

MEDICAL RESEARCH SUMMARY ON ABUSE FOR SANTA CLARA COUNTY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNCIL OCTOBER 2011

This summary includes selected research articles relating to abuse indexed by the National Library of Medicine August 2011. To obtain a copy of the abstracts, go to 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

Child Abuse

Burke NJ, Hellman JL, Scott BG, Weems CF, Carrion VG.

The impact of adverse childhood experiences on an urban pediatric population.

Child Abuse Negl. 2011 Jun;35(6):408-13. PMID: 21652073

In a retrospective chart review of 701 children at Bayview Child health Center in SF, 67.2% had experienced 1 or more adverse childhood experiences (ACEs). 12.0% had experienced 4 or more ACEs. This group was 30 times more likely to show learning/behavior problems and 2 times more likely to be obese.

Parks SE, Mirchandani G, Rodriguez S, Hellsten J.

History of maltreatment among unintentional injury deaths: analyses of Texas child fatality review data, 2005-2007.

Inj Prev. 2011 Feb;17 Suppl 1:i14-8. PMID: 21278091

Of 1192 unintentional injury deaths of children, in those children with no prior history of maltreatment, 54% of deaths were due to motor vehicle related incidents. In those child deaths with a history of maltreatment, 51% were caused by drowning, asphyxia, and poisoning, and the supervisors of those children were more likely to have been alcohol impaired or asleep at the time of death.

Lane WG, Lotwin I, Dubowitz H, Langenberg P, Dischinger P.

Outcomes for children hospitalized with abusive versus noninflicted abdominal trauma.

Pediatrics. 2011 Jun;127(6):e1400-5. PMID: 21555490

Children with abusive abdominal injuries (vs. accidental abdominal trauma) had a higher mortality rate, and those who survived had longer hospitalizations with higher charges.

Rajaram S, Batty R, Rittey CD, Griffiths PD, Connolly DJ.

Neuroimaging in non-accidental head injury in children: an important element of assessment.

Postgrad Med J. 2011 May;87(1027):355-61. PMID: 21450760.

General review article about abusive head trauma in children and use of imaging studies.

Browning J, Russell EL, Kellogg N.

Painful genital ulcers in a 10-year old girl.

Child Abuse Negl. 2011 Mar;35(3):230-3. PMID: 21481459

Case discussion and review of causes of genital ulcerative disease in children.

Taylor CA, Hamvas L, Rice J, Newman DL, DeJong W.

Perceived social norms, expectations, and attitudes toward corporal punishment among an urban community sample of parents.

J Urban Health. 2011 Apr;88(2):254-69. PMID: 21336503

Although corporal punishment is a risk factor for child abuse and other poor outcomes, approval of CP is high in the US. Using a random telephone survey of urban parents, the strongest predictors of a positive attitude toward CP were 1) perceived approval by professionals, 2) societal norms, and 3) approval by family and friends. Authors cite need for universal public education.

Adult Manifestations of Child Abuse

Lindhorst T, Beadnell B.

The long arc of recovery: characterizing intimate partner violence and its psychosocial effects across 17 years.

Violence Against Women. 2011 Apr;17(4):480-99. PMID: 21502116.

Article describes psychosocial outcomes of a group of abused adolescent mothers followed for 17 years.

Reese-Weber M, Smith DM.

Outcomes of child sexual abuse as predictors of later sexual victimization.

J Interpers Violence. 2011 Jun;26(9):1884-905. PMID: 20587463.

In following 67 college freshmen women who had experienced childhood sexual abuse vs. a control group who had no abuse history, the previously abused group was more likely to be sexually victimized during their first semester.

Wilson HW, Widom CS.

Predictors of drug-use patterns in maltreated children and matched controls followed up into middle adulthood.

J Stud Alcohol Drugs. 2010 Nov;71(6):801-9. PMID: 20946736

In a group of over 700 men and women with documented child maltreatment and followed into middle adulthood, four patterns of drug abuse were revealed: "(a) abstinence and low use (34%), (b) adolescent and young adult limited use (31%), (c) chronic-persistent use (29%), and (d) late use (7%)." The chronic-persistent pattern was associated with being male and involvement in crime. The late-use pattern was significantly associated with childhood neglect and being Black and female.

