

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

18 April 2023

SACENDU Regional meeting
Pretoria

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Treatment Demand Data • Service Quality Measures (SQM)
• Community-Based Harm Reduction Services



Introduction

- Harmful alcohol use is increasingly recognized as a **driver** of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) ¹
- IPV perpetration is often preceded by drinking and harmful (binge drinking) and is associated with severity of partner violence, injury, and femicide ^{1,2}
- Evidence of a bidirectional relationship between alcohol and other drugs and GBV.
- GBV leads to an increased use of alcohol and drugs, often to cope with the trauma which, in turn increases risk for GBV.
- Despite the evidence, its importance has been contested, and most research emerges from global North.

Research Question

- Based on analyses from five LMIC settings across Africa, we sought to establish the association between alcohol and VAWG (IPV and NPSV) perpetration and experience, respectively.
 - To understand the intersections between alcohol use and violence perpetration and experience in four LMIC in Africa (5 studies)
 - To illustrate the impact of violence prevention interventions on Alcohol, VAWG



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Methods

- Pooled analysis of cross-sectional baseline data from the Global What Works to Prevent Violence against women and girls global programme
 - **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)
 - **Setting:** (SA x2 studies, Rwanda x 2 studies, Ghana 1 study)



Main outcomes:

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



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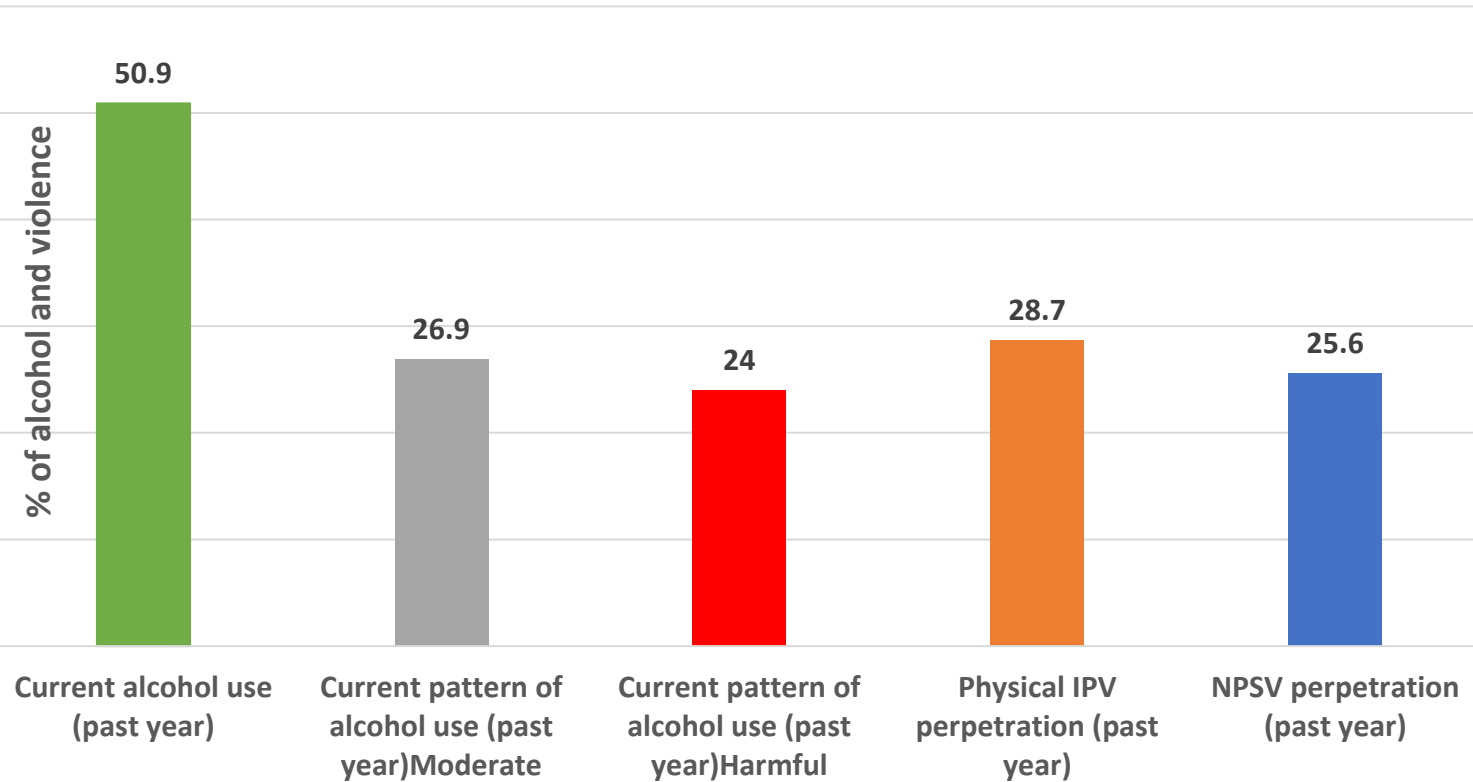
SOUTH AFRICAN COMMUNITY EPIDEMIOLOGY NETWORK ON DRUG USE

