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**Original article:**

**Study of manner of poisoning according to sex and marital status in acute poisoning cases**

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**abstract:**

**Introduction:** This hospital based prospective cross sectional study was carried out over a period of two years duration from 01/09/2008 to 31/08/2010 in the Rural Medical College and Pravara Rural Hospital, of Pravara Institute of Medical Sciences, Loni, TalukaRahata, Ahmednagar (M.S) India to study distribution of acute poisoning cases according to sex, marital status and manner.

**Methods**: All admitted and brought dead cases of acute poisoning, cases of known and unknown bites and stings from all age were included in the study. Comprehensive proforma for the study was designed and relevant data of the individual poisoning cases was collected from medico-legal cases register of casualty, case papers from concerned department, inquest, post-mortem reports, chemical analysis report after taking informed consent from patient or relatives. Data was statistically analyzed in the form of percentage (%) and proportion.

**Observations:** During the study period total 557 cases of acute poisoning were reported out of which, 325(58.35%) were males while 232 (41.65%) were females. Maximum number of cases were in married group [291 (52.24%)]. In married group females [154 (27.64%)] outnumbered males [137(24.60%)] while in unmarried group males [188 (33.75%)] outnumbered females [78 (14.00%)]. Highest number of cases were suicidal [283 (50.81%)] followed by accidental [269 (48.29%)] and in only 05 (00.89%) cases the manner of death was undetermined. No case was found to be homicidal. Suicidal poisoning was observed more in married females [89 (15.98%)] as compared to unmarried females [25 (04.49%)].

**Results with conclusion:**The present study helps to interpret the manner of acute poisoning according to marital status and sex. It is imperative to identify these trends in manner of acute poisoning, as it will immensely help the health policy makers to reduce the mortality and morbidity due to acute poisoning.

**Keywords:** Manner of poisoning, acute poisoning, Suicidal poisoning, marital status and poisoning.