

Table 2 Severity of physical abuse experienced by the women (n = 300)

Period of physical abuse	Level I		Level II		Level III		Level IV		Any level ^a	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Before pregnancy	47	15.7	15	5.0	15	5.0	2	0.7	50	16.7
During pregnancy	23	7.7	5	1.7	8	2.7	0	0.0	30	10.0
After pregnancy	37	12.3	15	5.0	15	5.0	2	0.7	44	14.7
Overall ^b	76	25.3	30	10.0	31	10.3	4	1.3	80	26.7

^aAny level of physical abuse; ^bIn all periods.

Women may have experienced more than 1 level of physical abuse and in more than 1 period.

Level I) Abuse involving beating or pushing but without trauma or persistent pain or limited movement of some parts of the body; Level II) Beating with persistent pain or limited movement of some parts of the body; Level III) Beating resulting in serious contusions, fractures or head or viscera trauma; Level IV) Physical abuse with any implement, leading to permanent injury (for example blindness, lameness).