INTRODUCTION

Child psychological abuse is a pattern of caregiver’s intentional or unintentional behaviour towards the child that convey to a child that s/he is worthless, flawed, unloved, unwanted, endangered or only of value to meet another’s needs, while neglect is caretaker’s failure to meet the child’s basic physical and psychological needs.1

Several studies reveal a diverse picture of child psychological abuse and neglect across countries and cultures.2,3 In a meta-analytical study, global prevalence of child psychological abuse was reported 36 per cent,2 while in another study, child physical neglect and emotional neglect were estimated 16 per cent and 18 per cent, respectively.3

Studies in the South Asian context show prevalent nature of child psychological abuse ranging from 48% in Bhutan4 to 89% in Bangladesh.5

Aim: We aimed to estimate the prevalence and risk factors of child psychological abuse and neglect in a rural area of Bangladesh.

Methods: Data were obtained from interviewing 1416 children aged 11-17 years administering the International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect Child Abuse Screening Tool for Children between March and April 2017. Linear regression analysis was used to estimate the risks of child psychological abuse and neglect.

Results: The prevalence rates of at least one form of psychological abuse both in the past year and lifetime were more than 97 per cent. Moreover, the rates of at least one form of neglect were about 58 per cent during the past year and 78 per cent over lifetime. Living separately from parents posed children to significant risks of neglect and psychological abuse. Working children and greater number of siblings in a family were risk factors for neglect, whereas witnessing family violence and being bullied were risk factors for psychological abuse. Children with more years of schooling experienced less neglect and psychological abuse.

Conclusion: The high prevalence of child psychological abuse and neglect in this study shows child maltreatment as an ignored issue in Bangladesh.
Sri Lanka, while other studies from India and Nepal show the prevalence rates of neglect as 60% and 46%, respectively.

A Bangladeshi study showed that almost every child experienced physical abuse. According to the Child Wellbeing Survey-2016, 82.4% of Bangladeshi children (1-14 years) experienced psychological abuse or physical punishment during the last month.

Studies from South Asia documented child-level risk factors for maltreatment as age, gender, witnessing family violence, child labour; while parent and family-level risk factors include single parent, low parental education, extended family and poverty. Similar observations were also reported in several Bangladeshi studies. However, the risk factors of psychological abuse and neglect of Bangladeshi children are yet to be explored.

Since most of the Bangladeshi population live in rural areas, the present study aimed to assess the prevalence rate and determine the demographic and socio-contextual risk factors of child psychological abuse and neglect in rural Bangladesh.

2 | METHODS

This cross-section survey was conducted in a rural injury-based surveillance area located in Raiganj sub-district of Sylhet, a northeastern district of Bangladesh where each person has a unique identification number. In total, 1547 children aged 11-17 years were selected as study sample using simple random sampling from its population of 146,828 in 2017. During March and April 2017, 1416 children were interviewed face-to-face in a quiet place, each from separate households, where response rate was 91.5 per cent. Data were collected in electronic devices using REDCap (Research Electronic Data Capture) software.

This study was approved from the ethical boards of both Bangladesh and Sweden. Consent from parents and assent from the children were taken prior to the interview notifying them that the survey was about violence against children and included some sensitive questions. Confidentiality was maintained keeping the interviewee anonymous with no identifying information on the questionnaire. Furthermore, after every interview, the child was asked how they felt and was encouraged to talk to a trusted person if the interview evoked unpleasant feelings.

Detailed methodology and the issues of ethical consideration have been outlined in a previous study. The questionnaire of the International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN) Child Abuse Screening Tool for Children (ICAST-C) was used for data collection. The ICAST-C has 19 questions related to psychological abuse and 6 questions related to neglect. All questions had seven categorised responses—once a week or more often, 2-3 times a month, about once a month, <12 times a year, once or twice a year, not in the past year but it happened before, and never in my life; the respondent was supposed to select only one of these options. The past year (PY) prevalence included the first five response options, while lifetime (LT) prevalence included the first six response options.