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+ Community-Based Harm Reduction Services



Men's Alcohol & IPV & NPSV Perpetration

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

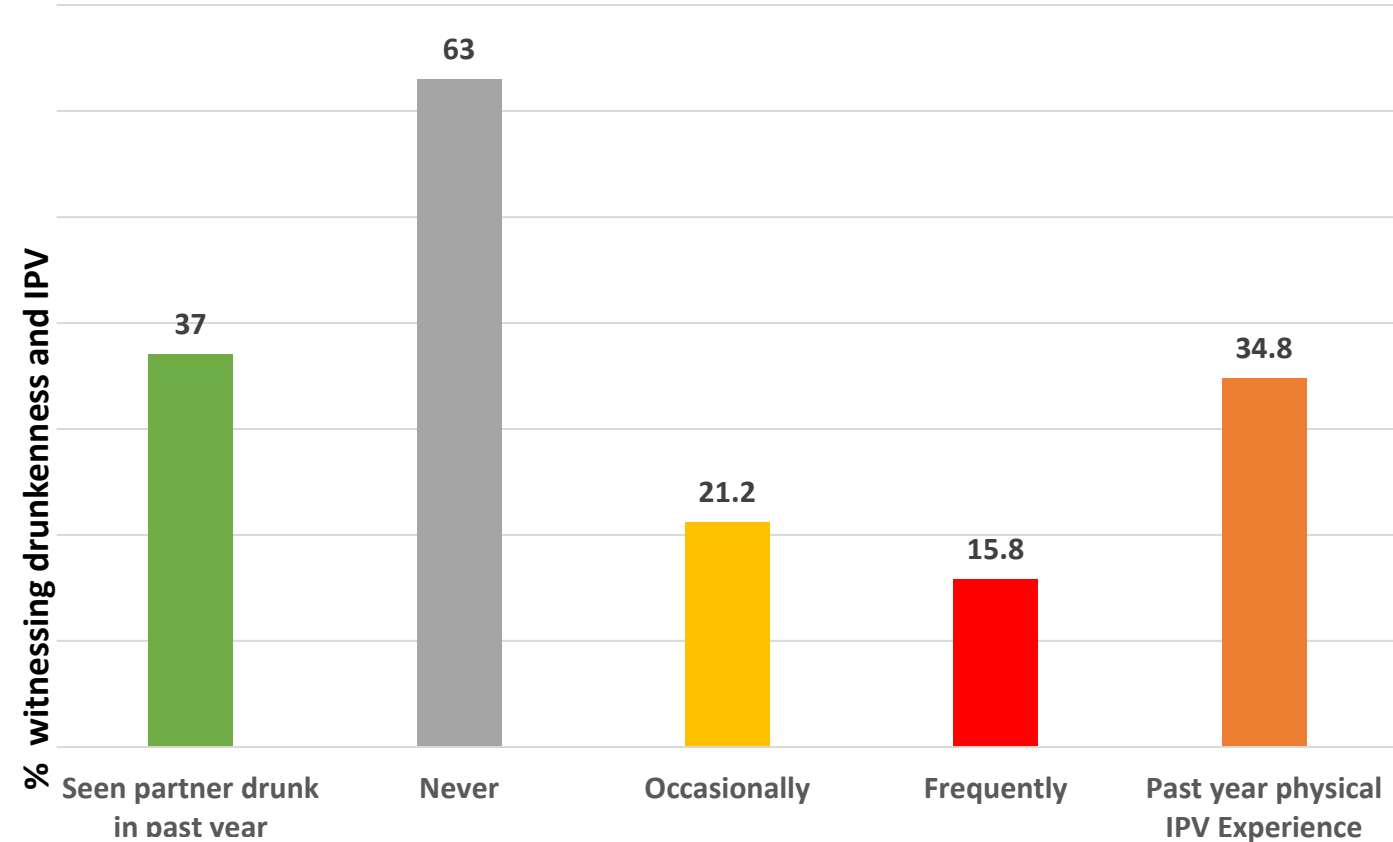


- Among the 8104 men 51% consumed alcohol in the past year
- Range: 37% to 69%
- 24% of men reported past year harmful alcohol use was 24% range: 11%–44%
- Almost 1/3 of men (29%) perpetrated IPV
- 25% perpetrated NPSV