Domestic Violence – Effects on Children

Fortin A, Doucet M, Damant D.

Children's appraisals as mediators of the relationship between domestic violence and child adjustment.

Violence Vict. 2011;26(3):377-92. PMID: 21846024

This Canadian study looked at effects on 79 children aged 9 to 12 who were exposed to domestic violence. Children's appraisals of the situation were influenced by self-blame, degree of parentification, and degree of loyalty conflicts. Children's viewpoints need to be included in understanding the impact of DV.

Chan KL, Brownridge DA, Tiwari A, Fong DY, Leung WC, Ho PC.

Associating pregnancy with partner violence against Chinese women.

J Interpers Violence. 2011 May;26(7):1478-500. PMID: 20495098

In a self-reported sample of 2225 Chinese men, "Pregnancy was significantly associated with increased odds of violence, including physical assault, sexual violence, and "any violence or injury" (odds ratios = 2.42, 2.42, and 2.60, respectively)."

Flach C, Leese M, Heron J, Evans J, Feder G, Sharp D, Howard LM.

Antenatal domestic violence, maternal mental health and subsequent child behaviour: a cohort study.

BJOG. 2011 Oct;118(11):1383-91. PMID: 21692968

This sample of 13,617 British birth mothers and their children were followed for 42 months. Domestic violence during pregnancy was associated with a four-fold risk of depression during pregnancy, and 1.29 times the risk after pregnancy. DV during pregnancy was significantly associated with behavioral problems in the children at 42 months of age, but this association was felt to be more due to maternal depression.

Graham-Bermann SA, Howell KH, Lilly M, Devoe E.

Mediators and moderators of change in adjustment following intervention for children exposed to intimate partner violence.

J Interpers Violence. 2011 Jun;26(9):1815-33. PMID: 20587468.

Modifying factors that helped children's adjustment to their IPV exposure were length of exposure to violence, and change in mother's mental health, specifically symptoms of PTSD.

Domestic Violence – Physical Health

Astbury J, Bruck D, Loxton D.

Forced sex: a critical factor in the sleep difficulties of young Australian women.

Violence Vict. 2011;26(1):53-72. PMID: 21776829

A lifetime prevalence of forced sex was reported in 8.7% of women aged 24-30 years in the Australian Longitudinal Study of Women's Health (n=9,061); those women had significantly higher levels of recurrent sleep difficulties and increased use of prescription sleep medication.

Domestic Violence – Mental Health

Edwards KM, Gidycz CA, Murphy MJ.

College women's stay/leave decisions in abusive dating relationships: a prospective analysis of an expanded investment model.

J Interpers Violence. 2011 May;26(7):1446-62. PMID: 20522885.

In a study of 323 college women, predictors of leaving an abusive relationship related to: relationship investment, history of childhood abuse, psychological distress, avoidance coping, and level of self-esteem.

Rees S, Silove D, Chey T, et al.

Lifetime prevalence of gender-based violence in women and the relationship with mental disorders and psychosocial function.

JAMA. 2011 Aug 3;306(5):513-21. PMID: 21813429

In a nationally representative sample of 4451 Australian women, 27.4% reported at least one type of gender-based violence (GBV). For those who had been exposed to 3 or 4 types of GBV, 77.3% experienced anxiety disorders, 52.5% mood disorders, 47.1% substance use disorders, 56.2% PTSD, and 34.7% suicide attempts. There was also an association with more severe current mental disorder, physical disability, and impaired quality of life.

Garabedian MJ, Lain KY, Hansen WF, Garcia LS, Williams CM, Crofford LJ.

Violence against women and postpartum depression.

J Womens Health (Larchmt). 2011 Mar;20(3):447-53. PMID: 21323583

In a self-report survey of 5380 women in a Kentucky registry who had had at least one live birth, 46.6% reported a history of any violence. Both physical IPV and stalking IPV were associated with post-partum depression, and were additive.

Valentine JM, Rodriguez MA, Lapeyrouse LM, Zhang M.

Recent intimate partner violence as a prenatal predictor of maternal depression in the first year postpartum among Latinas.

