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Child Abuse

Stormer B, Chandler-Ofuya N, Baker AJL, et al.

Caregiver Psychological Maltreatment Behaviors Toward Children on TikTok.

Child Maltreat. 2023;10775595231211616. PMID: [37956869](#)

“A significant number of parents engage in sharenting without considering its impact on their children and research shows that children, especially teens, can experience sharenting as a hostile act. Sharenting can compromise children’s online safety...as well as the potential for a child’s embarrassment, bullying, and reputational damage, both immediately and throughout the child’s life.” Authors note and discuss legal and policy issues as well as education/intervention for “behaviors related to posting negative content of their children to social media, such as videos capturing parents playing cruel pranks on their children designed to scare, embarrass, or upset them or videos capturing parents threatening and belittling their children or encouraging their child’s antisocial behavior (e.g., fighting between siblings, sexualized dancing).”

Islam MM.

The gradients of the relationship between child discipline practices at home and early childhood development of young children.

Child Abuse Negl. 2023;147:106536. PMID: [37944309](#)

“This study examined the gradient of the relationship between the number and types of child discipline practices at home and the ECD [early childhood development] of children aged 36-59 months...About 94% of children had experienced at least one of the eight violent disciplinary measures during the month preceding the survey...The probability that children were on track in ECD significantly increased with non-violent disciplinary practices and decreased with violent disciplinary practices used. For one unit increase in the overall violent disciplinary index, the odds of children being on track in their ECD was reduced by 12%, and the reduction was significant.”

Hartill M, Rulofs B, Allroggen M, et al.

Prevalence of interpersonal violence against children in sport in six European countries.

Child Abuse Negl. 2023;146:106513. PMID: [37931542](#)

Of 10,302 individuals aged 18-30 who had participated in organized sport prior to age 18 (50% female) from six European countries, prevalence of inside sport maltreatment included psychological violence (65%), physical violence (44%), neglect (37%), non-contact sexual violence (35%), and contact sexual violence (20%). Relatively small geographical differences were found. “Interpersonal violence against children in sport is widespread.”

Crouch E, Andersen TS, Smith HP.

Adverse Childhood Experiences and Positive Childhood Experiences Among United States Military Children.

Mil Med. 2023 Oct 28:usad416. PMID: [37897695](#)

From a large national study, “There were no statistically significant differences in PCEs between military and civilian children. Compared to children with a civilian caregiver, children who had a caregiver who had ever served on active duty had higher odds of experiencing domestic violence (adjusted Odds Ratio 1.61), mental health issues or depression in the household (aOR 1.28), and substance use (aOR 1.28).”

Dubowitz H, Finkel M, Feigelman S, Lyon T.

Initial Medical Assessment of Possible Child Sexual Abuse: History, History, History.

Acad Pediatr. 2023 Nov 14:S1876-2859(23)00417-5. PMID: [37972726](#)

“Primary care professionals (PCPs) can play a valuable role in the initial assessment of possible child sexual abuse (CSA)...PCPs, however, are often reluctant to conduct these assessments. The goal of this paper is to help PCPs be more competent and comfortable playing a limited but key role...This article focuses on practical guidance regarding history-taking when CSA is suspected, incorporating evidence from research on forensic interviewing. We have been mindful of the practical constraints of a busy practice and the role of the public agencies in fully investigating possible CSA.”

Caouette J, Cossette L, Hébert M.

Do You See What I See? Emotion Recognition Competencies in Sexually Abused School-Aged Children and Non-Abused Children.

J Child Sex Abus. 2023;32(7):813-28. PMID: [37545166](#)

For 97 sexually abused (SA) children (65 girls) and 78 non-abused children (56 girls) aged between 6 and 12 years from the Montreal area, recognition of joy, anger, fear, sadness, and neutral expressions was assessed. Total scores of emotion recognition were significantly lower for those who experienced SA relative to non-abused children, especially for anger and joy. "Findings highlight the importance of assessing emotion recognition competencies to improve intervention programs provided to sexually abused children."

Farkas BC, Jacquet PO.

Early life adversity jointly regulates body-mass index and working memory development.

Proceedings Biological sciences. 2023;290(2011):20231945. PMID: [37964530](#)

Authors discuss the concept that a child, as a growing organism with a certain amount of energy to spend, balances energy expenditure towards body and brain development. "An important issue, largely overlooked so far, is the extent to which this energetic trade-off is influenced by early life environmental factors. In this study, we estimated the association between neurocognitive (measured by working memory ability) and somatic (measured by body-mass index) developmental trajectories, while taking into account multiple dimensions of early life adversity."

Svendsen SS, Lewis T, Chiesa AE, Sirotnak AP, Lindberg DM.
The role of fellowship experience in decreasing burnout for child abuse pediatricians.