Further, a seven-point scoring system was developed (1 = never in my life, 2 = not in the past year, but it happened before, 3 = once or twice a year, 4 = <12 times a year, 5 = about once a month, 6 = 2-3 times a month, 7 = once a week or more often) to estimate the lifetime psychological abuse score and neglect score. The total scores for psychological abuse and neglect were calculated by adding the scores of all the 19 items of psychological abuse and 6 items of neglect, respectively. The range of psychological abuse scores was 19-133 and neglect was 6-42. This type of scoring system was also used in a previous study. Besides, wealth index (WI) was constructed based on the household assets. In this regard, first factor of the principal component analysis was adopted to define socio-economic status as described by Filmer and Pritchett.

The relationship between variables was evaluated by the Pearson correlation coefficient, independent t test, one-way ANOVA and multivariate linear regression model. Child psychological abuse scores and neglect scores were considered as outcome variables. Explanatory variables included child factors: age, occupation, marital status, education, living arrangement (biological parents only vs. other living arrangement); parental factors: parental education; and family factors: number of children within family, safety feeling at home, socio-economic status (SES) based on WI, bullied by siblings, and witnessed family violence among adults which included shouting, physical violence and use of weapons. All explanatory variables that showed a significant (P < .05) association with dependent variables in bivariate analysis were entered in regression model. Multivariate linear regression analysis was used to determine, to what extent the independent variables explained the psychological abuse and neglect experiences respectively. Resulting associations were reported using unstandardised regression coefficients, B. The sample size of the present study was large and acceptable for regression analysis. No multicollinearity among variables was seen. Normal P-P Plots of regression standardised residuals of the dependent variables were acceptable. Data were analysed using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) version 24 for Windows.
3 | RESULTS

3.1 | Prevalence of child psychological abuse and neglect

Table 1 shows that the prevalence rates for psychological abuse are very high, and there is hardly any difference between the PY and LT experience. Of the 1416 interviewees, 97.5% had experienced at least one form of psychological abuse during the PY and 98.4% had experienced over the LT. Despite lower rates in comparison with single form, these figures are still high for repeated forms of psychological abuse (≥3) during the PY (71.6%) and LT (85.9%).

However, the prevalence rates for neglect show a different pattern. Approximately 58% and 78% of children were neglected at least in one event during the PY and the LT, respectively. On the other hand, the rates for repeated events were lower. For the PY, the rate for repeated events (≥3) was 3.5% and for LT 16.3%. No significant differences in experiencing psychological abuse and neglect were found between girls and boys separately.

3.2 | Characteristics of child psychological abuse and neglect

Details of the reported psychological abuse and neglect directed at the children show some gender differences as outlined in Table 2. By far, the four most commonly reported psychological abusive events during the PY and LT were as follows: forbidden from going out (PY 76% and LT 81%), shouted or screamed at (PY 67% and LT 73%), threats to invoke harmful people or ghost or evil spirit against the child (PY 43% and LT 65%), and insulted by being called dumb or lazy (PY 32.5% and LT 40%). A little lower rate was given for threatened to be abandoned (PY 25.2% and LT 38%), cursed (PY 20.6% and LT 35%), publicly embarrassed (PY 19.2% and LT 34%), having food taken away (PY 14.3% and LT 32%) and locked out of the home (PY 13.3% and LT 28%). The most frequent forms of neglect identified by the children were unmet medical needs (PY 41.1% and LT 55.8%) and leaving the child hungry or thirsty (PY 11.9% and LT 25.1%).

A significantly higher number of female children was maltreated psychologically by insulting them by being called dumb or lazy, forbidding them from going out and referring their skin colour/gender/religion/culture in a hurtful way while male children were maltreated significantly more by being cursed, locked out of the home and having food taken away, for both the PY and LT. Male children were significantly more neglected by being kept hungry and/or thirsty.

