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The most common causes of burns was hot liquids. 41.3% of burns mortality was due to suicide. There was a statistically significant association between mortality rate and sex, age group and burn causes (p<0.05). Conclusion: This study shows that mortality ratio of burn injuries in Ardabil due to suicide is higher than similar studies. We suggest future studies and efforts for prevention of burn injuries in Ardabil city itself in self inflicted burns.

Prevalence and characteristics of gallstone disease in an Iranian population: a study on cadavers

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BACKGROUND: The prevalence of gallstones is low in Asians. In Iran, many factors influence the prevalence of this disease. The aim of this study was to determine the prevalence of gallbladder stones and their chemical characteristics in a population by the study of cadavers.

METHODS: In this cross-sectional study, autopsies were performed on 253 cadavers of more than 13 years old. The cadavers were studied to determine the
number, location of stone formation, chemical composition, dry weight, and mean diameter of stones in the gallbladder and common bile duct.

RESULTS: The prevalence of gallstone disease in these cadavers was 6.3% (men 4.7%, women 8.6%, not significantly different, \( P=0.216 \)). There was a positive relationship between the age and prevalence of gallstone disease \( (P=0.033) \). The most common stone compositions were cholesterol and oxalate. The mean diameter \( (P=0.0058) \) and dry weight \( (P<0.0001) \) of stones were higher in the gallbladder than in the common bile duct. Positive relations between the amount of oxalate and mean diameter, and between the amount of oxalate and mean dry weight of gallstones were found, but the relationship between the amount of cholesterol and mean diameter was inverse.

CONCLUSIONS: The prevalence of gallstones differed among age groups. Diameter and dry weight of gallstones were dependent on location of stone formation and chemical composition.

KEY WORDS: gallstone; gallbladder; common bile duct; cadavers

INVESTIGATING CAUSES OF SELF-BURNING IN MARRIED WOMEN

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This study was conducted to determine the causes of self-burning in married women. Methods: This investigation is a descriptive prospective study performed at Shahid Motahari Burn Center, Tehran, Iran from December 2001 to December 2002. Inclusion criteria included being female, married, having no history of medical and mental disorders and admission of self-burning. Data were collected by a questionnaire and interviews and were analyzed with descriptive statistics methods and chi-square test. Results: A total of 35 cases entered our study. The 3.94 years and 48.6% of cases were in the 21-25±mean age of patients was 24.57 year age group, 80% had primary school education, 97.1% were housekeeper and 68.8% had low economical status. There were statistically significant differences in all of these variables. In 42.9% self-burning had happened at 12-18 hour period and in 45.7% it had occurred at yard. Kerosene had been used by 91.4% of the women as the burning agent; 94.3% of the women had experienced husband’s violence (verbal and physical), 60% of the women stated that their husbands were guilty in their action and 91.4% of the women didn’t know any supportive sources in the society. The mortality rate was 100%. Conclusion: This research showed that family violence and marital problems are the most important causes of self-burning in the married women. Because of close relationship to families, community health nurses can prevent self-burning in married women by detecting and eliminating these risk factors.