Child Abuse Negl. 2023;147:106532. PMID: [37956502](#)

Of 133 pediatricians who had attended child abuse/neglect fellowships, with a 64% response rate, 53% scored in the high-risk range for at least 1 of the three subscales for burnout. "Activities perceived to be most useful in addressing burnout were: multidisciplinary team interactions, time spent with the team outside of work, and faculty/trainee one-on-one mentorship. Educational activities were only weakly associated with addressing burnout...Moderate or high levels of burnout are present in a large proportion of practicing CAPs [child abuse pediatricians] and more than one-third of participants felt that the quality of burnout training in fellowship did not meet their needs. These data support the need to more

effectively address burnout education within the training experience of CAP fellows."

Adult Manifestations of Child Abuse

Copeland WE, Halvorson-Phelan J, McGinnis E, Shanahan L.
Adult Mental Health, Substance Use Disorders, and Functional Outcomes of Children Resilient to Early Adversity.

Am J Psychiatry. 2023:appiajp20230038. PMID: [37941330](#)

The analysis was based on the prospective, representative Great Smoky Mountains Study (N=1,420). Participants were assessed for psychiatric disorders and exposure to adversity up to eight times in childhood, and 86.3% followed up to ages 25-30. 75% of the group met criteria for a psychiatric disorder or displayed subthreshold psychiatric problems by age 16. The number of ACEs was strongly associated with childhood psychiatric status. Of children exposed to multiple adversities, 12.2% did not display psychiatric problems, meeting common definitions of childhood resilience. However, "in adulthood these individuals showing childhood resilience had greater risk of anxiety (risk ratio=2.9) and depressive (risk ratio=4.5) disorders, as well as worse physical health (means ratio=0.7) and financial or educational functioning (means ratio=0.6), compared with individuals exposed to fewer childhood adversities. These individuals showing childhood resilience did not have elevated risk for substance use disorders...**Individuals who appeared resilient in childhood were at risk for delayed poorer outcomes in adulthood.** Public health efforts should prioritize minimizing early adversity exposure over promoting resilience."

Ee JS, Culp PA, Bevis ZJ, Dogbey GY, Agnello RN, Chang MH.
Chronic Pain and Childhood Adversity Experiences Among U.S. Military Personnel.

Mil Med. 2023;188(Supplement_6):561-6. PMID: [37948239](#)

Of 40 soldiers seen at an interdisciplinary pain management center, 20 with a history of childhood maltreatment and 20 without childhood maltreatment and matched for age, gender, pain history duration, and pain problem, there were no significant differences in current, worst, or average pain ratings. However, the maltreatment group reported significantly greater effect of pain on mood, more serious depression and anxiety symptoms, and more tendency to catastrophize.

Minjoo S, Sinniger V, Hot P, Bonaz B, Pellissier S.

The burden of early life stress in chronic inflammatory bowel diseases.

J Health Psychol. 2023;28(13):1204-16. PMID: [37203800](#)

Of 93 French adults with inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), the prevalence of patients with IBD who were exposed to at least one childhood abuse was 53%. Those exposed reported significantly poorer mental health and quality of life as well as more digestive perturbations and fatigue. "These results suggest that early abuse should be considered a component of IBD care."

O'Connor DB, Branley-Bell D, Green JA, et al.

Effects of childhood trauma on sleep quality and stress-related variables in adulthood: evidence from two multilevel studies.

Psychology & health. 2023:1-22. PMID: [37975565](#)

From two UK adult studies, higher levels of childhood neglect and abuse were variously associated with poorer daily sleep quality, shorter sleep duration, longer sleep onset latency, greater morning tiredness, and higher daily stress, rumination and worry levels. "Interventions aimed at mitigating the negative effects of childhood trauma should also incorporate components that target modifiable risk factors, such as sleep, stress, worry, and rumination."

Regmi S, Kedia SK, Ahuja NA, Lee G, Entwistle C, Dillon PJ.
Association Between Adverse Childhood Experiences and Opioid Use-Related Behaviors: A Systematic Review.

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2023:15248380231205821. PMID: [37920999](#)

From a research review, "All studies found statistical associations between ACEs and lifetime or current opioid use-related behaviors...as the number of ACEs increased, the risk of opioid use-related behaviors also increased. Hence, it is essential for clinicians to screen for ACEs before prescribing opioid medications, for opioid treatment to incorporate trauma-informed methods, and for messaging around opioid use interventions to include information about ACEs. The current review points to a critical need to implement standardized ACE screening instruments in clinical and research settings."

Souama C, Milaneschi Y, Lamers F, et al.

Metabolic syndrome after childhood trauma: a 9-year longitudinal analysis.

Psychol Med. 2023:1-9. PMID: [37981868](#)

Participants (N = 2958) from a Netherlands Study were assessed four times across 9 years in adulthood. Childhood trauma (CT) was reported by

49% of participants, and was consistently associated with increased waist size, blood sugar level, systolic blood pressure, and decreased HDL ("good") cholesterol. "These associations were mainly driven by severe CT and unaffected by lifestyle...Individuals with CT have an increased risk for cardiometabolic disease and may benefit from monitoring and early interventions targeting metabolism."