Arch Womens Ment Health. 2011 Apr;14(2):135-43. PMID: 21052749

In a prospective observational study following Latinas from pregnancy through 13 months postpartum, recent IPV exposure was a strong, independent prenatal predictor of post partum depression.

Williamson E.

Living in the world of the domestic violence perpetrator: negotiating the unreality of coercive control.

Violence Against Women. 2010 Dec;16(12):1412-23. PMID: 21164217

This article discusses women's accounts of negotiating coercion and control, and the impact on their psychological well-being.

Cultural Issues

Puri S, Adams V, Ivey S, Nachtigall RD.

"There is such a thing as too many daughters, but not too many sons": A qualitative study of son preference and fetal sex selection among Indian immigrants in the United States.

Soc Sci Med. 2011 Apr;72(7):1169-76. PMID: 21377778

The Indian government passed legislation prohibiting the use of sex selection technology and abortion, but in the US this is an option. In-depth interviews with 65 immigrant Indian women who had pursued fetal sex selection revealed that 40% had terminated a prior pregnancy with a female fetus. These women described the different forms of pressure to have sons from female in-laws and husbands, including verbal and physical abuse.

Shen AC.

Cultural barriers to help-seeking among Taiwanese female victims of dating violence.

J Interpers Violence. 2011 May;26(7):1343-65. PMID: 20522889

Interviews with 10 female Taiwanese victims of dating violence revealed they tended to seek informal rather than formal help due to: self-reliant culture, personal and family shame, secretive and sexual dating relationships, fear of negative reactions from others, unfamiliarity with available resources, and revictimization in seeking help.

Flicker SM, Cerulli C, Zhao X, Tang W, Watts A, Xia Y, Talbot NL.

Concomitant forms of abuse and help-seeking behavior among white, African American, and Latina women who experience intimate partner violence.

Violence Against Women. 2011 Aug;17(8):1067-85. PMID: 21821618

Using National Violence against Women Survey data (n=1,756), and controlling for severity of physical abuse, women who also experience sexual abuse were less likely to seek help, but women who also experienced stalking were more likely to seek help. Ethnic differences were found in help seeking and are discussed.

Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse

Csikai EL, Whalen M, Otto J, Durkin DW.

Adult Protective Services workers' experiences with serious illness and death.

J Elder Abuse Negl. 2011 Apr;23(2):169-89. PMID: 21462049

In a national survey of adult protective services (APS) workers (n = 508), ¾ had worked on at least one case involving a client's death. Authors believe more education and training in terminal illness, death, grief and bereavement is needed to prepare APS workers.

Mosqueda L, Dong X.

Elder abuse and self-neglect: "I don't care anything about going to the doctor, to be honest..."

JAMA. 2011 Aug 3;306(5):532-40. PMID: 21813431.

Review article on the spectrum of elder mistreatment, including self-neglect, with practical approaches for health care professionals as well as need for interdisciplinary teams including Public Health.

Groh A, Linden R.

Addressing elder abuse: the Waterloo restorative justice approach to elder abuse project.

J Elder Abuse Negl. 2011 Apr;23(2):127-46. PMID: 21462047.

Description of a Canadian community Elder Abuse Response Team (EART).

Dong X, Simon MA, Fulmer T, Mendes de Leon CF, Hebert LE, Beck T, Scherr PA, Evans DA.

A prospective population-based study of differences in elder self-neglect and mortality between black and white older adults.

J Gerontol A Biol Sci Med Sci. 2011 Jun;66(6):695-704. PMID: 21498840

Using data from the Chicago healthy Aging Project, with 5963 black and 3475 white elders, 21.7% of black and 5.3% of white elders were reported for self-neglect. Black elders with self-neglect were significantly more likely to die.

Pillemer K, Breckman R, Sweeney CD, Brownell P, Fulmer T, Berman J, Brown E, Laureano E, Lachs MS.

Practitioners' views on elder mistreatment research priorities: recommendations from a Research-to-Practice Consensus conference.

J Elder Abuse Negl. 2011 Apr;23(2):115-26. PMID: 21462046

Results from a consensus workshop with 10 key recommendations for future research on elder abuse.

Sawin EM, Parker B.

