

# The pathways between female garment workers' experience of violence and development of depressive symptoms

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# Introduction

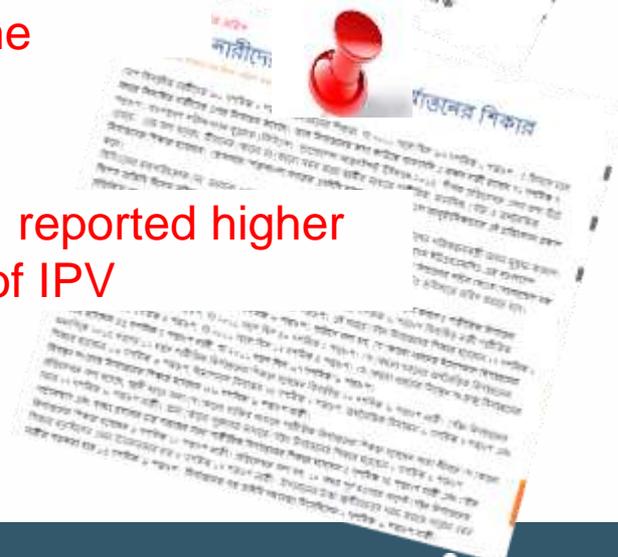


Rate of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) is very high

1 in 2 women reported experience of physical/sexual IPV during lifetime



Working women reported higher rate of IPV



# Violence against female garment workers



Reports higher level of IPV at home



Exposed to violence at workplace too -

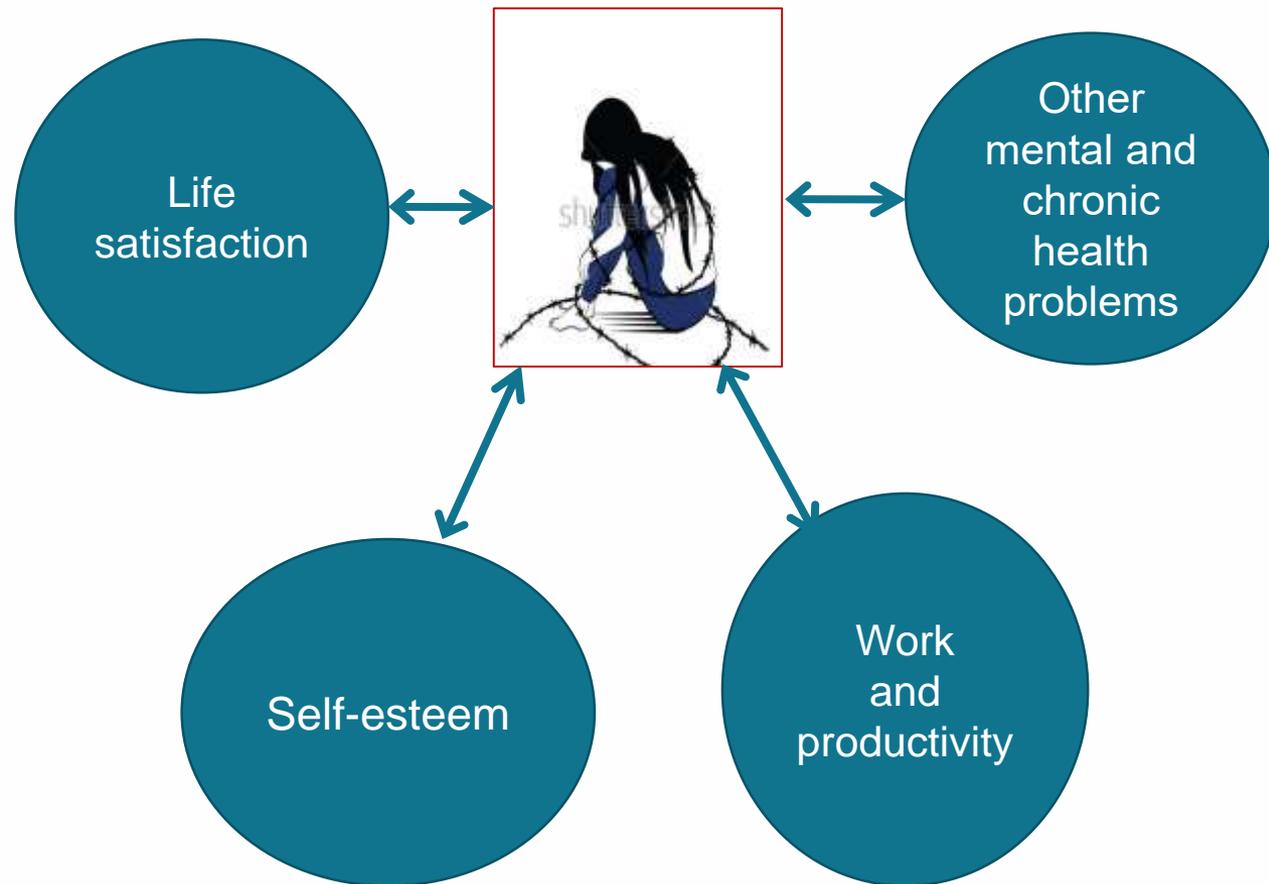
- Verbal abuse
- Economic abuse
- Physical abuse
- Sexual harassment