Wakuta M, Nishimura T, Osuka Y, et al.

Adverse childhood experiences: impacts on adult mental health and social withdrawal.

Frontiers in public health. 2023;11:1277766. PMID: [37954050](#)

"A total of 4,000 Japanese adults, aged 20-34, were recruited through an Internet survey form in October 2021. Participants answered questions regarding their ACEs in the family (10 items), school ACEs (five teacher-related items and two bullying-related items), depressive/anxiety symptoms, and Hikikomori (remaining at home for more than 6 months). A significant association with depressive/anxiety symptoms was shown in both ACEs and school ACEs...As for Hikikomori, a significant association was shown in the school ACEs only: a 29% increased risk of Hikikomori for every one-point increase in school ACE scores."

Adolescents

Al-Shoaibi AAA, Iyra P, Raney JH, et al.

Associations between adverse childhood experiences and early adolescent physical activity in the United States.

Acad Pediatr. 2023 Oct 26:S1876-2859(23)00395-9. PMID: [37898383](#)

Using data from a large national adolescent study that included Fitbit daily step assessment, "Adjusted models suggest an inverse association between number of ACEs and Fitbit daily steps, with ≥ 4 (compared to 0) ACEs associated with 526 fewer daily steps. Of the ACEs subtypes, emotional abuse, physical neglect, household mental illness, and household divorce or separation, were inversely and statistically significant associated with Fitbit daily steps after adjusting for confounders...This work highlights the importance of screening for ACEs among young people at an early age to help identify those who could benefit from interventions or community programs that support increased physical activity."

Langevin R, Pennestri MH, Hershon M, Pirro T, Hébert M.
The association between child sexual abuse and self-reported sleep in adolescent girls.
 Journal of clinical sleep medicine. 2023;19(11):1933-9. PMID: [37469189](#)

Of 707 adolescent girls aged 14-18 years, child sexual abuse had a significant and moderate association with negative overall sleep scores, with varying degrees of increased difficulties for different sleep dimensions. Authors support continued study of sleep issues in this population.

Lucas R, Talih M, Soares S, Fraga S.
Bullying Involvement and Physical Pain Between Ages 10 and 13 Years: Reported History and Quantitative Sensory Testing in a Population-Based Cohort.
 J Pain. 2023 Oct 31:S1526-5900(23)00594-1. PMID: [37914095](#)

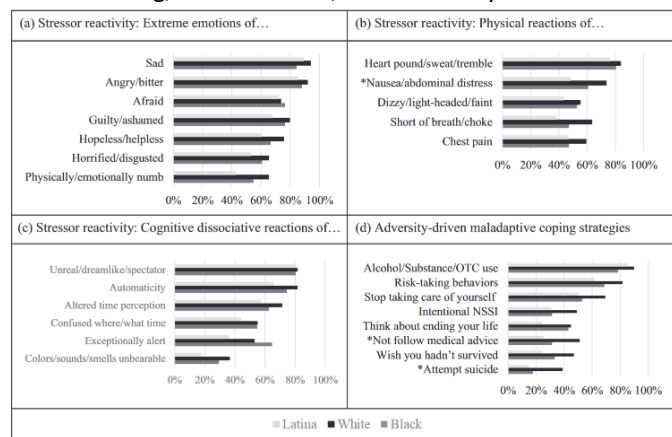
From a national study of Portuguese adolescents, those classified as a bullying victim only, or as both a victim and aggressor at age 10 “had higher risk of pain with psychosocial triggers, pain that led to skipping leisure activities, multisite pain, pain of higher intensity, and pain of longer duration.” In addition, those classified as victim only at age 10 were more sensitive to pain at age 13. “Bullying victimization in youth: 1) is more likely to lead to negative reported pain experiences than the reverse, 2) may have long-term influence on adverse pain experiences, and 3) may contribute to pain phenotypes partly by interfering with somatosensory responses to painful stimuli.”

Schmidt F, Varese F, Bucci S.
Understanding the prolonged impact of online sexual abuse occurring in childhood.

Frontiers in psychology. 2023;14:1281996. PMID: [37941760](#)
 From interviews with 8 female UK young adults who had experience online sexual abuse (OSA) in childhood, “Results showed that the longer-term impact of OSA was multi-fold, including negative impact on sense of self and broader interpersonal relationships, and significant impact on the participants' mental health, including experiences of self-harm, anxiety, and low mood. Likewise, participants discussed long-term apprehension to taking images and the added fear and worry that their sexual images were distributed online. Seven participants had received mental health support but only two recounted a positive experience when receiving support for OSA.”

Lansing AE, Park J, Beck AN.
Cumulative trauma, adversity, and loss among juvenile justice-involved girls: Implications for health disparities.