Women's Witnessing of Partner Drunkenness & IPV

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

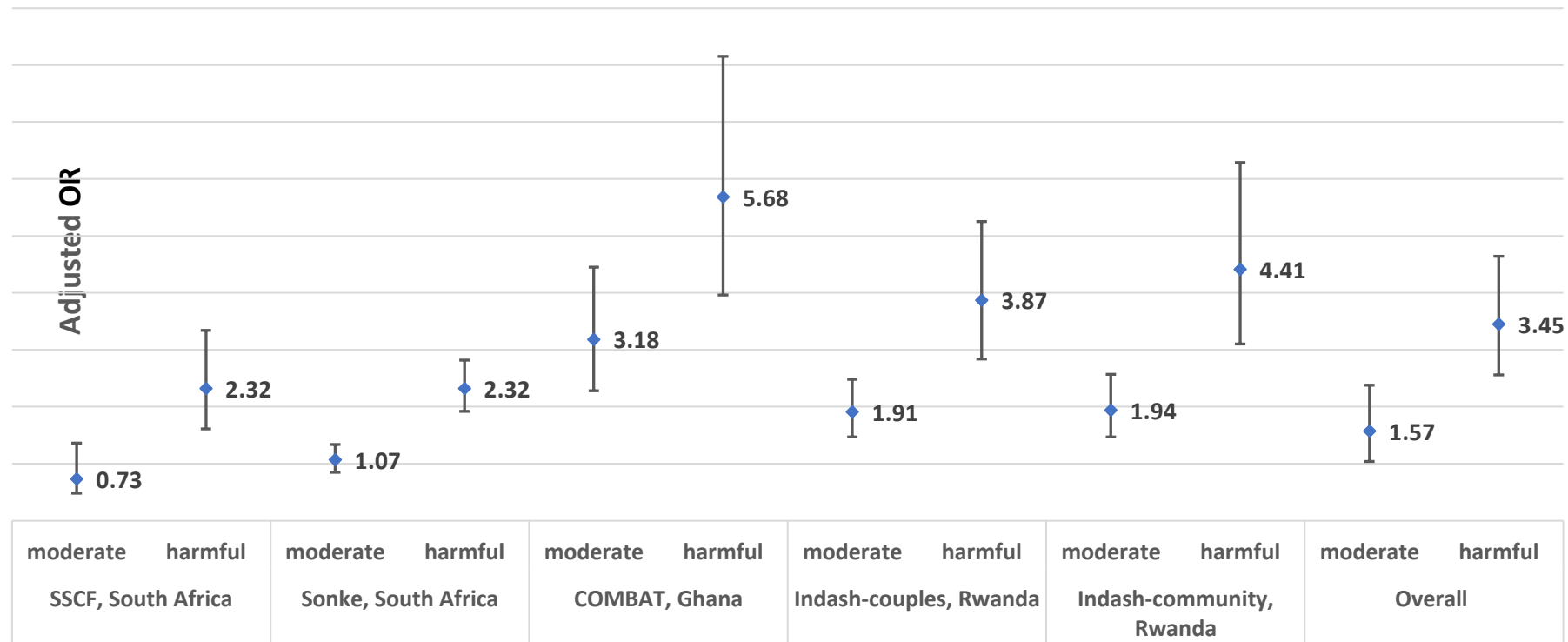


- Among the 5163 women, 37% reported having seen their partner drunk in the past 12 months
- Range: 14%-53%