3.3 | Psychological abuse and neglect scores

Table 3 shows the relationship between explanatory variables with psychological abuse and neglect scores separately. Children engaging in child labour, having education up to primary level, living with other than their own parents, witnessing family violence, having lower educated father and mother and living in a family with lower SES had significantly higher mean psychological abuse as well as neglect scores. Younger age group children and children who felt unsafe in their family had significantly higher mean psychological abuse scores than those of the elder age group and who felt safe in their family, whereas married children had significantly higher mean neglect score than unmarried.

Number of children within family is positively correlated and years of children’s schooling are conversely correlated with psychological abuse and neglect scores and found statistically significant.

3.4 | Risk factors

Table 4 presents the results of regression analysis. The multivariate linear regression model for psychological abuse exhibits that

| TABLE 1 | Prevalence of different types of psychological maltreatment and neglect (n = 1416) |
|----------|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|          | Psychological abuse (%)        | Male (n = 726)  | Female (n = 690) | Neglect (%)     | Male (n = 726)  | Female (n = 690) |
| Past year| Total 95% CI                    |                 |                 | Total 95% CI    |                 |                 |
| At least one form (≥1) | 97.5 96.6-98.2 | 97.1 | 98.0 | 58.4 55.8-60.9 | 59.5 | 57.2 |
| At least two forms (≥2) | 88.7 86.9-90.2 | 88.0 | 89.4 | 16.9 15.0-18.9 | 18.6 | 15.1 |
| Three or more forms (≥3) | 71.6 69.2-73.9 | 71.9 | 71.4 | 3.5 2.7-4.6 | 3.4 | 3.6 |
| Lifetime| Total 95% CI                    |                 |                 | Total 95% CI    |                 |                 |
| At least one form (≥1) | 98.4 97.6-98.9 | 97.9 | 98.8 | 78.1 75.9-80.2 | 79.6 | 76.5 |
| At least two forms (≥2) | 94.3 92.9-95.4 | 93.8 | 94.8 | 38.2 35.7-40.8 | 40.2 | 36.1 |
| Three or more forms (≥3) | 85.9 84.0-87.6 | 85.8 | 85.9 | 16.3 14.5-18.3 | 17.9 | 14.6 |

Note: Number denoted here the corresponding column percentage.
*P value < .05.
children who witnessed family violence (B: 4.097, P < .001) were at an increased risk of psychological abuse by adults. Similarly, children who were bullied by their siblings (B: 3.858, P < .001) and not living with their parents (B: 1.552, P < .05) were also at an increased risk. Every 1-year increase in schooling showed a decreased risk of being psychologically maltreated by 20.9%. All other exposure variables showed non-significant associations with psychological abuse.

| Psychological abuse                                      | Prevalence, n (%) | Gender difference, % |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Shouted, yelled or screamed at                            | 944 (66.7)        | 67.6/66.7           |
| Insulted by being called dumb, lazy                       | 460 (32.5)        | 29.5/30.5*          |
| Cursed                                                    | 291 (20.6)        | 23.4/17.4**         |
| Ignored                                                   | 156 (11.0)        | 9.6/12.5            |
| Blamed for misfortune                                     | 132 (9.3)         | 9.2/9.4             |
| Privileges or money taken away                            | 284 (20.1)        | 20.9/19.1           |
| Forbidden from going out                                  | 1076 (76.0)       | 73.1/79.0*          |
| Embarrassed publicly                                      | 272 (19.2)        | 21.9/16.4           |
| Wish that the child had never been born, or were dead     | 90 (6.4)          | 6.9/5.8             |
| Threatened of being abandoned                             | 357 (25.2)        | 27.1/23.2           |
| Locked out of the home                                    | 188 (13.3)        | 18.2/8.1***         |
| Threatened to invoke harmful people, ghost or evil spirits against the child | 604 (42.7) | 41.9/43.5         |
| Threatened of being hurt or killed                        | 53 (3.7)          | 4.7/2.8             |
| Food taken away                                           | 202 (14.3)        | 17.8/10.6***        |
| Hurtful prejudiced (gender, skin colour, religion, and culture) | 76 (5.4)  | 1.9/9.0***     |
| Embarrassed the child because s/he is orphan              | 7 (0.5)           | 0.3/0.7             |
| Stopped from being with other children                    | 65 (4.6)          | 5.9/3.2*            |
| Stolen from or braking of belongings                      | 66 (4.7)          | 4.3/5.1             |
| Threatened with bad marks not deserved                    | 49 (3.5)          | 3.2/3.8             |