J Trauma Stress. 2023 Dec;36(6):1015-1030. PMID: [37937661](#)
 This study of juvenile-justice involved girls notes how they variously related to stress – their emotional, physical, and dissociative reactions, and their maladaptive coping strategies such as risk taking, substance use, and suicidality.



Domestic Violence – Effects on Children

Kim JY, Zhang L, Gruber AM, Kim SK, Holmes MR, Brevda A.
Prenatal Exposure to Intimate Partner Violence and Child Developmental Outcomes: A Scoping Review Study.
 Trauma Violence Abuse. 2023;15248380231209434. PMID: [37997428](#)

A research review “showed adverse effects of prenatal IPV exposure on psychological, behavioral, physical health, and physiological outcomes [on children], either directly or indirectly via mechanisms such as maternal behavioral health. Due to inconsistency in results and a lack of empirical evidence, however, social and cognitive outcomes were identified as needing further research...Incorporating strengths/asset-focused outcomes and examining contextual factors and sex/gender specific effects may advance the knowledge in this area.”

Girgla JK, Mahadeva S, Srivastava M, et al.
Exploring the Connection Between Domestic Violence and Masticatory Outcomes in the Pediatric Population: A Systematic Review.
 Cureus. 2023;15(10):e46764. PMID: [37954731](#)

In this research review, there was a significant association between domestic violence in the home and chewing issues in children aged 6-19 years, including bite problems, jaw pain, and teeth clenching.

Andoh JE, Miguez S, Andoh SE, et al.

Epidemiologic trends of domestic violence-related ocular injuries among pediatric patients.

J AAPOS. 2023 Dec;27(6):335.e1-335.e8. PMID: [37931837](#)

From a national ED data set 2008-2017, there were 4,125 ED encounters for children with eye injuries due to domestic violence, 50.0% male and mean age 9.2 years. "The most common known perpetrator was a family member (29.4%). Most ED encounters took place at southern regional (28.6%), metropolitan teaching (67.1%) and designated trauma hospitals (57.8%). Contusion [bruising] of the eye/adnexa and being struck by or against an object were the most common ocular diagnosis and known mechanism of injury, respectively. An estimated 12.4% of patients were admitted with a median hospital stay of 4 days. Median charges during the study period were \$27,415.10 (\$13,142.70-\$54,454.90)."

Leppäkoski T, Vuorenmaa M, Paavilainen E.

Combinations of Parent-Related Risk Factors Explaining Family Violence Toward Children and Spouse.

J Interpers Violence. 2023 Nov 8:8862605231208421. PMID: [37937746](#)

A Finnish national study of parents with 4-year-old children looked at risk factor clusters of parental well-being, parent's childhood adversities, and parent's health, and family violence (FV). Results showed that even a single risk factor predicted the likelihood of FV, and risk increased with increasing additive different risk factors. "As a result, we emphasize the importance of identifying families with concurrent risk factors...parents must be supported in coping with their everyday life."

Domestic Violence – Physical Health

Dams-O'Connor K, Seifert AC, Crary JF, et al.

The neuropathology of intimate partner violence.

Acta Neuropathol. 2023 Dec;146(6):803-815. PMID: [37897548](#)

"Up to one-third of women experience intimate partner violence (IPV) in their lifetime, often with traumatic brain injury, yet remarkably little is known about the range of autopsy neuropathologies encountered in IPV." Authors report on a case series of 14 brains from women with documented IPV from the NY City Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, plus another series of 70 from multiple international institutions. In both series they found

a similar variety of blood vessel and white matter pathologies, but none meeting the criteria for chronic traumatic encephalopathy (the condition found in football players with multiple head injuries). Authors hope this exploratory study will lead to more targeted research on IPV head injuries.

Domestic Violence – Mental Health

Giesbrecht CJ, Fletcher AJ, Wuerch MA.

Intimate Partner Violence, Animal Maltreatment, and Barriers to Safety for Survivors with Companion Animals and Livestock: Findings From a Qualitative Study.

Violence Against Women. 2023:10778012231208985. PMID: [37920953](#)

15 Canadian IPV survivors describe "insufficient social supports which exacerbate barriers for leaving relationships with animals when experiencing intimate partner violence; nonetheless, the participants perceived animals as crucial to their well-being. Care of horses and livestock is further complicated by financial issues and difficulty evacuating large animals. Survivors emphasized the need for social programs to assist survivors who care for companion animals and large animals."

Gueta K, Klar-Chalamish C, Ullman SE.

The Process of Online Disclosures of Interpersonal Victimization: A Systematic Review.

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2023:15248380231204886. PMID: [37902593](#)

From a research analysis, "online disclosure of interpersonal victimization is a multi-phase (decision-making and disclosure aftermath) and multifactorial (individual, interpersonal, social, and technological) experience for survivors. Specifically, survivors' motivation was related to therapeutic goals, social support, and a desire to advocate for social change. Survivors faced numerous facilitators (e.g., inspiration from other online disclosures) and barriers (e.g., fear of triggering other survivors) to disclosure. The impact of online disclosure was divided into benefits (e.g., empowerment) and risks (e.g., undermining survivors' security)."

Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse

Hellwig K.

Elder Abuse: The Hidden Epidemic.

Home healthcare now. 2023;41(6):304-8. PMID: [37922132](#)

“Prior to the pandemic, approximately 1 in 10 older adults in the United States experienced elder mistreatment. In 2020, this number doubled to 1 in 5, a nearly 84% increase. More distressing is that in almost 60% of elder abuse and neglect cases, a family member is the offender and two-thirds of the perpetrators are adult children or spouses. Financial abuse is reportedly the fastest-growing form of elder abuse. It is essential that healthcare providers, especially those who care for patients in their homes, understand what elder abuse is, how it can be identified, what conditions may lead to elder abuse, and what home care providers can do to properly intervene when it is suspected that older adults are being abused.”

Hall L, Gómez JM, Lichtenberg PA.

Trust and betrayal in older adult financial exploitation.

Aging Ment Health. 2023;27(12):2466-73. PMID: [37079000](#)

Of 95 community-dwelling older adults, 1/3 experienced financial exploitation by a family member, and 2/3 by strangers. Those who experienced family financial exploitation “had significantly lower functional ability scores, higher stress and financial exploitation vulnerability scores, and lost more money on average than those victimized by strangers.” Authors provide support that this finding may be understood by betrayal trauma theory, which suggests “that there is a social utility in remaining unaware of abuse when the perpetrator is a caregiver.”

Sexual Assault

Tarzia L, Henderson-Brooks K, Baloch S, Hegarty K.

Women Higher Education Students' Experiences of Sexual Violence: A Scoping Review and Thematic Synthesis.

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2024;25(1):704-20. PMID: [37036144](#)

From a research review, “for women higher education students, the experience of SV [sexual violence] is characterized by profound shame, with often-irreversible impacts on hopes and plans for the future. Yet, at the same time, SV is normalized and expected as a part of the ‘student experience’. Furthermore, an imagined ‘specter’ of ‘real violence’ is held up as a constant comparison that serves to minimize and trivialize their experiences. These findings have important implications for higher education providers seeking to improve programs to address SV.”

Mathews PA, Blyer K.

The Neurobiology of Trauma: Developing a Decision Aid for the Care of Persons After Sexual Assault.

Creat Nurs. 2023;29(3):264-8. PMID: [37920993](#)

“This article discusses the development of a decision aid that supports the information used in shared decision making, for use in planning the care for a person who has been sexually assaulted. Based on the understanding of the neurobiology of trauma, the decision aid incorporates a written tool that provides education and information to prepare the person to make care/treatment decisions which are important to them, within a trauma-informed environment.” The use of this aid has not been formally researched. It is freely available to [download](#) and use.

Hargrave AS, Danan ER, Than CT, Gibson CJ, Yano EM.

Factors Associated with Military Sexual Trauma (MST) Disclosure During VA Screening Among Women Veterans.

J Gen Intern Med. 2023;38(14):3188-97. PMID: [37291361](#)

In a telephone survey of 1287 women veterans using VA medical services in 9 states, mean age 50, only 38% reported “no MST”, and 26% reported “MST not captured by electronic health record”. Those who did not disclose at medical visits were 1.6 times more likely to be Black or Latina, and 4.9 times more likely to have experienced sexual harassment only without sexual assault. Those who had been screened more than once at medical visits were more likely to have disclosed.

Park S, Woo H, Kim SH.

A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Bystander's Barriers to Intervene in Gender-Based Violence and the Role of Failed Prior Attempts.

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2023:15248380231204887. PMID: [37902582](#)

A research analysis of various bystander barriers were significant but had a small effect. “The most potent bystander intervention barrier was failed previous intervention attempts; the greatest specific barriers therein were negative emotions and feelings of uncertainty after engaging in bystander behaviors...Bystander-focused programs that address negative emotions and feelings arising from prior intervention experiences are needed to foster continued bystander engagement.”

Human Trafficking

Limbaugh L, Gordon MR, Nguyen PT, Porter M, Coverdale J. **Methods Used to Control the Reproductive Choices of Women Who Are Sex Trafficked: Considerations for Health Care Providers.**

J Psychiatr Pract. 2023;29(6):439-46. PMID: [37948169](#)
 “Our goal is to identify the range of methods used by sex traffickers and buyers to control the reproductive choices of trafficked women.” From a research review, authors note birth control sabotage, pressuring into pregnancy, controlling the outcome of a pregnancy, and forced birth control or sterilization. “Our findings have implications for how to take sexual histories and for identifying and assisting trafficked persons.”