- 16% reported seeing their partner frequently drunk in the past year
- Range: 8%–23%
- 35% of women reported experiencing IPV in the past year



Men's Alcohol Use & Odds of IPV Perpetration

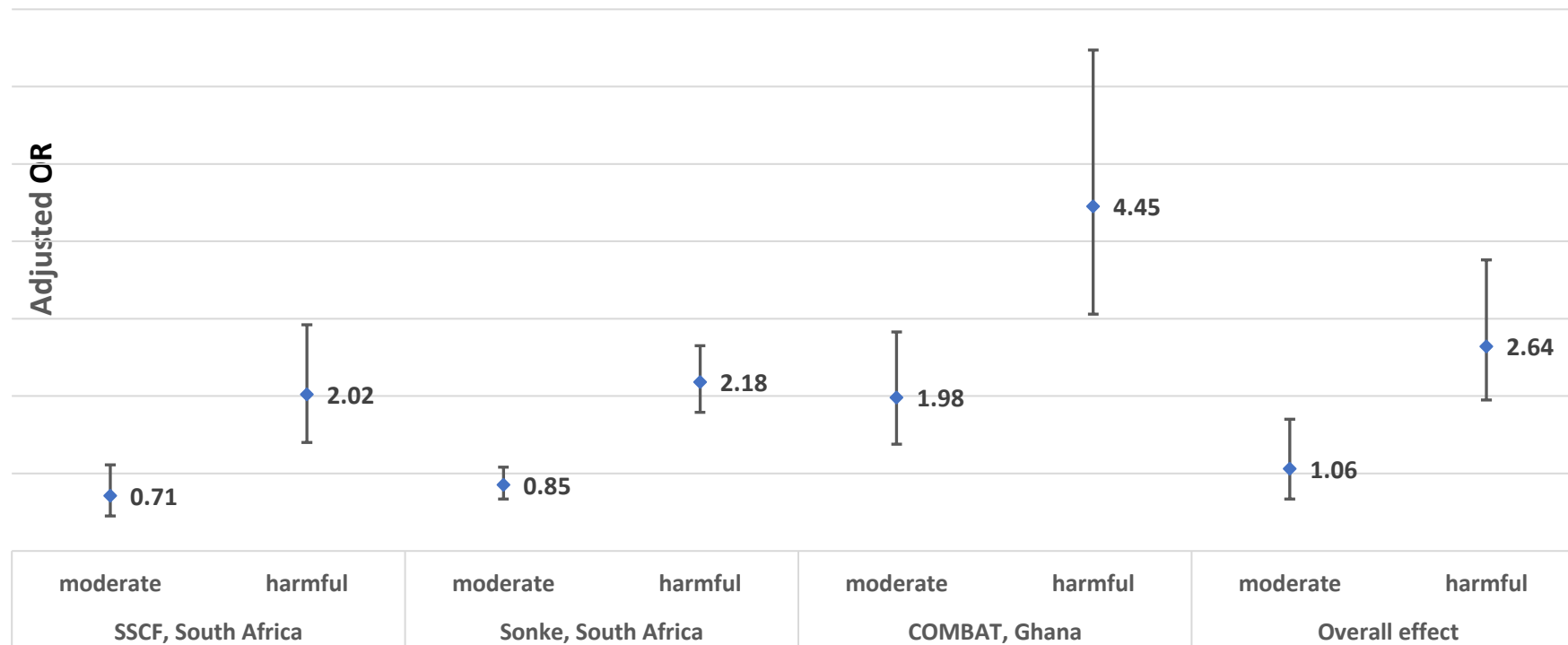
Men: Patterns of alcohol use odds of perpetrating IPV



