

# ABUSE RESEARCH

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## Child Abuse

Arnold TS, Siekmann T, Thackeray JD, Bridge JA, Cohen DM.  
**Discrepancies in Physician and Coroner Findings in Cases of Fatal Suspected Physical Child Abuse.**

Pediatr Emerg Care. 2021 Jul 1;37(7):e367-e371. PMID: [34140452](#)

This study described discrepancies between physicians' and coroners' findings in cases of fatal suspected physical child abuse at a single institution for 129 children under the age of 6. 23% had abuse suspected at time of death in the emergency department, with coroner findings for this group: undetermined, 16 (48%); accident, 8 (24%); natural, 6 (18%); and homicide, 3 (9%). "Of the 12 children with positive skeletal survey findings, only 1 was ruled a homicide."

Loos MHJ, Almekinders CAM, Heymans MW, et. al.

**Incidence and characteristics of non-accidental burns in children: A systematic review.**

Burns. 2020 Sep;46(6):1243-1253. PMID: [32057545](#)

From a research review, "The incidence of non-accidental burns was pooled out of 10 studies and is 9.7%. Indicators raising a very high suspicion of intentional burns are deep partial thickness and full thickness burns, burns to the posterior trunk and burns caused by hot tap water. Indicators raising a high to moderate suspicion of an intentional cause are burns to buttocks, genital and legs, a younger age of the child, additional injuries such as cutaneous injuries/bruises and fractures. More commonly caused by accidents are burns to head, neck, anterior trunk, upper extremities and feet. Little data are available regarding burns as a result of neglect."

Engelhard M, Berchuck S, Garg J, et. al.

**Patterns of Health Services Use Before Age 1 in Children Later Diagnosed With ADHD.**

J Atten Disord. 2021 Oct;25(12):1639. PMID: [34448663](#)

Of almost 30,000 children seen for well-child visits, the 4.4% with an eventual diagnosis of ADHD

experienced the following prior to the age of 1 year: "60% increased odds of hospital admission, 58% increased odds of visiting the emergency department, and 41% increased odds of procedures, including 4.7-fold increased odds of blood transfusion. They also had more outpatient clinic visits, including 52% increased odds of visiting a medical specialist, 38% increased odds of visiting a surgical specialist, 70% increased odds of visiting a neonatologist, and 71% increased odds of visiting an ophthalmologist. In addition, individuals with ADHD had 6-fold increased odds of visits related to child abuse and neglect."

Ghanem N.

**The effect of violence in childhood on school success factors in US children.**

Child Abuse Negl. 2021 Oct;120:105217. PMID: [34293551](#)

From a study of over 35,000 US non-institutionalized children aged 6-17 with data on violence-related ACEs, "violence in childhood increases the likelihood of grade repetition (Odds Ratio = 1.47), school-home contact (OR = 2.20), and school absence greater than one week (OR=1.4), controlling for socio-demographic and health status characteristics...Violence in childhood has a statistically significant negative impact on each of the school success factors included in this study."

Carrillo LA, Sabatini CS, Brar RK, et. al.

**The Prevalence of Bullying Among Pediatric Orthopaedic Patients.**

J Pediatr Orthop. 2021 Sep 1;41(8):463-466. PMID: [34294669](#)

Of 198 pediatric orthopedic clinic patients, 36% reported moderate and 3% severe bullying, higher than the general population. "Children ages 10 to 13 (N=100) and children ages 14 to 17 (N=98) reported similar rates of bullying. Higher rates of moderate to severe bullying were reported by patients with foot deformity (80%), multiple orthopaedic diagnoses (55%), chronic pain (39%), fracture/acute injury (37%), and scoliosis (33%). Moderate to severe bullying was reported by 37% of patients who wore a cast, 40% who wore a brace/orthotic, and 52% who used multiple orthopaedic devices."

Elfreich MR, Stevenson MC, Sisson C, et. al.

**Sexual Abuse Disclosure Mediates the Effect of an Abuse Prevention Program on Substantiation.**

Child Maltreat. 2020 May;25(2):215-223. PMID: [31526041](#)

Of 319 children who underwent a child forensic interview in a Midwestern child advocacy center, “children exposed to the ‘Think First and Stay Safe’ program in school were significantly more likely to disclose abuse during the forensic interview, which in turn predicted significantly increased abuse substantiation likelihood.

Hansen J, Terreros A, Sherman A, Donaldson A, Anderst J.