Scaggs SJA, Starseed SC, Kluckman M, Tueller S, Yu L. **A state-wide analysis of characteristics and predictors of dual system involvement among child victims of human trafficking.**

Child Abuse Negl. 2023;147:106530. PMID: [37979486](#)
 Of 9300 Florida children with a first human trafficking allegation, nearly half, and especially females, were already involved in the child protection system. Black trafficked children were more likely to already be involved in child protection as well as juvenile justice systems, and children with labor trafficking as opposed to sex trafficking were less likely to be involved in either.

LGBTQ Concerns

Jones MS, Worthen MGF. **Measuring the prevalence and impact of adverse childhood experiences in the lives of LGBTQ individuals: A much-needed expansion.**

Child Abuse Negl. 2023;106560. PMID: [38001009](#)
 “In the current article, we develop and present a more comprehensive ACE measurement strategy for understanding the cumulative and deleterious impacts of ACEs in the lives of LGBTQ individuals...we offer three expansions to the current ACE framework: (1) the inclusion of an LGBTQ-specific ACE in addition to the standard ACE measures, (2) the addition of LGBTQ qualifiers for current ACE items (when applicable, [such as asking if something happened due to LGBTQ identity]), and (3) the expansion of ACE measures to capture the unique ACE experiences of LGBTQ individuals in family life, schools, and faith communities [such as being dismissed or rejected].”

Solberg MA, Blair LM, Schlegel EC, Kurzer J. **Health Disparities Among Sexual and Gender Minorities With Adverse Childhood Experiences: Insights From the 2021 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Data.** Am J Public Health. 2023;113(12):1343-51. PMID: [37939340](#)
 Of 38,483 eligible respondents, 2329 (6.1%) identified as an SGM (sexual and gender minority). SGMs reported higher ACE prevalence than did their non-SGM counterparts. ACEs partially attenuated relationships between SGMs and a higher risk for depression, cardiovascular disease, chronic kidney disease, electronic nicotine delivery system use, and cannabis use...Targeted interventions are needed to mitigate the impact of ACE-associated aftereffects in this population.”

ACE Score	SGM (n = 2329), No. (%)	Heterosexual Cisgender (n = 35 372), Frequency (%)
0	440 (15.8)	12 849 (30.2)
1	363 (13.4)	8 031 (21.0)
2	309 (10.3)	4 927 (14.7)
3	234 (9.2)	3 037 (9.2)
4	228 (11.4)	2 207 (7.1)
5	183 (9.3)	1 673 (5.1)
6	182 (9.1)	1 266 (4.2)
7	142 (7.3)	949 (3.0)
8	105 (6.3)	681 (2.4)
9	81 (4.5)	388 (1.4)
10	62 (3.4)	146 (0.6)

Race/Cultural Concerns

Jowell AR, James AK, Jasrasaria R, et al. **DARE Training: Teaching Educators How to Revise Internal Medicine Residency Lectures by Using an Anti-racism Framework.**

MedEdPORTAL. 2023;19:11351. PMID: [37941996](#)
 Authors created a Department of Medicine Anti-Racism and Equity Educational Initiative (DARE) to promote anti-racism in internal medicine education. After 34 faculty completed DARE training, “their sample slides were significantly improved with respect to diversity of graphics, discussion of research participant demographics, and discussion of the impact of racism/bias on health disparities. After DARE training, 23 of 24 participants (96%) endorsed feeling more prepared to bring an anti-racist framework to lectures and to support colleagues in doing the same.” [Training materials.](#)

Simmons A, Ferry M, Christopher M.

Relative Impact of Mindfulness, Self-Compassion, and Psychological Resilience on Mental Health Outcomes in Racially Minoritized Adults.

Psychol Rep. 2023;332941231213646. PMID: [37970811](#)

Of 169 racial minority adults aged 18-64, the evaluated qualities of self-compassion, resilience, acting with awareness, non-judging of inner experience, and non-reactivity of inner experience, differentially predicted depression, anxiety, stress, and life satisfaction; however, only self-compassion consistently predicted all outcomes...Enhanced self-compassion, and by proxy reduced self-judgement, may also provide a unique buffer in the context of racialized stress."

Perpetrators

Gewirtz-Meydan A, Afnan AN, Lassri D, Katz C.

"I Know It's Hard to Believe, But the Monster Who Abused Me is My Mother:" Experiences of Being Sexually Abused as a Child by a Female.

Sex Abuse. 2023;35(8):927-52. PMID: [36524788](#)

Of 28 adults who had experienced childhood sexual abuse by a female, half reported that their mother was the offender, usually in the shower/bathroom. Participants described how the abuse had serious consequences for their lives, and how perceived gender and social roles cast doubt on the existence and reliability of their experiences. Authors "suggest social mechanisms that may help explain why perpetration by females is understood and treated differently than perpetration by males".

Police and Court Systems

Edwards CN, Tilley DS, Ayala F.

