

## **MEDICAL RESEARCH SUMMARY ON ABUSE FOR SANTA CLARA COUNTY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNCIL JANUARY 2013**

This summary includes selected research articles relating to abuse indexed by the National Library of Medicine November 2012. To obtain a copy of the abstracts, go to [pubmed.gov](http://pubmed.gov), and place the Pubmed ID numbers (PMID) in the search box, separated by commas. PTSD = Post Traumatic Stress Disorder IPV = Intimate Partner Violence

For questions or comments about this summary, or to be placed on an email list to receive this monthly summary, please contact Harise Stein, MD [harise@stanford.edu](mailto:harise@stanford.edu)

### **Child Abuse**

Lindberg DM, Shapiro RA, Laskey AL, Pallin DJ, Blood EA, Berger RP; ExSTRA Investigators.

#### **Prevalence of abusive injuries in siblings and household contacts of physically abused children.**

Pediatrics. 2012 Aug;130(2):193-201. PMID: 22778300

Analyzing data from 20 US child abuse teams, 11.9% of siblings/other children in the home of a known physically abused child also had abusive fractures. A twin was 20 times more likely to also have an abusive fracture.

McCue Horwitz S, Hurlburt MS, Heneghan A, Zhang J, Rolls-Reutz J, Fisher E, Landsverk J, Stein RE.

#### **Mental health problems in young children investigated by U.S. child welfare agencies.**

J Am Acad Child Adolesc Psychiatry. 2012 Jun;51(6):572-81. PMID: 22632617

Up to 1/3 of 1117 children aged 1-3 investigated for child maltreatment from a national survey had significant mental health problems, but only 2.2% of these received mental health services.

Campbell KA, Thomas AM, Cook LJ, Keenan HT.

#### **Longitudinal experiences of children remaining at home after a first-time investigation for suspected maltreatment.**

J Pediatr. 2012 Aug;161(2):340-7. PMID: 22480699

From a sample of over 1 million children followed after first-time investigation for maltreatment, within 3 years 9.2% were placed out of home and 1/3 experienced behavior problems. Referral for services was associated with a significant reduction in caregiver IPV and substance abuse, and in child behavior problems.

Hibbard R, Barlow J, Macmillan H, et al.

#### **Psychological maltreatment.**

Pediatrics. 2012 Aug;130(2):372-8. PMID: 22848125

“Psychological or emotional maltreatment of children may be the most challenging and prevalent form of child abuse and neglect.” Article discusses the effects of child psychological abuse and possible interventions.

### **Adult Manifestations of Child Abuse**

Boynton-Jarrett R, Rosenberg L, Palmer JR, Boggs DA, Wise LA.

#### **Child and adolescent abuse in relation to obesity in adulthood: the Black Women's Health Study.**

Pediatrics. 2012 Aug;130(2):245-53. PMID: 22753562

From the Black Women's Health Study with over 33,000 participants, childhood sexual/physical abuse was associated with increased risk of overall and central obesity, even after adjusting for multiple variables such as diet, physical activity, depression and socioeconomic status.

Perales R, Gallaway MS, Forys-Donahue KL, Spiess A, Millikan AM.

#### **Prevalence of childhood trauma among U.S. Army soldiers with suicidal behavior.**

Mil Med. 2012 Sep;177(9):1034-40. PMID: 23025132

In 2009, suicide was the third leading cause of death among US Army personnel. Using a Dept. Of Defense Suicide Event Report database, 64.7% of attempted and 43.3% of completed suicide cases had experienced childhood trauma.

Hart-Johnson T, Green CR.

#### **The impact of sexual or physical abuse history on pain-related outcomes among blacks and whites with chronic pain: gender influence.**

Pain Med. 2012 Feb;13(2):229-42. PMID: 22296712

For 142 adults seen at a pain center, lifetime prevalence of abuse was 70% for men and 65% for women. Pain and disability were correlated with different types of child and adult abuse, with sexual abuse penetration at any age in particular being related to pain-related disability. Pain treatment may be less effective if abuse history is not considered.