| Neglect                                                  | Prevalence, n (%) | Gender difference, % |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Went hungry or thirsty                                   | 169 (11.9)        | 14.2/9.6**          |
| Inadequate clothing                                      | 148 (10.5)        | 11.7/9.1            |
| Unmet medical needs                                      | 582 (41.1)        | 40.2/42.0           |
| Hurt or injured due to inadequate supervision            | 74 (5.2)          | 6.2/4.2             |
| Felt not cared for                                       | 83 (5.9)          | 5.5/6.2             |
| Felt unimportant                                         | 69 (4.9)          | 4.4/5.4             |

Abbreviation: n, number.
*Significant at 5% level.
**Significant at 1% level.
***Significant at .1% level.

Children who were not living with their biological parents only (B: 0.682, P < .05) and children engaged in child labour (B: 0.504, P < .05) are at an increased risk of being neglected by adults. Every 1-year increase of schooling showed decreased risk of being neglected by 8.3% (B: −0.083, P < .01), while addition of one more child in the family exhibits the increased risk of being neglected by 11.6% (B: 0.116, P < .05). Other exposure variables of neglect such as the marital status of the child, feeling
safe at home, witnessing family violence among adults, bullied by siblings, parental education levels and SES were found to be non-significant.

4 | DISCUSSION

The results show how psychological abuse and neglect are widely prevalent in Bangladesh.

More than 97% of both the PY and LT prevalence rates of at least one form of psychological abuse in this study is consistent with findings of other South Asian studies where the psychological abuse ranges from 48% to 89%,4,5,14 The rate in the current study is still however high from other findings. The comprehensive nature of ICAST-C tool might be the reason for a higher rate of psychological abuse in this study as ICAST tool facilitates respondents with several scopes to respond various types of abusive events.

Prevalent nature of psychological abuse against children in Bangladesh could be the outcome of subordinate status of children in the society, power imbalance and academic over expectations of parents.15 Similarly, Deb & Modak 16 explained that cultural influence and elder’s domination are additional risk factors for child psychological abuse in the Bengali society in Tripura, India.

In the Bangladeshi society, children are often humiliated by being called bad names like bastard or son of a bitch.15 The present study also found that female children were more frequently insulted by being called dumb, lazy or other bad names. Similar observations were also reported in neighbouring Bengali community in India.16 This study found female children were more psychologically abused.
than their male counterparts by forbidding them from going outside the home as the cultural norm does not encourage Bangladeshi female children to play outdoors but stay at home.17

de Silva 18 suggested that South Asian countries are slow to recognise neglect as child maltreatment, where Bangladesh is not an exception. The present study found that the PY and LT prevalence rates of at least one form of child neglect were 58% and 78%, respectively. Using ICAST tool, Neupane et al 7 found approximately 45% Nepali children experienced neglect, while 60% children experienced neglect in India which was measured by a different tool.6

Studies revealed neglect as a prevalent form of child maltreatment.3 However, in Bangladeshi context, it has been overshadowed by different social factors notably poverty. Dubowitz et al 19 stated