Drug-Facilitated Sexual Assault With Tetrahydrozoline (Visine): A Case Report.

J Forensic Nurs. 2023;19(4):271-5. PMID: [37278617](#)

This is a case presentation of an 18-year-old male victim who experienced a drug-facilitated sexual assault (DFSA) with tetrahydrozoline (Visine) given rectally. Visine is cheap, easily available, colorless, has a rapid onset of action, and is increasingly being used in DFSA. It can cause marked depression of respiration and brain function (altered mental state, coma, and memory loss). "The consequences of DFSA can be complex for victims, who are often never able to recall events that occurred while they were incapacitated. Most survivors of DFSA may

experience some degree of depression and posttraumatic stress disorder symptoms. They may also experience relationship distress because they are not able to tell a convincing account of the assault and are often not believed by the police or partners...Victims of DFSA are also more likely than other victims of sexual assault to develop substance use disorders...Discharge teaching should focus on receiving counseling to mitigate these risks." Article includes medical management with this drug, as well as a chart of commonly used drugs for DFSA and their symptoms.

Denne E, Stolzenberg SN.

Exploring how attorneys address grooming in criminal trials of child sexual abuse.

Behav Sci Law. 2023;41(6):488-503. PMID: [37996976](#)

"It is important that grooming is addressed in court to explain the unintuitive ways a child may act when they have been victims of abuse. The present study draws upon 134 transcripts of CSA [child sexual abuse] criminal trials...Only 1.8% of attorney's questions addressed grooming behaviors. The majority of these focused on exposure to pornography (27%) or boundary pushing (19%)...We suggest that attorneys consider devoting proportionally more time to addressing grooming in court, to help jurors demystify common myths surrounding CSA."

Barron CE, Fitzgerald M, Coleman M, Moore JL, Iacone MD.

A Unique Canine Comfort Therapy Program for Child Maltreatment Cases.

Rhode Island medical journal (2013). 2023;106(10):46-9.

PMID: [37890064](#)

This article describes a Rhode Island canine comfort therapy program established specifically to support children who experience maltreatment, by implementing a collaborative program within both a children's hospital and a police department. "This provides a longitudinal experience that supports children and their families by fostering a sense of familiarity and trust throughout all the difficult components of a child maltreatment case (e.g., evaluation, treatment, investigation and prosecution)".

Providers

Swaminathan A, López I, Mar RAG, et al.

Natural language processing system for rapid detection and intervention of mental health crisis chat messages.

NPJ digital medicine. 2023;6(1):213. PMID: [37990134](#)

“We demonstrate that a NLP [natural language processing]-based machine learning model can reliably identify potential crisis chat messages in a telehealth setting...with key word filtering....The daily median time from message receipt to crisis specialist triage ranged from 8 to 13 min, compared to 9 h before the deployment of the system.”

Vardell E.

VAWnet: A Project of the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence.

Med Ref Serv Q. 2023;42(4):370-7. PMID: [37899361](#)

“For more than 25 years, the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence has operated VAWnet, a freely available, online network focused on violence against women and other forms of gender-based violence. This column will provide an overview of the resources available from VAWnet, including a sample search that demonstrates how to access the resources available within as well as a discussion of how to effectively browse the thousands of materials available...VAWnet effectively meets the needs of both consumers as well as researchers and information professionals interested in connecting to resources on this topic.”
<https://vawnet.org/>

Williams DR, Chaves E, Karp SM, Browne NT.

Clinical review: Implementation of trauma informed care to optimally impact the treatment of childhood obesity.

Obes Pillars. 2023;5:100052. PMID: [37990746](#)

“Combining the pillars of obesity treatment (i.e., nutrition, physical activity, behavior therapy, medical management) with the tenets of TIC (realize, recognize, respond, resist re-traumatization) affords patients holistic, intentional care and family support. The desired outcomes of TIC align with goals of obesity treatment in children, namely improvement of health and quality of life, sense of self (e.g., body image and self-esteem), and prevention of negative health outcomes.

Ma GC, Ravulo J, McGeown U.

Refuge for Rover: A Social Return on Investment of a Program Assisting Victim-Survivors of Domestic and Family Violence with Their Pets.

Soc Work. 2023 Nov 3:swad041. PMID: [37935857](#)

“Pets are likely to be present in as many as 70 percent of domestic and family violence (DFV) cases, and the bond between victim-survivors and their animals can be particularly strong. Animals can

also be victims of DFV, and concern for their animal's safety can cause victims to delay leaving their abusive situations.” This article evaluated one DFV program including companion animals using social return on investment methodology. “Concern for their animals had caused 54 percent of clients to delay leaving their abusive situation, most for six months or more. Program clients, their children, and their animals experienced improved safety, mental health and well-being, and physical health because of the program. The alternative described by clients was often homelessness or living in their car. In total an estimated AUD (Australian dollars) \$9.65 of social value was created for every AUD \$1 invested into the program.”

