

# INPLASY PROTOCOL

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**Conflicts of interest:**  
None declared.

## Defining intimate partner violence: a scoping review protocol

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**Review question / Objective:** The aim of this scoping review is known what the definition of intimate partner violence is used in the scientific literature.

**Background:** In the scientific literature, intimate partner violence (IPV) has been defined using various terms: aggression, domestic violence, interpersonal violence, intimate partner violence, domestic violence, spousal violence, family violence, etc. (Sprague, 2013; Hamel et al., 2015; O'Hara, 2018, Rahmani et al., 2019). This variety of terminology has hindered a consensus definition, causing a fragmented view of the phenomenon. There are several explanations, one of the main ones being that IPV has been studied by numerous scientific disciplines, each of them associating it with terms specific to its field, focusing on some variables and overshadowing the relevance of others (Nicolás et al. , 2014). Specifically, the term Domestic Violence (DV) and IPV are used interchangeably. However, DV refers to any form of violence perpetrated within a family relationship. It can refer to violence, but also to violence against children or older members of the same family by another family member (Tavoli et al., 2016). It should be noted that the confusion between these terms has been generated since 1993 (Pence & Paymar, 1993) to the present (Bates, 2020).

**INPLASY registration number:** This protocol was registered with the International Platform of Registered Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis Protocols (INPLASY) on 07 June 2022 and was last updated on 07 June 2022 (registration number INPLASY202260030).

### INTRODUCTION

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defined using various terms: aggression, domestic violence, interpersonal violence, intimate partner violence, domestic violence, spousal violence, family violence, etc. (Sprague, 2013; Hamel et al., 2015; O'Hara, 2018, Rahmani et al., 2019). This variety of terminology has hindered a consensus definition, causing a fragmented view of the phenomenon. There are several explanations, one of the main ones being that IPV has been studied by numerous scientific disciplines, each of them associating it with terms specific to its field, focusing on some variables and overshadowing the relevance of others (Nicolás et al. , 2014). Specifically, the term Domestic Violence (DV) and IPV are used interchangeably. However, DV refers to any form of violence perpetrated within a family relationship. It can refer to violence, but also to violence against children or older members of the same family by another family member (Tavoli et al., 2016). It should be noted that the confusion between these terms has been generated since 1993 (Pence & Paymar, 1993) to the present (Bates, 2020).

**Rationale:** If a definition of intimate partner violence were specified, it could be regularized at the legislative level, improve prevention and intervention efforts from the educational field and avoid situations of marginalization, violence, and social injustice, including teacher training plans. adequate. For social changes to be effective, a social approach would also be necessary to work on prevention, address structural causes and deal with the main risk and protective factors.

## METHODS

**Strategy of data synthesis:** The search strategy will consist of the following search terms: (violence AND (gender OR domestic OR intimate partner OR, exposure OR physical abuse OR battered woman)). This search strategy will be adapted to the syntax and specific characteristics of each bibliographic database. The search strategy will consist of the following search terms: (violence AND (gender OR domestic OR intimate partner OR, exposure OR

physical abuse OR battered woman)). This search strategy will be adapted to the syntax and specific characteristics of each bibliographic database: The scope review will be performed using the Education Resources Information Center (ERIC) by ProQuest; Psychological Information (PsycINFO) by APA PsycNET.

**Eligibility criteria:** Those articles that meet the following criteria will be included: (1) studies with an explicit definition of IPV that are not from official agencies: World Health Organization, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the United Nations Organization ; (2) peer-reviewed journal articles included in the Journal Citation Reports; (3) studies published between the period January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2021; (4) population equal to or greater than 18 years; (5) empirical studies; (6) in English and Spanish; (7) studies accessible through open source or through library or interlibrary loans and with full text. Those records that: (1) do not include a definition of IPV (2) do not meet the inclusion criteria will be excluded; (3) define IPV and DV interchangeably; (4) Include a definition of IPV using DV-based instruments for its measurement.

**Source of evidence screening and selection:** A total of 13,582 articles were imported and 1,987 duplicates were removed. The titles and abstracts of 11,595 were examined and 6,139 articles were excluded. The remaining 5,456 articles were assessed based on the full text and 5,425 articles were excluded based on the inclusion and exclusion criteria. Ultimately, 31 eligible articles were included. Each investigator reviewed several of the original articles and the first two authors assessed the methodological quality. If one of them was not 100% sure how to review a specific piece of text or assess the methodological quality of a specific element, she discussed it with the third author. In addition, the authors performed random checks of each other's coded text fragments and methodological quality assessments to safeguard the quality of the review.

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**Data management:** References identified by the search strategy will be entered into the Mendeley bibliographic software and duplicates will be removed. Titles and abstracts will be independently reviewed by three reviewers. When decisions cannot be made from the title and abstract alone, the full article will be retrieved. Full text inclusion criteria will be reviewed independently by two reviewers. Discrepancies during the process will be resolved through discussion (with a third reviewer when necessary). The inclusion and exclusion criteria will be applied independently by the three researchers; cases with discrepancies will be agreed with Cohen's kappa agreement coefficient. To codify and analyze the information, the RStudio software will be used, in its version 1, 4, 1717.

**Reporting results / Analysis of the evidence:** A narrative synthesis of the characteristics and results of the included studies will be presented. A detailed descriptive analysis of the definitions of IPV and the methodological quality of the studies will be provided.

**Presentation of the results:** A first coding will be carried out, designed to know what is the definition of the IPV used in the scientific literature, the variables will be registered: a) APA reference of the article; b) specialty and publication quartile; c) geographical origin of the samples classified according to the model of seven continents: Africa, Asia, Europe, North America, South America, Antarctica and Oceania / Australia; d) the variables to be analyzed will be categorized (type of violence, on whom it occurs, causes that can motivate it and who exercises it). The categorization of IPV definitions will be organized according to the definitions established by the international organizations WHO, CDC, UN and various authors of the studies (Wuest et al., 2010; Henrichs et al., 2015; Satyen et al., 2018 ; Adams et al, 2020). The second coding will pay attention to the methodology used in the studies, registering the variables: a) age range; b) sample size and percentage of women, men and individuals; c) type of

study (qualitative, quantitative, mixed); d) level of inquiry (descriptive, relational, experimental); e) study design (cross-sectional, longitudinal); f) type of sample (probabilistic or not); g) test administration procedure; h) registration of statistical data; i) how data is collected and in what kind of software.

**Language restriction:** Only articles published in English and Spanish will be considered for inclusion.

**Countries involved:** Spain.

**Other relevant information:** None.

**Keywords:** Violence; physical abuse; battered woman; intimate partner violence; domestic violence.

**Dissemination plans:** The results will be disseminated through publication in a peer-reviewed journal.

**Contributions of each author:**

Author 1 - Virginia Dasi Fernández - The authors will actively participate in all phases of the scoping review.

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