| TABLE 4 | Multiple linear regression analysis of factors associated with lifetime neglect and psychological abuse score among children age 11 to 17 y |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| | Psychological abuse | | Neglect | | |
| | B (SE B) | 95% CI of B | P value | B (SE B) | 95% CI of B | P value |
| Age (years) | | | | | | |
| ≥15 years (ref) | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| <15 years | 0.674 (0.438) | −0.185 to 1.532 | .124 | — | — | — |
| Number of children | 0.025 (0.161) | −0.292 to −0.342 | .876 | 0.116 (0.055) | 0.007 to 0.224 | .036 |
| Occupation of the children | | | | | | |
| Student (ref) | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Engaged in different occupations | 0.529 (0.638) | −0.723 to 1.781 | .407 | 0.504 (0.238) | 0.038 to 0.971 | .034 |
| Marital status of the children | | | | | | |
| Ever married (ref) | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Unmarried | — | — | — | −0.360 (0.374) | −1.094 to 0.374 | .336 |
| Year of schooling (years) | −0.209 (0.104) | −0.413 to −0.006 | .044 | −0.083 (0.032) | −0.146 to −0.021 | .009 |
| Living arrangement | | | | | | |
| Living with biological parents only (ref) | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Other arrangement | 1.552 (0.780) | 0.023 to 3.082 | .047 | 0.682 (0.305) | 0.085 to 1.280 | .025 |
| Safe feeling | | | | | | |
| Not always (ref) | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Always | −0.581 (0.893) | −2.333 to 1.171 | .516 | — | — | — |
| Witnessing family violence | | | | | | |
| No (ref) | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Yes | 4.097 (0.474) | 3.168 to 5.026 | .000 | 0.245 (0.166) | −0.081 to 0.570 | .141 |
| Bullied by brother or sister | | | | | | |
| No (ref) | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Yes | 3.858 (0.428) | 3.018 to 4.698 | .000 | — | — | — |
| Father’s education | | | | | | |
| Below secondary level (ref) | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Above secondary level | 0.399 (0.546) | −0.673 to 1.471 | .466 | −0.144 (0.192) | −0.520 to 0.233 | .455 |
| Mother’s education | | | | | | |
| Below secondary level (ref) | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Above secondary level | −0.353 (0.538) | −1.408 to 0.701 | .511 | −0.017 (0.188) | −0.386 to 0.353 | .929 |
| SES | | | | | | |
| Others (ref) | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Lower | 0.644 (0.393) | −0.128 to 1.416 | .102 | 0.021 (0.137) | −0.248 to 0.291 | .878 |

Abbreviations: B, unstandardised regression coefficient; SE B, standard error for the unstandardised regression coefficient.
that families experiencing poverty are likely to fail in ensuring basic needs and adequate supervision to children, which is often considered as neglect. The findings of low prevalence rate of neglect in this study reflect that Bangladeshi rural families lack ensuring basic needs of their children as a result of poverty which is not considered as neglect. Besides, it is difficult to understand what neglect means in the local context.

After the ratification of the UNCRC in 1990, Bangladesh has developed several laws and policies to strengthen child rights and tackle domestic violence but the high prevalence rates of both psychological abuse and neglect reported in this study suggest that Bangladesh has a weak law enforcement system.

Besides, societal and cultural factors might have a significant association with the high rates of child psychological abuse and neglect in Bangladesh. Since its independence from Pakistan in 1971, Bangladesh witnessed political violence, extra-judicial killing and attacks on free thinkers. Within this violent society, there is a high prevalence of natural calamities, poverty, intimate partner violence and domestic violence as well. Considering the colonial experience, violent post-colonial and post-independent past, it is indicated that Bangladesh has an uneven record of human rights violations. These vulnerable factors potentiate child maltreatment on a larger scale.

Children engaged in child labour were found to be at a significantly higher risk of being neglected. This is in congruent with the findings of Oncu et al., who found both neglect and experiences of sexual and physical abuse of children at workplaces. In a previous study, we also found children facing verbal and emotional abuse in their workplaces. Most parents are aware of their children’s need and do not neglect them intentionally. Literature support that children living with a single parent or at foster care are neglected more. This is consistent with our result that children living with other arrangement than their biological parents only were at an increased risk of becoming psychologically abused and of being neglected.

The home environment and the family structure are crucial for the children’s psychological functioning and development. Studies support that children exposed to family violence are at an increased risk of becoming psychologically abused and of being neglected.