Labonte B, Yerko V, Gross J, Mechawar N, Meaney MJ, Szyf M, Turecki G.

**Differential glucocorticoid receptor exon 1(B), 1(C), and 1(H) expression and methylation in suicide completers with a history of childhood abuse.**

Biol Psychiatry. 2012 Jul 1;72(1):41-8. PMID: 22444201

This study found chemical changes in brain function of suicide completers with a history of child abuse compared to suicides without child abuse and a control group (accident victims without abuse history). These brain changes are linked to the stress hormone system and are a concrete measurement of how adverse early life experiences can permanently affect brain physiology and the ability to handle stress.

Huang MC, Schwandt ML, Ramchandani VA, George DT, Heilig M.

**Impact of multiple types of childhood trauma exposure on risk of psychiatric comorbidity among alcoholic inpatients.**

Alcohol Clin Exp Res. 2012 Jun;36(6):1099-107. PMID: 22420670

For 196 alcoholic in-patients undergoing detoxification, 55% had experienced some type of childhood abuse. Increasing numbers of types of abuse or neglect were associated in a dose-response fashion with suicide attempts as well as mental health diagnoses.

**Adolescents**

Amar AF, Sutherland M, Laughon K, Bess R, Stockbridge J.

**Peer influences within the campus environment on help seeking related to violence.**

J Natl Black Nurses Assoc. 2012 Jul;23(1):1-7. PMID: 23061163

From undergraduate focus groups, peers and the social norms of the campus environment were the primary influencers of help-seeking behavior or not after dating violence. Victims were concerned about victim blaming, fear of direct response, and the alcohol factor.

Draucker CB, Martsolf DS.

**The role of electronic communication technology in adolescent dating violence.**

J Child Adolesc Psychiatr Nurs. 2010 Aug;23(3):133-42. PMID: 20796096

56 adolescents described the various uses of electronic technology in dating violence. "Communication technologies facilitated the escalation of arguments, provided a means for the intrusive monitoring of a partner's behavior, and facilitated interactions among estranged couples, often resulting in more violence."

Ménard KS, Pincus AL.

**Predicting overt and cyber stalking perpetration by male and female college students.**

J Interpers Violence. 2012 Jul;27(11):2183-207. PMID: 22203630

For 934 female and 807 male college students with a mean age of 19, childhood sexual maltreatment was a predictor of both cyber and overt stalking behaviors. In addition, narcissism was a factor for males, and alcohol was a factor for females.

Hendy HM, Burns MK, Can SH, Scherer CR.

**Adult violence with the mother and sibling as predictors of partner violence.**

J Interpers Violence. 2012 Jul;27(11):2276-97. PMID: 22203632

For 1199 college students, patterns were seen of violence with mothers, siblings, and partners. Authors suggest that violence prevention programs also include participation of mothers and siblings.

**Domestic Violence – Effects on Children**

Nelson DB, Uscher-Pines L, Staples SR, Grisso JA.

**Childhood violence and behavioral effects among urban pregnant women.**

J Womens Health (Larchmt). 2010 Jun;19(6):1177-83. PMID: 20392141

For pregnant women in an urban medical center, women reporting any type of childhood violence were 2.45 times more likely to be experiencing current violence. Childhood maltreatment, and especially also current violence, was associated with depression and cigarette/substance abuse during pregnancy.

Spiller LC, Jouriles EN, McDonald R, Skopp NA.

**Physically Abused Women's Experiences of Sexual Victimization and their Children's Disruptive Behavior Problems.**

Psychol Violence. 2012 Oct 1;2(4):401-410. PMID: 23166861

For 449 physically abused mothers and their 4-8 year old children residing in a DV shelter, 75% of mothers also reported sexual abuse. Sexual abuse correlated with maternal psychological distress, which related to children's disruptive behavior problems.

Gardner M, Browning C, Brooks-Gunn J.