**A System-Wide Hospital Child Maltreatment Patient Safety Program.**

Pediatrics. 2021 Aug 23:e2021050555. PMID: [34426531](#)

For all staff concerns for child maltreatment (in emergency department, urgent care, inpatient and outpatient clinics), a social worker completed a patient at risk (PAR) form. All PAR forms were reviewed within 24 hours by the child abuse team and categorized on the basis of 6 types of interventions. Of 7698 PARs over 30 months, 26.8% required an intervention. “Of the 53 immediate callbacks, potential diagnostic errors and safe discharge concerns occurred in nearly one-half.”

Lindberg DM.

**What Will it Take to Achieve Routine Screening for Abuse?**

J Pediatr. 2021 Sep;236:10-11. PMID: [34022246](#)

“If parents treat a skeletal survey as an accusation, no amount of quality improvement will convince clinicians to order them routinely. If child protective services engage in every case as if it abuse is already proved, clinicians will report only whether have very high levels of certainty, rather than the reasonable suspicion standard that has been widely disseminated...If instead, we can incorporate a protocol-driven, objective, nonjudgmental approach, perhaps we can decrease the number of cases of missed abuse.”

## Adult Manifestations of Child Abuse

Holochwost SJ, Wang G, Kolacz J, et. al.

**The neurophysiological embedding of child maltreatment.**

Dev Psychopathol. 2021 Aug;33(3):1107-1137. PMID: [32624073](#)

This extremely detailed review looks at research regarding the effects of child maltreatment on bodily response from the stress hormone system,

and the autonomic nervous system which encompasses parasympathetic activity related to conserving and storing energy or allowing organs to rest and repair, and sympathetic activity to support active defense behaviors for fight or flight.

Nichter B, Stein MB, Norman SB, et. al.

**Prevalence, Correlates, and Treatment of Suicidal Behavior in US Military Veterans: Results From the 2019-2020 National Health and Resilience in Veterans Study.**

J Clin Psychiatry. 2021 Aug 10;82(5):20m13714. PMID: [34383391](#)

Of 4,069 US veterans, “The prevalence of current suicidal ideation, lifetime suicide plans, and lifetime suicide attempts was 9.0%, 7.3%, and 3.9%, respectively. Suicidal behaviors were most prevalent among veterans aged 18-44 years, with 18.2%, 19.3%, and 11.1%, respectively, endorsing suicidal ideation, suicide plans, and suicide attempts. Major depressive disorder (MDD), age, posttraumatic stress disorder, and adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) emerged as the strongest correlates of suicidal ideation and suicide plans, while MDD, age, alcohol use disorder, and ACEs were the strongest correlates of suicide attempts. Only 35.5% of veterans with current suicidal ideation were engaged in mental health treatment.”

Cooke JE, Racine N, Pador P, Madigan S.

**Maternal Adverse Childhood Experiences and Child Behavior Problems: A Systematic Review.**

Pediatrics. 2021 Aug 19:e2020044131. PMID: [34413250](#)

From a research review, “Mothers' ACEs demonstrated largely consistent associations with children's behavior problems”, including externalizing problems such as inattention, hyperactivity, impulsivity and aggression; and internalizing problems such as anxiety and depression.

**Benchmarking Trauma in Child Welfare: A Brief Report.**

J Interpers Violence. 2021 Aug 20:8862605211038324. PMID: [34416838](#)

Using Ohio child welfare data from families with co-occurring maltreatment and substance use, adults were exposed to on average 4.2 ACEs, children 0-5 4.1 ACEs, and youth 6-18 years 5.6 ACEs. “Our findings related to the extensive trauma that parents with substance use experience suggests that caseworkers should help parents access addiction treatment services that are integrated or at least coordinated with trauma-informed practices.”

Rameckers SA, van Emmerik AAP, Bachrach N, et. al.  
**The impact of childhood maltreatment on the severity of childhood-related posttraumatic stress disorder in adults.**

Child Abuse Negl. 2021 Oct;120:105208. PMID: [34332332](#)

For 147 adults with childhood-related PTSD (Ch-PTSD), “emotional abuse was the only trauma type that was significantly related to severity of PTSD and to the severity of specific PTSD symptom clusters...emotional abuse plays a more important role in Ch-PTSD than hitherto assumed, and treatment should not neglect processing of childhood emotional abuse.”

Chen H, Fan Q, Nicholas S, Maitland E.