The cross-sectional design used in this study failed to establish any cause and effect relationship. Retrospective nature of this study might have caused recall bias and there was no scope to cross-check the information provided by children. Although one in five participants have been identified of having poor recall, it is known that memories of incidences that raise strong emotions are well kept in mind. In Bangladeshi local context, children might have difficulty in understanding the neglect questions of ICAST tool which may cause response bias. As the main findings of this study arise from multiple statistical tests and we could not go for any statistical correction of \( P \) values, there might have erroneous inferences due to type I error inflation.

Large sample size and participants selection through simple random sampling method were strengths of this study. The study used an internationally validated tool ICAST-C which gave possibilities to make comparisons of findings of similar studies.

5 | CONCLUSION

Child psychological abuse and neglect are highly prevalent in Bangladeshi rural society. These relate to family violence, lower education of minors, child labour, bullied by siblings and living separately from the parents. The government should make child maltreatment unlawful to ensure child rights and protection in compliance with UNCRC. Awareness campaigns about childcare practices should be taken to improve adults’ attitudes and practices towards child maltreatment where the civil society, NGOs and developing partners may play a significant role. In addition, government should take initiative to train health-care workers and other professionals like teachers, law enforcers, journalists etc to foster awareness about the detrimental health and developmental consequences of child maltreatment.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors wish to express their gratitude to the young people for sharing their experiences. We also express our gratitude to Professor Syed Shariful Islam, Chairman, Department of Public Health and Informatics, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical
CONFLICT OF INTEREST
The authors declare that there are no competing interests.

ORCID
Md Atiqul Haque https://orcid.org/0000-0002-7598-2550
Staffan Janson https://orcid.org/0000-0002-2542-6791

REFERENCES
1. Gilbert R, Widom CS, Browne K, Fergusson D, Webb E, Janson S. Burden and consequences of child maltreatment in high-income countries. *Lancet*. 2009;373(9657):68-81.

2. Stoltenborgh M, Bakermans-Kranenburg MJ, Alink LRA, Van IJzendoorn MH. The universality of childhood emotional abuse: a meta-analysis of worldwide prevalence. *J Aggress Maltreat Trauma*. 2012;21:870-881.

3. Stoltenborgh M, Bakermans-Kranenburg MJ, Alink LRA, van IJzendoorn MH. The prevalence of child maltreatment across the globe: review of a series of meta-analyses. *Child Abus Rev*. 2015;24(1):37-50.

4. Kulkarni A. Protecting children in Bhutan from violence: a call to action. *The Druk Journal*. 2016;2(2):1-6.

5. de Zoysa P. (2013). A study on parental disciplinary practices and an awareness program to reduce corporal punishment and other forms of negative parental practices. [cited 25 March 2018]. Available from http://www.cppnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/Report-on-Corporal-Punishment.pdf

6. Charak R, Koot HM. Abuse and neglect in adolescents of Jammu, India: the role of gender, family structure, and parental education. *J Anxiety Disorder*. 2014;28:590-598.

7. Neupane D, Bhandari PM, Thapa K, Bhochhhibho S. Self-reported child abuse in the home: a cross-sectional survey of prevalence, perpetrator characteristics and correlates among public secondary school students in Kathmandu, Nepal. *BMJ Open*. 2018;8:e018922.

8. Atiqul Haque M, Janson S, Moniruzzaman S, et al. Children’s exposure to physical abuse from a child perspective: a population-based study in rural Bangladesh. *PloS ONE*. 2019;14(2):e0212428.

9. Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics and Unicef Bangladesh. Child well-being survey 2016. Final report. [cited 9 July 2018]. Available from: http://bbs.portal.gov.bd/sites/default/files/files/bbs.portal.gov.bd/page/b343a8b4_956b_45ca_872f_4cf9b2f1a6e0/ReportonCWSS2016UrbanareaasinBangladesh.pdf

10. Kandel P, Kunwar R, Karki S, Kandel D, Lamichhane P. Child maltreatment in Nepal: prevalence and associated factors. *Public Health*. 2017;151:106-113.

11. Lakhdir MPA, Farooq S, Khan UR, et al. Factors associated with child maltreatment among children aged 11 to 17 years in community settings of Karachi, Pakistan, using Belsky ecological framework. *J Interpers Violence*. 2017;1-17.