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

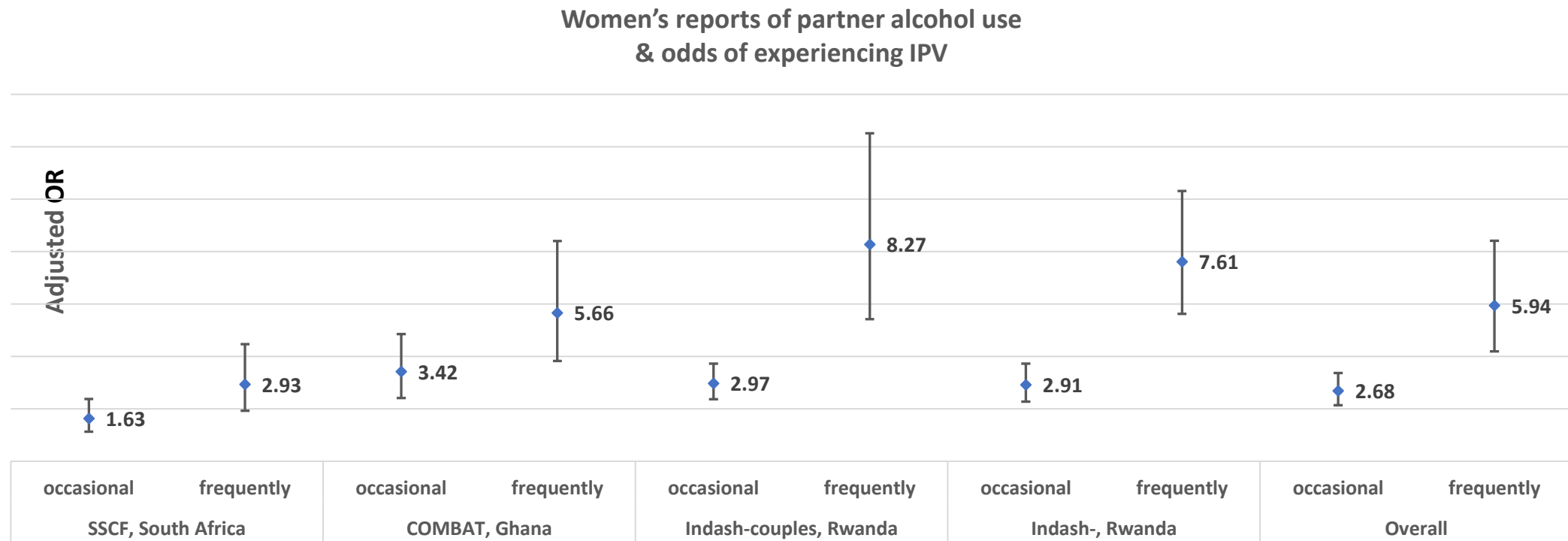
Men's Alcohol Use & Odds of NPSV Perpetration