**Can Organized Youth Activities Protect Against Internalizing Problems Among Adolescents Living in Violent Homes?**

J Res Adolesc. 2012 Dec 1;22(4):662-677. PMID: 23162370

In a Chicago Neighborhoods project with 1419 youth, intensive participation in afterschool programs decreased the association between parents' DV and youth's mood problems.

**Domestic Violence – Physical Health**

Joshi M, Thomas KA, Sorenson SB.

**"I Didn't Know I Could Turn Colors": Health Problems and Health Care Experiences of Women Strangled by an Intimate Partner.**

Soc Work Health Care. 2012 Oct;51(9):798-814. PMID: 23078012

From in-depth interviews with 17 patients recruited from a shelter who had experienced non-lethal strangulation, 82% had been strangled multiple times. Clients referred to "choking" with a body part (hands) and "strangulation" with an object (cloth, wire). They described multiple medical consequences up to and including stroke, and because they only rarely disclosed or were asked by medical personnel, were subjected to multiple inappropriate tests and treatments for their symptoms.

**Domestic Violence – Mental Health**

Beydoun HA, Beydoun MA, Kaufman JS, Lo B, Zonderman AB.

**Intimate partner violence against adult women and its association with major depressive disorder, depressive symptoms and postpartum depression: a systematic review and meta-analysis.**

Soc Sci Med. 2012 Sep;75(6):959-75. PMID: 22694991

This review of research studies concluded that IPV is associated with a 2-3 fold increased risk of major depression, a 2 fold risk of postpartum depression, and that up to 28% of adult depressive disorders can be attributed to lifetime exposure to IPV.

Comeau J, Davies L.

**Patterns of depressive symptoms and antidepressant use among women survivors of intimate partner violence.**

Soc Psychiatry Psychiatr Epidemiol. 2012 Sep;47(9):1527-37. PMID: 22134337

Of 309 Canadian women who had recently left an abusive partner, over 80% with elevated depressive symptoms had not been evaluated or treated for depression.

Walsh K, Danielson CK, McCauley JL, Saunders BE, Kilpatrick DG, Resnick HS.

**National prevalence of posttraumatic stress disorder among sexually revictimized adolescent, college, and adult household-residing women.**

Arch Gen Psychiatry. 2012 Sep;69(9):935-42. PMID: 22566561

Using national representative data from 3 different surveys to look at adolescent, college, and adult household female populations, with over 7,000 participants, of women who had experienced lifetime sexual victimization, 53% of adolescents, 50% of college women, and 58.8% of household-residing women reported revictimization – meaning 2 or more sexual assaults. Women experiencing revictimization were 4.3 to 8.2 times more likely to have PTSD than those not sexually victimized.

**Cultural Issues**

Roy D.

**South Asian Battered Women's Use of Force Against Intimate Male Partners: A Practice Note.**

Violence Against Women. 2012 Sep;18(9):1108-18. PMID: 23108807

This article discusses the cultural constraints of South Asian women - that the woman is the guardian of the marriage and family and must keep it intact at all costs, and that issues within the family are closely guarded and outside intervention is rarely approved or welcomed. In this context, a woman may feel she has no option but the use of force to stop the violence, and authors note increased DV arrests of women from this population, who may use force in self-defense or trying to escape.

## **Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse**

Fox AW.

### **Elder abuse.**

Med Sci Law. 2012 Jul;52(3):128-36. PMID: 22833482

Overview of the worldwide concept of elder abuse, including physical, psychological, sexual, neglect and financial abuse.

Sanders S, Hensch M, Bengtson K.

### **Community collaborations between the medical examiner's office and gerontological service providers: implementation of an older adult death review team.**

Health Soc Work. 2012 May;37(2):123-7. PMID: 23029979

Description of the formation, structure, outcomes and advocacy of an elder death review team. Without such a team elder deaths are often overlooked or disregarded, with a bias toward non-thorough analysis of circumstances of death.

## **Perpetrators**

Nemeth JM, Bonomi AE, Lee MA, Ludwin JM.

