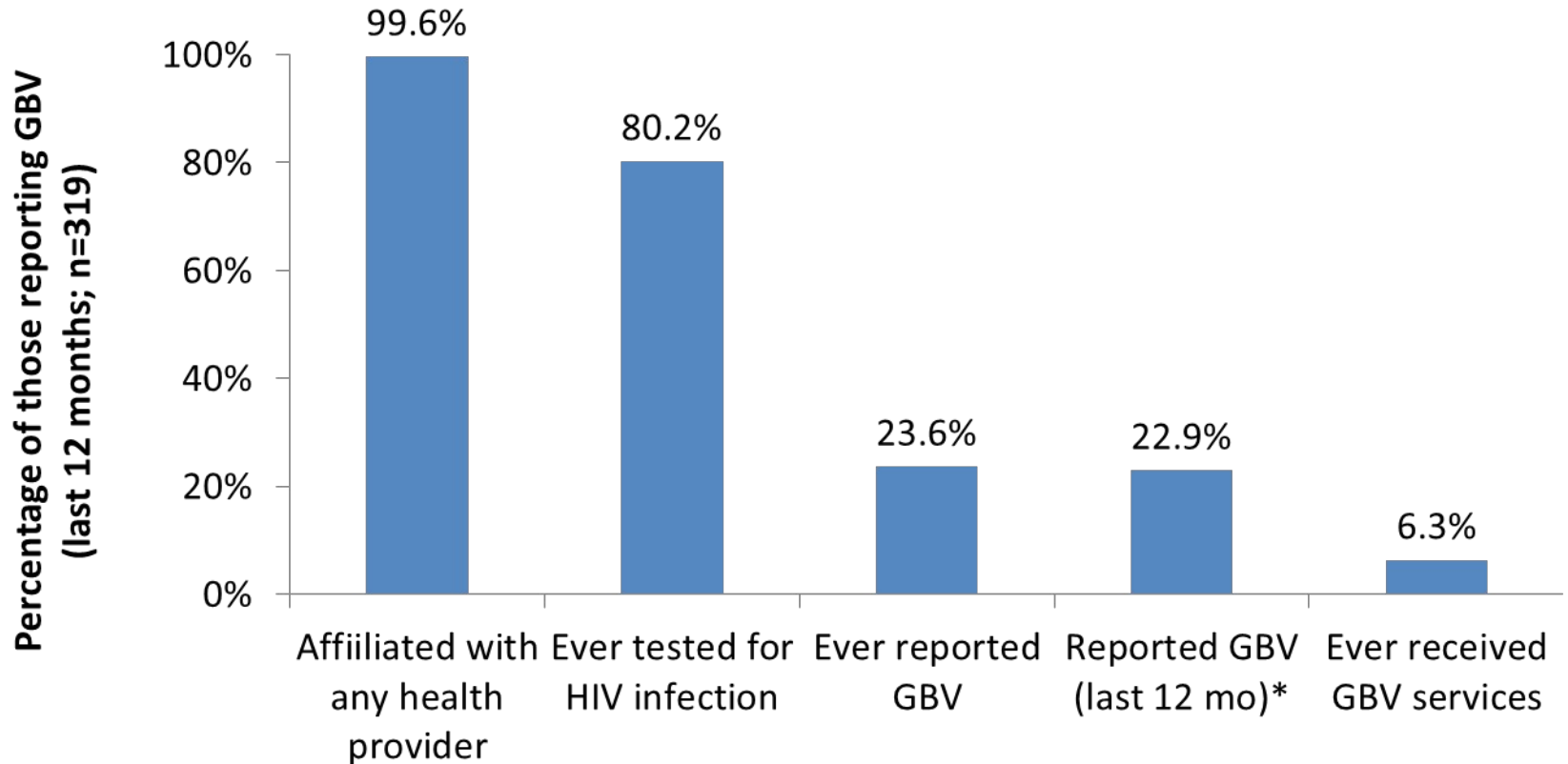
Generalizability Phase

- Mocoa (February – May 2013)
- 3 mo. test of screening tool in routine setting
- **Objective:** Determine the utility and feasibility of the screening tool for integration into health services
 - **Implemented** in Hospital José María Hernández
 - **Participants:** female patients \geq 18yrs attending clinic/program and providing consent
 - Two trained nurses *offered screening*

Generalizability Phase, Mocoa: GBV results

ASIST-GBV Type (last 12 mo)	Total (n=506)
	n (%)
Threatened with phys./sexual violence	210 (41.50)
Physical violence	119 (23.52)
Rape /Sexual violence	182 (35.97)
Sexual coercion	102 (20.20)
Forced pregnancy	10 (1.98)
Forced abortion	8 (1.59)
Forced marriage	21 (4.17)
<i>Screened positive for GBV (i.e. experienced ≥ 1 of the above GBV)</i>	319 (63.42)

Generalizability Phase: History of reporting and service use



- **HIV testing coverage:** Lower (17%) for those without children
 - Median time since last HIV test: 4 years (range: <1-14)

Summary of research and development

- ASIST-GBV screening tool developed through evidence-based approach
- Validated for Colombia among IDPs
 - Appears to be acceptable to general population
- Confidential, private screening valued by participants
- Increased number accessing services
 - Hospital José María Hernández decided to continue the screening after the project ended
- Similar processes in Ethiopia for female

Thank you

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