# Violence and mental health: Depression

Single largest cause to non-fatal health loss (WHO, 2017)

Estimated rate of depression among adults in Bangladesh is 4% (WHO, 2017)

Women are 2/3 times more prone to develop depression



# Objective

This paper aims to explore -

The pathways through which experience of IPV and Workplace Violence (WPV) leads to the development of depressive symptomatology.



# Methods

- Study design: Quasi-experimental
- Study site: In and around Dhaka city
- Garment factories, no.: 8
- Sample size: 800 female workers
- Sampling method: Random, based on factory list
- Interview venue: Outside the factory

# Methods ...

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## Measurement tools:

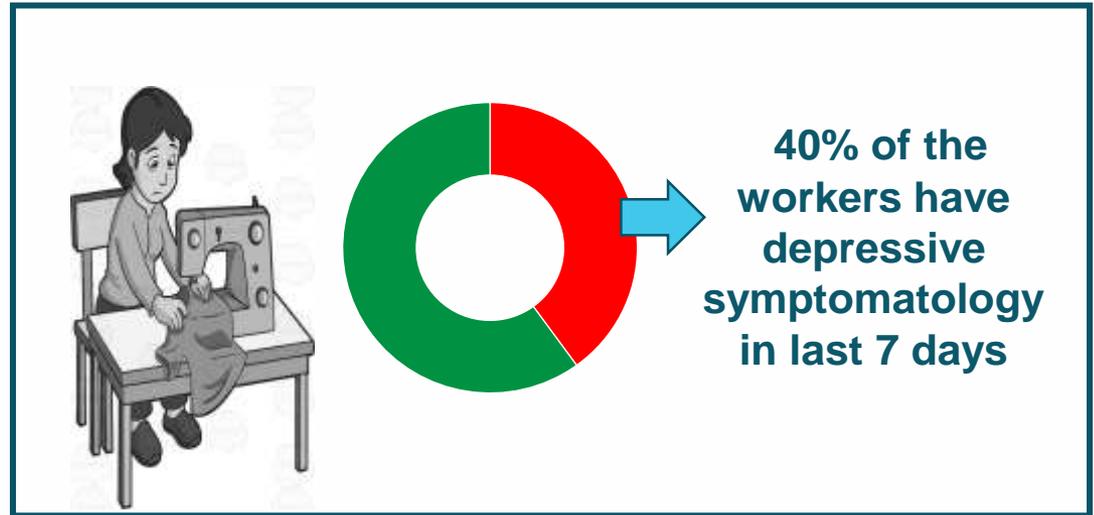
- WHO VAW instrument for measuring IPV
- CESD for measuring depression
- Modified peer victimization scale to assess workplace violence (WPV)

