INTRODUCTION: There has been an increasing global concern about the magnitude of violence against women, especially pregnant women. Generally, evidence has shown that there may be a higher prevalence of violence against women from various studies in Nigeria. Unfortunately, despite such alarming evidence of violence against women from studies in Nigeria, not much has been done with regards to enforcing the law in order to address this dangerous trend aside from the recently reviewed laws against sexual abuse perpetrators. The long term health impact of violence on the victims as well as the difficulty in directly associating violence with the health outcome of the victims is a source of concern.

OBJECTIVES: The aim of this study was to determine the health outcome of intimate partner violence in adult females attending the General Practice Clinic of the University of Benin Teaching Hospital, Benin City, so as to facilitate early diagnosis, intervention and to prevent adverse long term health outcomes.

METHODOLOGY: This study was a cross sectional descriptive study carried out at the General Practice Clinic of the University of Benin Teaching Hospital, Benin City. A total of 360 participants were recruited for the study using systematic sampling method. A modified Abuse Assessment screening tool was used to screen for Intimate Partner Violence and the data was analysed using version 21 of the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS).

RESULTS: The age range of the respondents was between 18 and 65 years with the mean age of 40.5 year ± 13.46 S.D.
The prevalence of IPV in this study was 80%. Sexual abuse had the highest prevalence (56.4%), followed by physical and psychological which had a prevalence of 46.7% and 31.9% respectively. However, a significant number of the victims experienced a combination of the various forms of IPV.

The common risk factors for IPV observed in this study included: younger age of respondents, having a large family size and being employed. Partner’s higher educational status was also a risk factor.

The common tentative diagnosis in the respondents using the International Classification of Primary Care Diseases-(ICPC) were those related to the female genitals, followed by those related to pregnancy and child-bearing. The least presenting symptoms were those relating to the eye.

The common co-morbidities found among the respondents experiencing IPV included hypertension, pelvic inflammatory disease, peptic acid disorders, osteoarthritis and depressive illnesses.

Alcohol use by partners was the most common perceived reason given by the respondents for their partners’ perpetration of IPV.

**CONCLUSION:** Intimate partner violence as a part of violence against women still remains very high and under-reported in our society, despite the current global trends to stop the menace. The high prevalence of IPV obtained from this study calls for urgent measures to be taken to curb this menace in order to avert its possible long term health outcome. The study showed a strong association between IPV and hypertension; this should be of interest to healthcare practitioners and researchers.