riers arising from increased workloads, reduced time for individual patient care, lack of managerial and peer support and uncertainty about their role. While some of these may be resolved at the level of individual institutions, others require the concerted and directed attention of policy makers at the provincial and national level. The lack of hospital accreditation guidelines or standards addressing woman abuse has allowed individual institutions to decide whether or not they consider this a critical health care issue. Policy development and accountability to existing policies or protocols would be enhanced with the establishment of national hospital accreditation guidelines for responding to woman abuse.

The survey of Ontario's hospitals was funded by the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-term Care and the Ontario Women's Health Council as part of a larger project. The qualitative data were collected as part of a larger project funded by Sunnybrook and Women's College Health Sciences Centre.

Robin Mason is a research scientist in the Violence and Health Research Program at the Centre for Research in Women's Health, Sunnybrook and Women's Collee Health Sciences Centre in Toronto, Ontario.

## References

- American Medical Association. Violence on Women. Chicago: Council on Scientific Affairs, 1992.
- Bell, M. and J. Mosher. "(Re)fashioning Medicine's Response to WifeAbuse." *The Politics of Women's Health: Exploring Agency and Autonomy*. Ed. S. Sherwin. Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1998. 205-233.
- Coker, A., M. Remsburg and R. McKeown. "Intimate Partner Violence in a Managed Care Setting." American Journal of Epidemiology 14 (1998): S39.

Day, T. The Health-Related Costs of

- Violence Against Women in Canada. London: Centre for Research in Violence Against Women, 1995.
- Greaves, E., O. Hankivsky and J. Kingston-Riechers. Selected Estimates of the Costs of Violence Against Women. London: Centre for Research on Violence Against Women and Children, 1995.
- Hanvey, L. and D. Kinnon. The Health Care Sector's Response to Woman Abuse. A Discussion Paper for the Family Violence Prevention Division. Ottawa: Health Canada, 1993.
- Hoff, L. Violence Issues: An Interdisciplinary Curriculum Guide for Health Professionals. Ottawa: Health Services Directorate, Health Canada, 1994.
- Hotch, D., A. Grunfeld, K. Mackay and L. Cowan. (1996) "An Emergency Department-Based Domestic Violence Intervention: Findings After One Year." *The Journal of Emergency Medicine* 14 (1) (Jan-Feb 1996): 111-7.
- Hyman, I., M. Singh, M. Meana, U. George, L. Wells and D. E. Stewart. "Physician-Related Determinants of Cervical Cancer Screening Among Caribbean Women in Toronto." *Ethnicity and Disease* 12 (2) (2002): 268-275.
- Kernic, M. A., M. E. Wolf and V. L. Holt. "Rates and Relative Risk of Hospital Admission Among Women in Violent Intimate Partner Relationships." *American Journal of Public Health* 90 (9) (2000): 1416-1420.
- McLeer, S. and R. Anwar. "A Study of Battered Women Presenting in An Emergency Department." *American Journal of Public Health* 75 (1989): 65-66.
- Moeller, T. P., G. A. Bachmann and J. R. Moeller. "The Combined Effects of Physical, Sexual, and Emotional Abuse During Childhood: Longterm Health Consequences for Women." *Child Abuse and Neglect* 17 (5) (1993): 623-640.
- National Clearinghouse on Family Violence. Family Violence Initiative: Year Five Report. Ottawa: Health Canada, 2004.

- Patterson, J. Family Violence in Canada: A Statistical Profile 2003. Ottawa: Statistics Canada, 2004.
- Statistics Canada. Violence Against Women Survey. Ottawa: Statistics Canada, Cat. No. 11-001E, 1993.
- Statistics Canada. 1999 General Social Survey, Cycle 13: Victimization. Ottawa: Statistics Canada, Cat. No. 12M0013GPE. 2000.
- Trainor, C. & Mihorean, K. Eds. Family Violence in Canada: A Statistical Profile, 2001. Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Studies. Cat. #85-224-XIE.
- Wisner, C. L., T. P. Gilmer, L. E. Saltzman and T. M. Zink. "Intimate Partner Violence Against Women: Do Victims Cost Health Plans More?" *Journal of Family Practice* 48 (6) (1999): 439-443.

## **FARIDEH DE BOSSET**

## A child and a working mother

While you are eating, peeing smiling and playing I know you are waiting for one person, your mother.

The hours of the day pass slowly, very slowly. The sun sets. You eat your supper, try to play more and she finally arrives.

You are both exhausted. You hardly can smile at each other now. "No lovers quarrels", Just resignation of a child and a working mother.

Farideh de Bosset is a poet who sees the storm in each soul and the seed of beauty in each cell and wants to share it with the world.