12. Hadi A. Child abuse among working children in rural Bangladesh: prevalence and determinants. *Public Health*. 2000;114:380-384.

13. Filmer D, Pritchett L. Estimating wealth effects without expenditure data—or tears: an application to educational enrollments in States of India. *Demography*. 2001;38(1):115-132.

14. Wasif S. Most children suffer psychological assault. *The Express Tribune*. [Internet]. 2018 Mar 5 [cited 27 June 2018]. Available from https://tribune.com.pk/story/1651289/1-form-violence-children-suffer-psychological-assault/

15. Haque MA, Janson S, Moniruzzaman S, Rahman AKMF, Mashreky SR, Eriksson U-B. Bangladeshi school-age children's experiences and perceptions on child maltreatment: a qualitative interview study. *Child Care Health Dev*. 2017;43(6):876-883.

16. Deb S, Modak S. Prevalence of violence against children in families in Tripura and its relationship with socio-economic factors. *J Inj Violence Res*. 2010;2:5-18.

17. Mohajan HK. Child rights in Bangladesh. *J Soc Welfare Hum Rights*. 2014;2:207-238.

18. de Silva DGH. Children needing protection: experience from South Asia. *Arch Dis Child*. 2007;92:931-934.

19. Dubowitz H. Understanding and addressing the “neglect of neglect”: Digging into the molehill. *Child Abuse Negl*. 2007;31:603-606.

20. Haider BMK. Students’ Radicalization: a study on private universities of Bangladesh. Norwegian University of Life Sciences. [cited 19 February 2018]. Available from https://brage.bibsys.no/xmlui/bitstream/handle/11250/2425972/Haider-2016.pdf?sequence=1

21. Öncü E, Kurt AO, Esenay Fl, Özêr F. Abuse of working children and influencing factors, Turkey. *Child Abuse Negl*. 2013;37:283-291.

22. Dubowitz H. Neglect in children. *Pediatr Ann*. 2013;42:73-77.

23. Dufour S, Lavergne C, Larrivée MC, Trocmé N. Who are these parents involved in child neglect? A differential analysis by parent gender and family structure. *Children Youth Serv Rev*. 2008;30:141-156.

24. Herrenkohl TI, Sousa C, Tajima EA, Herrenkohl RC, Moylan CA. Intersection of child abuse and children’s exposure to domestic violence. *Trauma Violence Abuse*. 2008;9:84-99.

25. McLeod D. Coercive control: Impacts on children and young people in the family environment. Research in Practice. [cited 12 August 2019]. Available from https://www.rip.org.uk/downloads/374/CoercivecontrolImpactsonchildrenand.html

26. Smith Slep AM, O’Leary SG. Examining partner and child abuse: are they ready for a more integrated approach to family violence? *Clin Child Fam Psychol Rev*. 2001;4:87-107.

27. Rezvi MR. Poverty situation in Bangladesh. Daily Sun [Internet]. 2017 Apr 30 [cited 21 August 2019]. Available from http://daily-sun.com/post/223106/Poverty-situation-in-Bangladesh

28. Sidebotham P. An ecological approach to child abuse: a creative use of scientific models in research and practice. *Child Abus Rev*. 2001;10(2):97-112.

29. Ward C, Sanders MR, Gardner F, Mikton C, Dawes A. Preventing child maltreatment in low- and middle-income countries: Parent support programs have the potential to buffer the effects of poverty. *Child Abuse Negl*. 2016;54:97-107.

30. Brown M. Assessing recall of early life circumstances: evidence from the National Child Development Study. *Longitudinal and Life Course Studies*. 2014;5(1):64-78.

How to cite this article: Haque MA, Moniruzzaman S, Janson S, Rahman AKMF, Mashreky SR, Eriksson U-B. Children’s exposure to psychological abuse and neglect: A population-based study in rural Bangladesh. *Acta Paediatr*. 2021;110:257–264. https://doi.org/10.1111/apa.15340