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

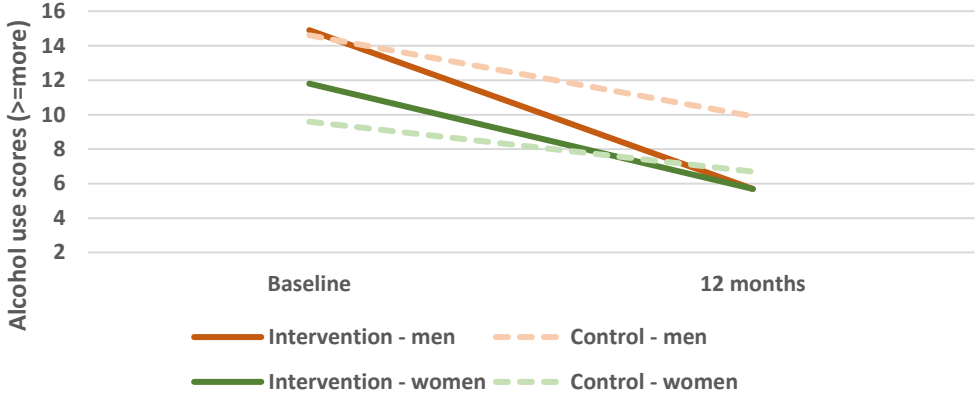


- Consistent associations between women's reports of partner alcohol use and IPV experience
- Women who had seen their partner occasionally drunk or frequently drunk in the past 12 months had an overall increased odds of experiencing physical IPV

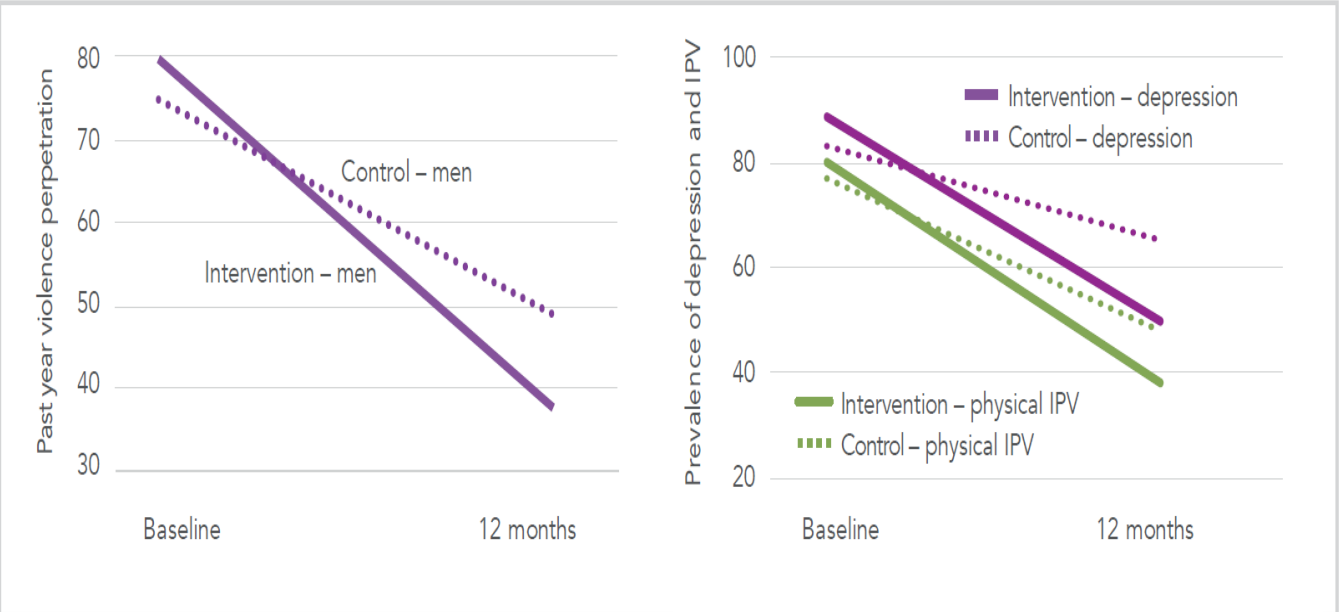
Intervention Impacts on Alcohol, VAWG & Mental Health