"If looks would kill then I would be dead": intimate partner abuse and breast cancer in older women.

J Gerontol Nurs. 2011 Jul;37(7):26-35; quiz 36-7. PMID: 21446640.

Article discusses the challenges facing women with the triple difficulties of age, IPV and breast cancer.

Fitzsimons NM, Hagemester AK, Braun EJ.

Interpersonal violence against people with disabilities: understanding the problem from a rural context.

J Soc Work Disabil Rehabil. 2011;10(3):166-88. PMID: 21827301

This paper reviews issues involved in violence against rural disabled persons, including isolation, traditional cultural norms, lack of anonymity, lack of resources, and poor response of systems.

Perpetrators

Bonomi AE, Gangamma R, Locke CR, Katafiasz H, Martin D.

"Meet me at the hill where we used to park": interpersonal processes associated with victim recantation.

Soc Sci Med. 2011 Oct;73(7):1054-61. PMID: 21840635

Live telephone discussions between 25 male perpetrators in jail with their heterosexual partners were analyzed. "Consistently across couples, a victim's recantation intention was foremost influenced by the perpetrator's appeals to the victim's sympathy through descriptions of his suffering from mental and physical problems, intolerable jail conditions, and life without her. The intention was solidified by the perpetrator's minimization of the abuse, and invoking images of life without each other. Once the victim arrived at her decision to recant, the couple constructed the recantation plan by redefining the abuse event to protect the perpetrator, blaming the State for the couple's separation, and exchanging specific instructions on what should be said or done."

Schnitzer PG, Covington TM, Kruse RL.

Assessment of caregiver responsibility in unintentional child injury deaths: challenges for injury prevention.

Inj Prev. 2011 Feb;17 Suppl 1:i45-54. PMID: 21278098

In an analysis of the concept of neglect, child death review team members classified 20 vignettes. Attributes influencing the designation of caregiver responsibility in unintentional injury death included supervision, intent, failure to use safety devices, and a pattern of previous neglectful behavior.

Leclerc B, Wortley R, Smallbone S.

Victim resistance in child sexual abuse: a look into the efficacy of self-protection strategies based on the offender's experience.

J Interpers Violence. 2011 Jun;26(9):1868-83. PMID: 20587464.

Through confidential self-report data, 94 adult offenders who sexually abused a single child revealed that the most effective strategies their victims used were saying that they do not want to have sexual contact and saying "no" to the offender.

Dutton LB, Winstead BA.

Types, frequency, and effectiveness of responses to unwanted pursuit and stalking.

J Interpers Violence. 2011 Apr;26(6):1129-56. PMID: 20522888.

Male and female college students who had broken up with a partner and then either pursued or were pursued by their former partner were interviewed about their experiences. "Generally, targets rated more assertive but less frequently used responses such as "took legal action" or "made geographic change" as most effective, whereas pursuers rated threats and assertive or aggressive verbal confrontations as most effective."

Makin-Byrd K, Azar ST.

Beliefs and attributions of partner violence perpetrators: the physical and psychological violence of adolescent males.

Violence Vict. 2011;26(2):177-90. PMID: 21780533

More than 80% of a group of 132 partnered undergraduate males reported perpetrating psychological or physical partner violence in the past year. This group was more likely to hold hostile beliefs about women and unrealistic relationship beliefs. The relationship belief "disagreement is destructive" predicted frequency of physical partner violence.

Police and Court System

Newman WJ, Holt BW, Rabun JS, Phillips G, Scott CL.

Child sex tourism: extending the borders of sexual offender legislation.

Int J Law Psychiatry. 2011 Mar-Apr;34(2):116-21. PMID: 21420172

This article discusses US law regarding sex tourism, unique issues and future challenges to the court, and proper mechanism for reporting this behavior.

Jordan CE, Pritchard AJ, Duckett D, Charnigo R.

Criminal offending among respondents to protective orders: crime patterns that predict victim risk.

Violence Against Women. 2010 Dec;16(12):1396-411. PMID: 21164216

This study creates a more detailed understanding of the relationship between criminal offending and protective orders – the impact of PO on future offending behavior and how the pattern and type of offending behavior relates to subsequent issuance of POs.

