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## **Title:**Prevalence of Anxiety, Depression and Trauma in Baqa'a Refugee Camp

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**Aim:** The general aim of this study is to screen for the prevalence of mental disorders(PTSD, anxiety and depression) amongst refugees residing in Baqaa refugee camp.

**Design:** cross sectional quantitative study using close-ended surveys

**Methods:** Data were collected from 124 refugees collected at baqaa refugee camp. The participants were recruited based on convenience sampling. The questionnaire included the GAD-7, PHQ-9, and part IV of the HTQ questionnaires used to screen for anxiety, depression, and symptoms of PTSD respectively. Each one of these questionnaires has its own valid and reliable scoring system that will assess how severe these mental illnesses are in the participants. For all three questionnaires, a valid Arabic translation was used, as most of the participants are fluent only in Arabic.

**Results:** The results of this study indicated that a large portion of refugees showed signs that are indicative of suffering from mental disorders

**Conclusion:** Our data indicate a challenging and persisting disease burden in refugees due to anxiety, depression and PTSD. Knowing this is relevant for the development of public health policies of host countries. Scalable interventions, tailored for refugees, should become more readily available. This study delved into the presence of anxiety, post-traumatic stress and depression amongst Palestinian refugees and determined that health screenings should be performed. **Summary Statement**

### *What is already known about this topic?*

- Previous studies indicated that the quality of life in baqaa refugee camps was significantly worse than other areas in the country.
- This study is one of the first one of its kind in Jordan to specifically focus on baqaa refugee camp and screen for anxiety, depression and PTSD

### *What this paper adds?*

- Improving the awareness of people responsible for refugee camps about the devastating effects of mental health on the quality of life of refugees
- It helps understand the population there, what kind of mental issues they are facing, which ones are most common so that governing authorities can know how to help them more efficiently.



- Encourages talks about mental health and normalize seeking help especially in a group of people where mental health problems are really concentrated such as refugee camps

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**The implications of this paper:**

- The researchers strongly recommend more detailed and thorough screening as well as providing refugees with options to seek therapy.

**Key words:** Anxiety, depression, Post-traumatic stress disorder, Refugees, Mental disorders

**Table 2. Association between Socio-demographic Factors and Anxiety Symptoms**

Factor	Test Statistic (df)	p
Gender	3.322 <sup>a</sup> (3)	.345
Age	2.037 <sup>b</sup> (3)	.565
Nationality	2.257 <sup>a</sup> (3)	.521
Education	6.352 <sup>a</sup> (12)	.897
Marital Status	5.978 <sup>a</sup> (9)	.742
Employment	3.597 <sup>a</sup> (3)	.308
Number of dependents	4.430 <sup>b</sup> (3)	.219
Income	4.022 <sup>b</sup> (3)	.259

<sup>a</sup> Pearson's Chi-square test. <sup>b</sup> Kruskal-Wallis test.

**Table 3. Association between Socio-demographic Factors and Trauma Symptoms**

Factor	Test Statistic (df)	p
Gender	.457 <sup>a</sup> (1)	.354
Age	416.5 <sup>b</sup> (-)	.638
Nationality	.979 <sup>a</sup> (1)	.294
Education	8.622 <sup>a</sup> (4)	.070
Marital Status	.202 <sup>a</sup> (3)	.977
Employment	.035 <sup>a</sup> (1)	.545
Number of dependents	533.5 <sup>b</sup> (-)	.901
Income	408 <sup>b</sup> (-)	.566

<sup>a</sup> Pearson's Chi-square test. <sup>b</sup> Mann-Whitney U test.



Table 4. Association between Socio-demographic Factors and Depression Symptoms

Factor	Test Statistic (df)	p
Gender	7.025 <sup>a</sup> (4)	.135
Age	3.443 <sup>b</sup> (4)	.487
Nationality	1.687 <sup>a</sup> (4)	.793
Education	11.945 <sup>a</sup> (16)	.748
Marital Status	4.239 <sup>a</sup> (4)	.979
Employment	5.077 <sup>a</sup> (4)	.280
Number of dependents	3.980 <sup>b</sup> (4)	.409
Income	2.409 <sup>b</sup> (4)	.661

<sup>a</sup> Pearson's Chi-square test.

<sup>b</sup> Kruskal-Wallis test.