Prevention

Frankowski BL.

Encouraging Strengths in Parents and Youth to Promote Positive Childhood Experiences.

Pediatrics. 2023 Jul 1;152(1):e2023061264. PMID: [37337840](#)

“The Strengthening Families Approach and Protective Factors Framework is an initiative developed for preventing child abuse and neglect of children aged birth to 5 years, focusing on supporting those families to build 5 strengths or protective factors: Parental resilience, Social connections, Knowledge of parenting and child development, Social and emotional competence of children, and Concrete support in times of need. Pediatricians already focus on many of these strengths when interacting with families... Pediatricians have an opportunity to identify and encourage strengths in their adolescent patients...an image conceptualizing youth strengths: Belonging (connection), Mastery (competence, confidence, coping), Independence (control, confidence), and Generosity (contribution, character). The goal is not just to ask about strengths in an intake questionnaire or interview, but to make parents and youth aware of them; many do not feel they have any strengths until someone points them out...Explaining the protective role of strengths and resilience...can foster hope and motivation...Think about a strengths framework that makes sense to you. Practice pointing out 1 strength you observe in each of your clinical encounters.”

Kogan SM, Kwon E, Brody GH, et al.

Family-Centered Prevention to Reduce Discrimination-Related Depressive Symptoms Among Black Adolescents: Secondary Analysis of a Randomized Clinical Trial.

JAMA network open. 2023;6(11):e2340567. PMID: [37910105](#)

“SAAF [Strong African American Families] is a 7-session (14 hours) family skills training intervention that occurs over 7 weeks. Small groups of caregivers and their adolescents participate in a structured curriculum targeting effective parenting behavior, adolescent self-regulation, and Black pride.” For 240 rural Georgia adolescents enrolled in this program, compared to a control group, the intervention significantly decreased depressive symptoms associated with racial discrimination.

Researchers

Karmakar S, Duggal C.

Trauma-Informed Approach to Qualitative Interviewing in Non-Suicidal Self-Injury Research.

Qual Health Res. 2023;10497323231207746. PMID: [37924212](#)

“When planning a qualitative research study with individuals with potential trauma history, researchers need to be aware of and sensitive to potential re-traumatization and distressing emotions that participants may experience during interviews, as well as complex trauma reactions that may affect individuals after study participation...Trauma-informed recommendations for preparing and carrying out specific steps during different stages of interviews are detailed.” (TIA = trauma-informed approach)

Recommendations for TIA

Researcher competence and training in TIA

Preparing participants for the interview

- Seeking informed consent

Maintaining confidentiality

- Using inclusive language/avoiding stigmatizing labels

- Being sensitive to social location

- Taking breaks/pauses amidst long interviews

- Mood checks

- Looking for signs of re-traumatization

- Debriefing

- Providing resources

- Member checks (as needed)

- Taking care of researchers' well-being

Xu H, Li M, Cai J, Yuan Y, He L, Liu J, et al.

Comparison of ACE-IQ and CTQ-SF for child maltreatment assessment: Reliability, prevalence, and risk prediction.

Child Abuse Negl. 2023;146:106529. PMID: [37931543](#)

“1484 college students from northern China were recruited, assessing demographic characteristics and outcomes related to traumatic experiences, including post-traumatic stress disorder, complex post-traumatic stress disorder, borderline personality disorder, anxiety, and depression.” Authors compared results using the Childhood Trauma Questionnaire Short Form (CTQ-SF) and the Adverse Childhood Experiences International Questionnaire (ACE-IQ), and concluded that the ACE-IQ indicated “a superior model fit for elucidating outcomes”.

Other of Interest

Salter M, Woodlock D, Wong T.

The sexual politics of technology industry responses to online child sexual exploitation during COVID-19: "This pernicious elitism".

Child Abuse Negl. 2023;106559. PMID: [37993364](#)

“The analysis of the views of anti-exploitation professionals highlights the alignment between the economic interests of the technology sector and the sexual interests of online child abusers in the absence of government oversight...emphasises the need for regulatory intervention, harm minimisation and the restructuring of the online environment and technology sector in the interests of child safety.”

Rubini E, Valente M, Trentin M, Facci G, Ragazzoni L, Gino S.

Negative consequences of conflict-related sexual violence on survivors: a systematic review of qualitative evidence.

International journal for equity in health. 2023;22(1):227.

PMID: [37891663](#)

“Conflict-related sexual violence: a specific type of gender-based violence that includes rape, sexual slavery, forced prostitution, forced pregnancy, forced abortion, enforced sterilization, forced marriage, forced nudity, forced witnessing, exposure to acts, and any other form of SV that is directly or indirectly (temporally, geographically, or causally) linked to a conflict...This review provides an analysis of the negative consequences of conflict-related sexual violence on survivors...Gender-inclusive protocols and services need to be implemented to address the specific needs of all victims.”