Gauthier S.

The perceptions of judicial and psychosocial interveners of the consequences of dropped charges in domestic violence cases.

Violence Against Women. 2010 Dec;16(12):1375-95. PMID: 21164215

Discussion among 22 judicial and psychosocial professionals about the various consequences of dismissal of charges on the victim, perpetrator, justice system professionals, and society as a whole.

Providers

Fleury-Steiner RE, Thompson Brady L.

The importance of resources and information in the lives of battered mothers.

Violence Against Women. 2011 Jul;17(7):882-903. PMID: 21705361

In interviews with 19 battered mothers who had been involved with CPS, women discussed the difficulties and the supports received, with implications for improving CPS interventions when IPV is occurring.

Peled E, Gil IB.

The mothering perceptions of women abused by their partner.

Violence Against Women. 2011 Apr;17(4):457-79. PMID: 21478221.

Israeli women discuss their struggle to create a buffer between “the children’s world” and the “violent world”, to shield their children.

Iverson KM, Gradus JL, Resick PA, Suvak MK, Smith KF, Monson CM.

Cognitive-behavioral therapy for PTSD and depression symptoms reduces risk for future intimate partner violence among interpersonal trauma survivors.

J Consult Clin Psychol. 2011 Apr;79(2):193-202. PMID: 21341889

When 150 female survivors of interpersonal trauma were treated with cognitive-behavioral therapy for their symptoms of PTSD and depression, there was less likelihood of IPV victimization at 6 month follow-up.

Iverson KM, Resick PA, Suvak MK, Walling S, Taft CT.

Intimate partner violence exposure predicts PTSD treatment engagement and outcome in cognitive therapy.

Behav Ther. 2011 Jun;42(2):236-48. PMID: 21496509.

Of 150 women taking part in a cognitive processing therapy for PTSD, those in a current violent relationship were less likely to start treatment, but once they began, IPV exposure was not predictive of whether they completed treatment or not.

O'Campo P, Kirst M, Tsamis C, Chambers C, Ahmad F.

Implementing successful intimate partner violence screening programs in health care settings: evidence generated from a realist-informed systematic review.

Soc Sci Med. 2011 Mar;72(6):855-66. PMID: 21330026.

After reviewing medical articles between 1990 and 2010 to find health care programs that were successful in increasing IPV screening and disclosure/identification rates, four essential components of a comprehensive screening program were found: institutional support, effective screening protocols, thorough initial and ongoing training, and immediate access/referrals to onsite and/or offsite support services.

Messinger AM, Davidson LL, Rickert VI.

IPV among adolescent reproductive health patients: the role of relationship communication.

J Interpers Violence. 2011 Jun;26(9):1851-67. PMID: 20587465.

This study of 618 women aged 15-24 seeking care at a reproductive health facility showed that within the previous year, verbal aggression by either partner was associated with physical violence by either or both partners, and that verbal reasoning was negatively correlated with physical violence. Authors discuss the “role of relationship communication as a gatekeeper to IPV”.

Other of Interest

Wekerle C.

The dollars and senselessness in failing to prioritize childhood maltreatment prevention.

Child Abuse Negl. 2011 Mar;35(3):159-61. PMID: 21481465.

Author discusses the financial toll of childhood maltreatment, the gap between research practice and policy, and recommends “broad-scale adoption of evidence-based prevention coupled with on-going commitment to augmenting the evidence base for effective interventions.”

Crowne SS, Juon HS, Ensminger M, Burrell L, McFarlane E, Duggan A.

Concurrent and long-term impact of intimate partner violence on employment stability.

J Interpers Violence. 2011 Apr;26(6):1282-304. PMID: 20587457

In a study looking at 512 Asian American and Pacific Islander young women living Hawaii, women who experienced IPV had lower levels of employment stability, even six years later. This result was partially explained by the effect of depressive symptoms.

Jordan CE.

The University of Kentucky Center for Research on VAW: Science Inspired by Women's Stories.

Violence Against Women. 2011 17(9):1137-58 PMID: 21873304

The University of Kentucky Center for Research on Violence Against Women offers practical strategies for establishing and sustaining a center of this type in an academic setting.