VATU, Zambia

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

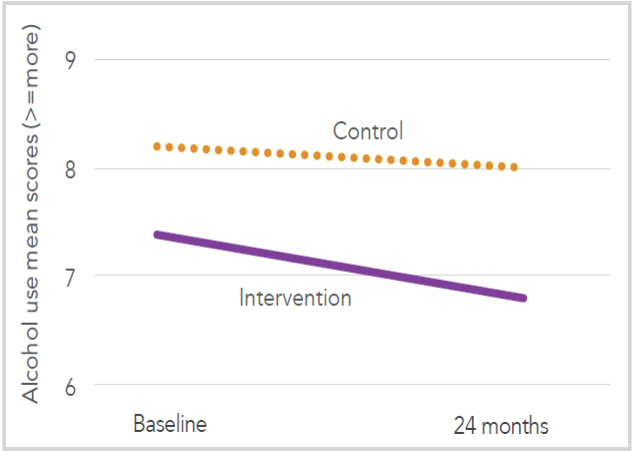
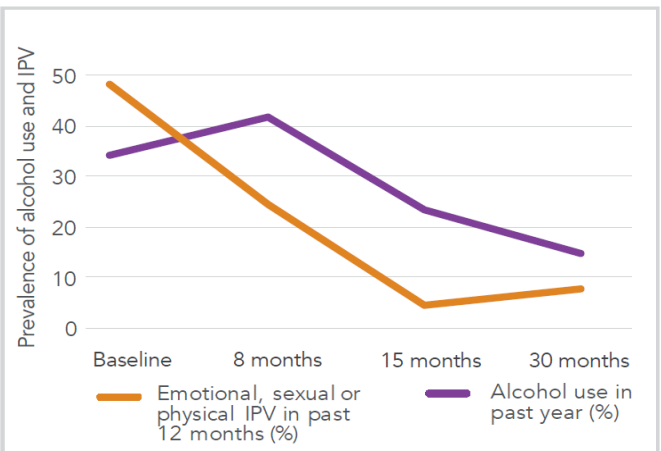
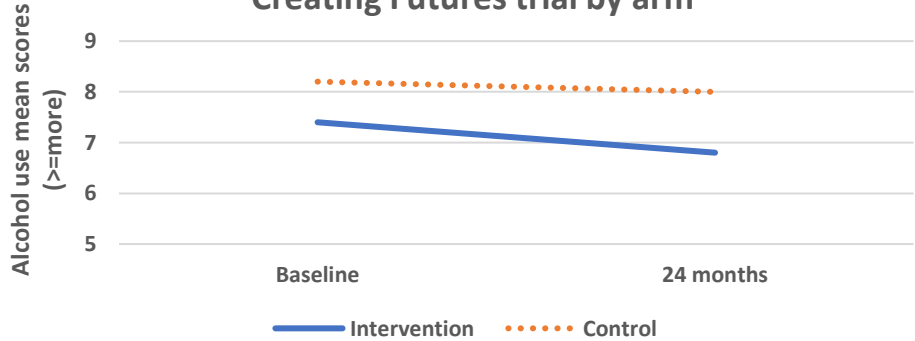


Zindagii Tajikistan



SSCF, South Africa

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



Discussion

- Harmful alcohol use associated with increased IPV and NPSV perpetration among men, and experience for women in LMIC settings
- Interventions aimed at reducing alcohol may lead to reductions in IPV & NPSV perpetration and experience.
- We need to intervene in an integrated manner across sectors (GBVF and substance use) on the continuum from prevention to treatment
- Men in substance use treatment programmes should be screened for GBV perpetration and women for GBV experience



THANK YOU

This data for this presentation was funded by UK aid from the UK government, via the What Works to Prevent Violence Against Women and Girls Global Programme. The funds were managed by the South African Medical Research Council.

The authors wish to thank all projects staff and participants