## Data analyses:

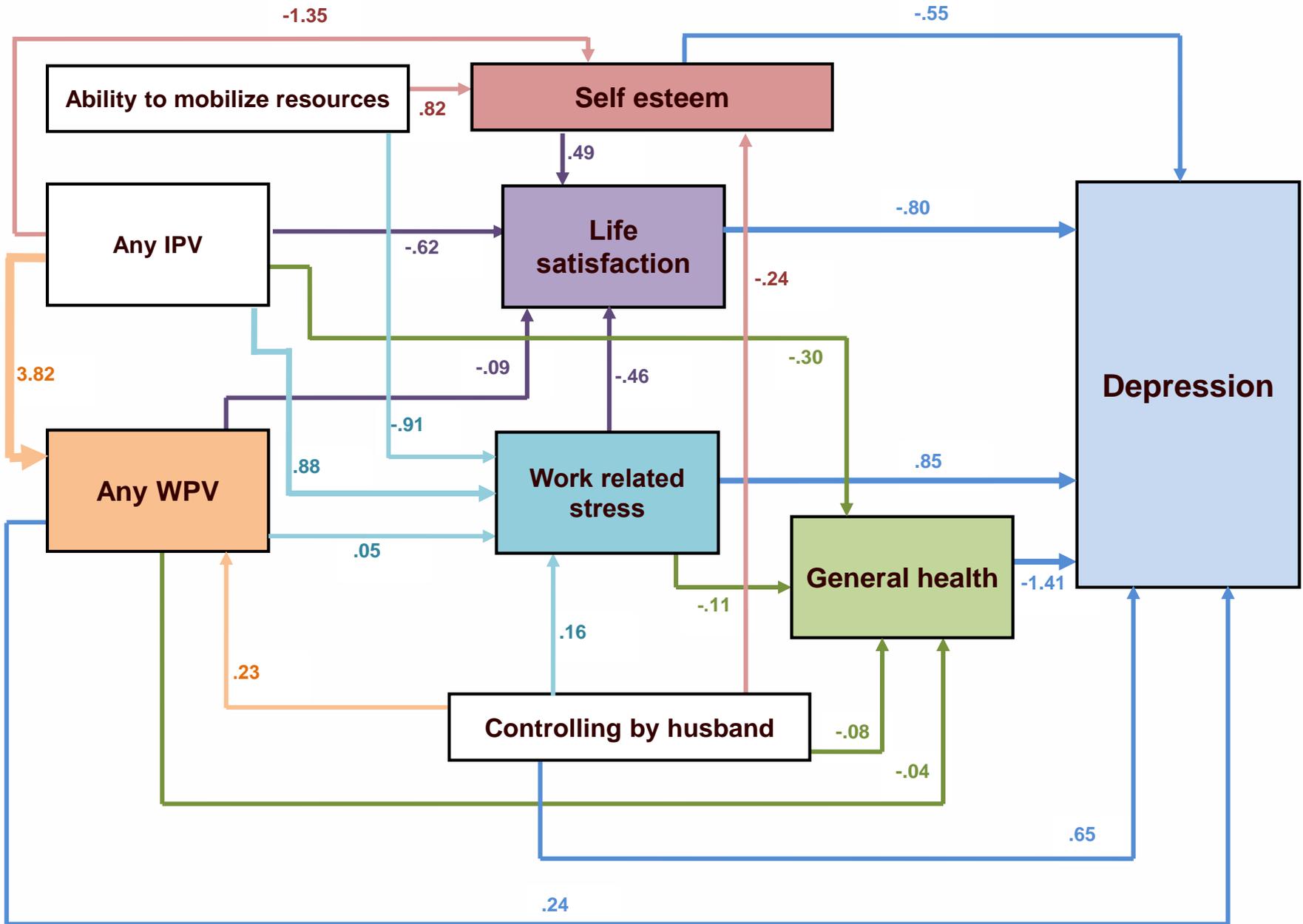
- Descriptive
- SEM (Structural Equation Modeling)