### **Sexual infidelity as trigger for intimate partner violence.**

J Womens Health (Larchmt). 2012 Sep;21(9):942-9. PMID: 22747330

An analysis of telephone calls from 17 detained heterosexual perpetrators to their victims revealed that violent events were consistently triggered by accusations of infidelity, with concern of infidelity a chronic relationship stressor. "Jealousy is a strategy used by perpetrators to control IPV victims and as a red flag for homicidal behavior."

Kilmer B, Nicosia N, Heaton P, Midgette G.

### **Efficacy of Frequent Monitoring With Swift, Certain, and Modest Sanctions for Violations: Insights From South Dakota's 24/7 Sobriety Project.**

Am J Public Health. 2013 Jan;103(1):e37-43. PMID: 23153129

In South Dakota's 24/7 Sobriety Project, persons arrested for alcohol-involved offenses were required to submit to breathalyzer tests twice per day or wear a continuous alcohol monitoring bracelet – those testing positive were subject to swift modest sanctions. At the county level there was a 12% reduction in repeat DUI arrests and a 9% reduction in DV arrests.

## **Police and Court System**

Wright CV, Johnson DM.

### **Encouraging legal help seeking for victims of intimate partner violence: the therapeutic effects of the civil protection order.**

J Trauma Stress. 2012 Dec;25(6):675-81. PMID: 23184312

For a sample of 106 women recruited at a shelter, comparing baseline and 6 months post shelter, those women with a protection order had a significant decrease in PTSD symptoms and incidents of sexual revictimization, compared to those without a PO.

## **Providers**

Kramer A, Nosbusch JM, Rice J.

### **Safe mom, safe baby: a collaborative model of care for pregnant women experiencing intimate partner violence.**

J Perinat Neonatal Nurs. 2012 Oct;26(4):307-16. PMID: 23111718

Since abused pregnant women are 1.4 times more likely to deliver a preterm or low-birth-weight infant, this interdisciplinary program involved nurse case managers and community advocates to help women navigate healthcare, criminal justice, legal, and social service systems. For those completing the program, delivery outcomes appeared to be improved with the limited data collection available.

Hammerschlag MR, Gaydos CA.

### **Guidelines for the use of molecular biological methods to detect sexually transmitted pathogens in cases of suspected sexual abuse in children.**

Methods Mol Biol. 2012;903:307-17. PMID: 22782828

Review of laboratory testing methods in childhood sexual abuse.

Sprague S, Madden K, Simunovic N, Godin K, Pham NK, Bhandari M, Goslings JC.

**Barriers to screening for intimate partner violence.**

Women Health. 2012;52(6):587-605. PMID: 22860705

In a review of research papers on barriers to DV screening in the medical setting, the most frequently reported provider barriers were personal discomfort with the issue, lack of knowledge, and time constraints.

Tower M, Rowe J, Wallis M.

**Reconceptualising health and health care for women affected by domestic violence.**

Contemp Nurse. 2012 Oct;42(2):216-25. PMID: 23181373

Interviews with Australian nurses revealed that when DV patients had a lack of clear physical trauma, needs were quickly re-defined as “social needs” and referred on to social workers. As a result women’s health issues were only partially addressed or were overlooked. Women reported receiving little support or encouragement after they disclosed DV to nurses, and nurses felt “poorly trained and poorly equipped to effectively respond to women” in these circumstances.

Neff JL, Patterson MM, Johnson S.

**Meeting the training needs of those who meet the needs of victims: assessing service providers.**

Violence Vict. 2012;27(4):609-31. PMID: 22978078

Analysis of a state-wide assessment of training needs for victim services providers, in preparation for designing a state victim assistance training academy. (Virginia)

**Researchers**

Tower M, Rowe J, Wallis M.

**Investigating patients' experiences: methodological usefulness of interpretive interactionism.**

Nurse Res. 2012;20(1):39-44. PMID: 23061273

Discussion of the use of “interpretive interactionism” in conducting research studies on DV, as this approach “puts the patient at the centre of the research process and makes visible the experiences of patients as they interact with the healthcare and social systems that surround them.”

