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Poster Presentations

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Impending reproductive health problems in adolescent girls during COVID-19 crisis

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Background: Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is an ongoing health problem, threatens the overall health, social and emotional wellbeing. Beyond the health problems, economic crises related to the COVID-19 affect reproductive health. Adolescent girls are most vulnerable to face reproductive health problems during COVID-19 pandemic.

Objective: This study aimed to explore reproductive health problems in adolescent girls during the COVID-19 crisis.

Materials and Methods: In this review, a literature review was conducted in the selected databases (Web of Science and PubMed) up to February 2021. The

search was performed using the key words of adolescent, reproductive and sexual health, menstrual cycle, and other related key words. The main outcome was investigating the effect of COVID-19 pandemic on different aspects of reproductive health in adolescent girls.

Results: As the reviewed studies indicated, the COVID-19 pandemic may affect the different aspects of adolescents' sexual and reproductive. Economic insecurity and falling into poverty, nutrition and food insecurity, mental health problems during the COVID-19 crisis may lead to difficulties in menstrual hygiene management, changing the menarche age, increasing unintended teenage pregnancies, early forced marriage, sexually transmitted infections, violence, domestic abuse, and finally restriction to access to healthcare.

Conclusion: During COVID-19 pandemic several factors affect adolescent's reproductive health both directly and indirectly. Therefore, it is recommended to extent adolescent's friendly health services during COVID-19.

Key words: Reproductive health, Adolescent, COVID-19.