# Results

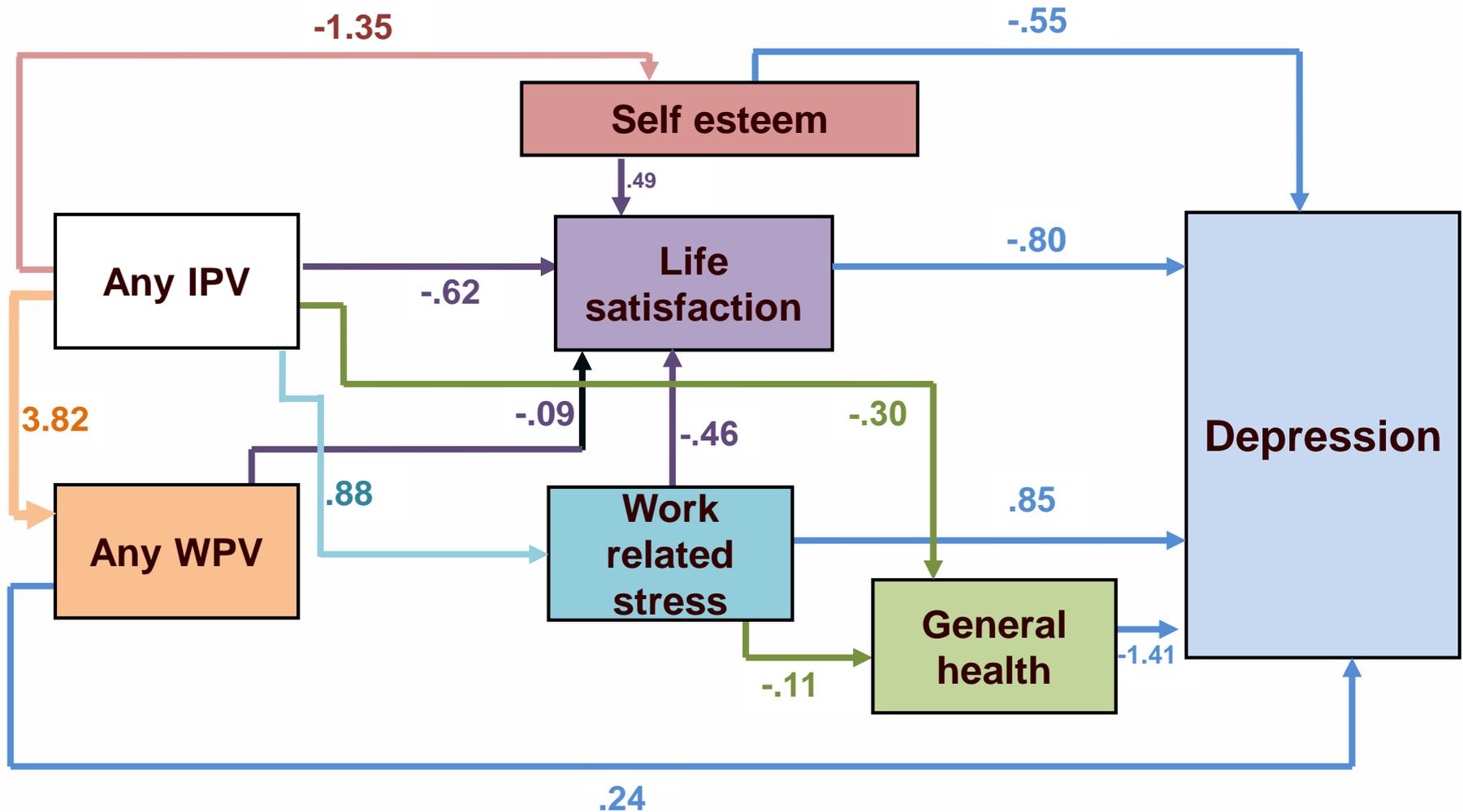
# Prevalence of IPV, WPV and depression among female garment workers