Choi KH, Reddy LF, Spaulding W.

**Child abuse rating system for archival information in severe mental illness.**

Soc Psychiatry Psychiatr Epidemiol. 2012 Aug;47(8):1271-9. PMID: 21947477

Discussion of a proposed child abuse rating system for historical information.

Sutherland MA, Fantasia HC.

**Successful research recruitment strategies in a study focused on abused rural women at risk for sexually transmitted infections.**

J Midwifery Womens Health. 2012 Jul-Aug;57(4):381-5. PMID: 22758360

Authors discuss a successful revision of a study recruitment strategy, including personal involvement by the research staff (knitting group), a nonthreatening environment, and incentives.

Bauldry S, Shanahan MJ, Boardman JD, Miech RA, Macmillan R.

**A life course model of self-rated health through adolescence and young adulthood.**

Soc Sci Med. 2012 Oct;75(7):1311-20. PMID: 22726620

Authors suggest that self-rated health measures of young adults include information about family of origin. “Background characteristics (parental education, income, and family structure), parental health conditions (asthma, diabetes, obesity, migraines), and early health challenges (physical abuse, presence of a disability, and parental alcoholism and smoking) predict self-rated health from adolescence to young adulthood.”

Katerndahl DA, Burge SK, Ferrer RL, Becho J, Wood RC.

**Understanding intimate partner violence dynamics using mixed methods.**

Fam Syst Health. 2012 Jun;30(2):141-53. PMID: 22709326

This research study of IPV dynamics demonstrates the value of using both quantitative and qualitative methods in gathering data.

## **Other of Interest**

Katula SL.

### **Creating a safe haven for employees who are victims of domestic violence.**

Nurs Forum. 2012 Oct;47(4):217-25. PMID: 23127235

Overview of the issue of DV at the workplace, including interventions to keep employees safe and to manage the financial burden that accompanies this problem.

Dalziel K, Segal L.

### **Home visiting programmes for the prevention of child maltreatment: cost-effectiveness of 33 programmes.**

Arch Dis Child. 2012 Sep;97(9):787-98. PMID: 22764090

In a review of 33 different home visitation programs to prevent child maltreatment, and calculating comparable costs, additional costs ranged from \$1800 to \$30,000 per family, while cost savings per case of maltreatment prevented were estimated from \$22,000 to several million.

Stidham AW, Draucker CB, Martsolf DS, Mullen LP.

### **Altruism in survivors of sexual violence: the typology of helping others.**

J Am Psychiatr Nurses Assoc. 2012 May-Jun;18(3):146-55. PMID: 22495915

For 121 men and women who had experienced sexual abuse at some point in their lives, 2/3 found healing in helping others through various means - including protecting children, helping others in general, choosing a helping profession, providing guidance, providing advocacy, stopping perpetrators, and speaking publicly.

### **Melissa L. Anderson: APA/APAGS Award for Distinguished Graduate Student in Professional Psychology.**

Am Psychol. 2012 Nov;67(8):716-7. PMID: 23163470

The American Psychological Association Distinguished Graduate Student in Professional Psychology 2012 Award was given to Melissa L. Anderson for her "ongoing commitment to understanding, treating, and preventing domestic violence in Deaf women and underserved populations in general."

Mahapatro M, Gupta R, Gupta V.

### **The risk factor of domestic violence in India.**

Indian J Community Med. 2012 Jul;37(3):153-7. PMID: 23112440

A survey of over 42,000 women in 18 states in India revealed 39% IPV, with lower household income, lower caste, less education and a partner who drinks/bets as identified risk factors. India reportedly has one crime against women every three minutes, including a rape every 29 minutes and a dowry death every 77 minutes. In 2006 a DV bill was passed that allowed for issuing of protective orders and punishment including a jail term of up to one year and fine of up to \$450.