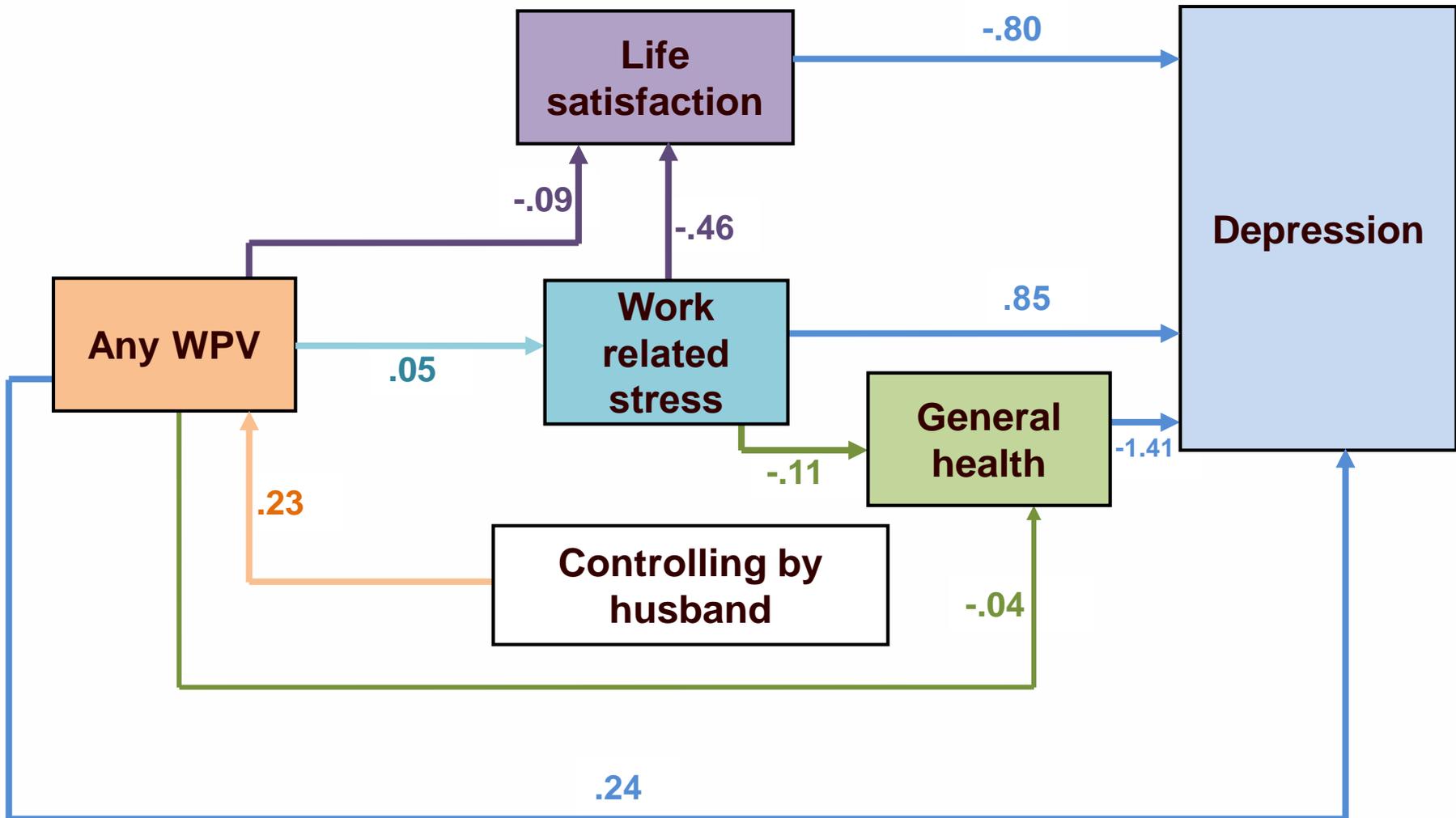
# The Pathway



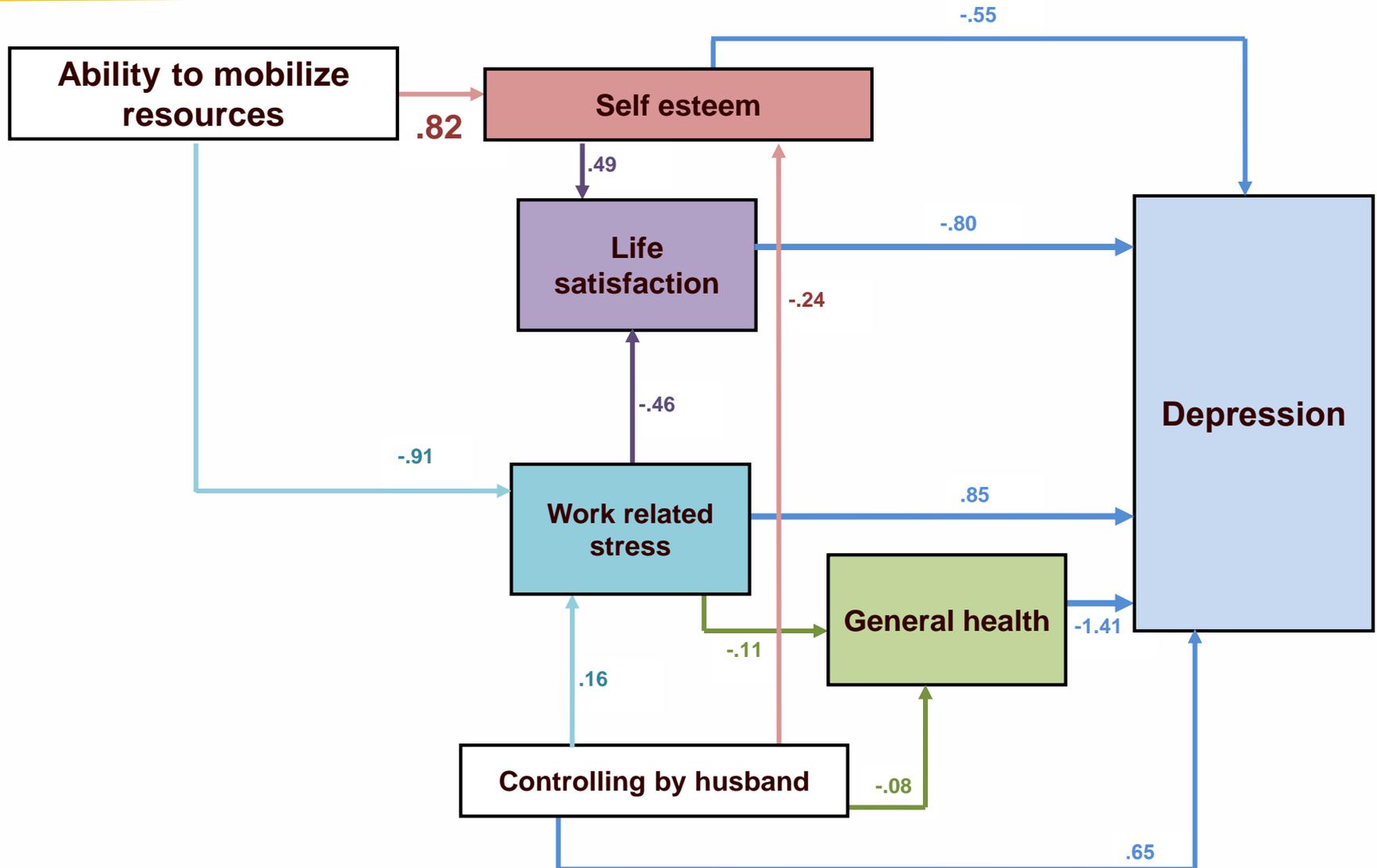
# IPV → Depression



# WPV → Depression



# Other pathways



# Discussion

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- High levels of IPV, WPV and depression among female garment workers
- Experience of IPV + WPV → higher rate of depression
- IPV + WPV → ↑ Work related stress, ↓ life satisfaction and ↓ general health → Depression
- Worker's ability to mobilize resources → improve her mental health through ↑ self-esteem and ↓ work stress

# Conclusion

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- This may indicate that combined intervention including women's empowerment could be successful in dealing with IPV, WPV and mental health
- Thus will benefit individuals, family, garment industry and contribute to development of the country

# Acknowledgements

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