**The long arm of childhood: The prolonged influence of adverse childhood experiences on depression during middle and old age in China.**

J Health Psychol. 2021 Aug 16:13591053211037727. PMID: [34397302](#)

From a study of Chinese adults, “The results showed a significant dose-response relationship between adverse childhood experiences and adult depression. The elevated health risks of chronic diseases, disabilities, and physical pain, as well as the disadvantages in education, employment, and economic status caused by the adverse childhood experiences indirectly worsen adult depression.

## Adolescents

Schafer ES.

**Adverse childhood experiences and risky behaviors in male college students.**

J Am Coll Health. 2021 Aug 27:1-9. PMID: [34448681](#)

For 795 male college students attending a large southern university, sexual abuse in particular, and exposure to interparental violence and household mental illness were variously associated with high-risk drinking, increased number of sexual partners, and impulsivity. For each additional ACE, risky behaviors increased.

Huesmann LR, Dubow EF, B Boxer P, et. al.

**Longitudinal predictions of young adults' weapons use and criminal behavior from their childhood exposure to violence.**

Aggress Behav. 2021 Nov;47(6):621-634. PMID: [34148248](#)

Of 426 high-risk youth followed over 10 years, and controlling for multiple factors, “(1) more early exposure to weapon use within the family predicts more using or threatening to use a gun; (2) more cumulative early violent video game playing predicts more gun using or threatening to use weapons, and

normative beliefs that gun use is acceptable; (3) more cumulative early exposure to neighborhood gun violence predicts more arrests for a weapons crime; and (4) more cumulative early exposure to movie violence predicts more weapon carrying.”

## Domestic Violence – Effects on Children

Huang CC, Chen Y, Cheung S.

**Early childhood exposure to intimate partner violence and teen depression symptoms in the U.S. Health Soc Care Community.**

2021 Sep;29(5):e47-e55. PMID: [33237601](#)

For 1690 children from 20 US cities, early exposure to IPV (age 1-3 years) was associated with teen depression symptoms at age 15.

## Domestic Violence – Physical Health

Wang E, Simmons B, Holm KE, Alam R, Wamboldt FS.

**Intimate Partner Violence and Adult Asthma Morbidity: A Population-Based Study.**

J Allergy Clin Immunol Pract. 2021 Aug 4:S2213-2198(21)00711-X. PMID: [34364825](#)

From a survey of 2634 adults with active asthma, the prevalence of IPV was 32.4%. IPV was associated with increased odds of an asthma exacerbation, higher symptom burden, lack of asthma control, increased asthma-related emergency department or urgent care visits, limitations on activities, daytime symptoms, and nighttime awakenings. “IPV is prevalent in adult asthmatics and consistently and significantly associated with worsened adult asthma morbidity, even after adjusting for key confounders.”

## Domestic Violence – Mental Health

Hing N, O'Mullan C, Mainey L, Nuske E, Breen H, Taylor A. **Impacts of Male Intimate Partner Violence on Women: A Life Course Perspective.**

Int J Environ Res Public Health. 2021 Aug 5;18(16):8303. PMID: [34444051](#)

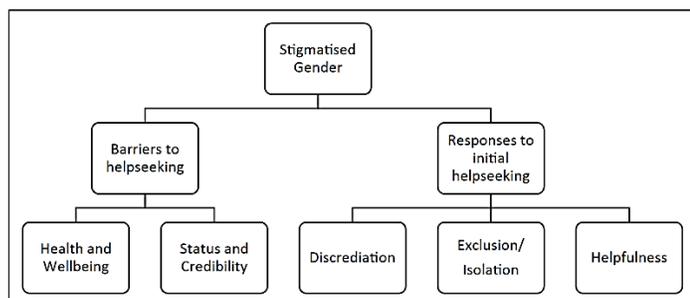
From interviews with 18 older women who had left an abusive relationship, “When in the relationship, the women experienced direct impacts on their physical, mental, social, and financial wellbeing. During separation, many experienced continued abuse and housing, legal, and financial stress. Life after separation was marked by loneliness, trauma, financial insecurity, and damaged relationships. Some women reached a turning point in their recovery through helping others.”

Taylor JC, Bates EA, Colosi A, Creer AJ.

**Barriers to Men's Help Seeking for Intimate Partner Violence.**

J Interpers Violence. 2021 Aug 25:8862605211035870. PMID: [34431376](#)

From an online survey of 147 men subject to abuse from their female partners, “the barriers and responses to help seeking reflect powerful pervasive individual and sociocultural beliefs.”



## Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse

Fanslow JL, Malihi ZA, Hashemi L, Gulliver PJ, McIntosh TKD. **Lifetime Prevalence of Intimate Partner Violence and Disability: Results From a Population-Based Study in New Zealand.**

Am J Prev Med. 2021 Sep;61(3):320-328. PMID: [34419229](#)

Using data on 2,888 New Zealand adults, those with disabilities reported experiencing a significantly higher lifetime prevalence of intimate partner violence compared with people without disabilities, including physical, psychological, sexual, and economic IPV.

Schwab-Reese LM, Murfree L, Coppola EC, Liu PJ, Hunter AA. **Homicide-suicide across the lifespan: a mixed methods examination of factors contributing to older adult perpetration.**

Aging Ment Health. 2021 Sep;25(9):1750-1758. PMID: [32686960](#)

From a national database, compared to young or middle-aged adults, homicide-suicide (HS) in older adults was characterized by “Mental health and depressed mood were more common among older adult perpetrators, and jealousy, fights, and substance use issues were less common, relative to younger perpetrators. Escalating intimate partner violence and caregiving/health-related issues, including caregiving strain, housing transitions, and financial problems, were the primary contributors to older adult HS.”

Booi L, Sixsmith J, Chaudhury H, et. al.

**'I wouldn't choose this work again': Perspectives and experiences of care aides in long-term residential care.**

J Adv Nurs. 2021 Sep;77(9):3842-3852. PMID: [34235778](#)

From observation and interviews with Canadian care aides, “Care aides remain an unsupported workforce that is essential to the provision of high-quality care in long term residential care. To support the care aide role, suggestions include: (i) regulate and improve care aide training; (ii) strengthen care aides autonomy of their care delivery; and (iii) reduce stigma by increasing awareness of the care aide role...Although care aides express strong affection for the residents they care for, they experience insurmountable systemic and institutional barriers preventing them from delivering care.”

## LGBTQ Concerns

Messinger AM, Guadalupe-Diaz XL, Kurdyla V.

**Transgender Polyvictimization in the U.S. Transgender Survey.**

J Interpers Violence. 2021 Aug 31:8862605211039250. PMID: [34463599](#)

From a survey of 27,715 US transgender adults, those who were visually more identifiable (“more out”), racial minority, homeless, or disabled were more likely to experience a broad range of violence types and polyvictimization including IPV, sexual assault, antitransgender family violence, antitransgender physical violence K-12<sup>th</sup> grade, and antitransgender past year physical violence.

Kaufman TML, Baams L.

### **Disparities in Perpetrators, Locations, and Reports of Victimization for Sexual and Gender Minority Adolescents.**

J Adolesc Health. 2021 Aug 23:S1054-139X(21)00337-2.

PMID: [34446345](#)

Of almost 30,000 Dutch middle school children, 14.5% of whom identified as sexual minority and 2.7% gender minority, perpetrators of victimization of SGM students were more often teachers and school staff compared with heterosexual, cisgender adolescents. Furthermore, SGM students experienced victimization in private locations (in the rest- or changing rooms/parking lots, at home) more often, felt less safe to report these experiences to teachers or parents, and were more likely to report their experiences to the police or the school janitor. "SGM students who reported victimization experiences were less likely to receive support: the problems were less often acted on and persisted more often than those of heterosexual, cisgender students."

## Race/Cultural Concerns

Volpe VV, Schorpp KM, Cacace SC, Benson GP, Banos NC. **State- and Provider-Level Racism and Health Care in the U.S.**

Am J Prev Med. 2021 Sep;61(3):338-347. PMID: [34419231](#)

"Among White individuals, more state-level racism was associated with 5% higher odds of being able to get care and 6% higher odds of sufficient time with provider. Among Black individuals, more state-level racism was associated with 8% lower odds of being able to get care. Provider racial discrimination was also associated with 80% lower odds of provider explaining care, 77% lower odds of provider answering questions, and 68% lower odds of sufficient time with provider."

Rizzo MT, Green ER, Dunham Y, Bruneau E, Rhodes M.

### **Beliefs about social norms and racial inequalities predict variation in the early development of racial bias.**

Dev Sci. 2021 Aug 23:e13170. PMID: [34423885](#)

In a study of 116 4-year-olds, "In a 6-month, three-wave, longitudinal study, we found that 4-year-old children's beliefs that their parents and peers do not value interracial friendships predicted increased racial bias in and across time...These findings suggest that children's foundational beliefs about the social world developmentally predict the emergence of racial bias in early childhood and speak to the importance of early and persistent intervention efforts targeting children's normative

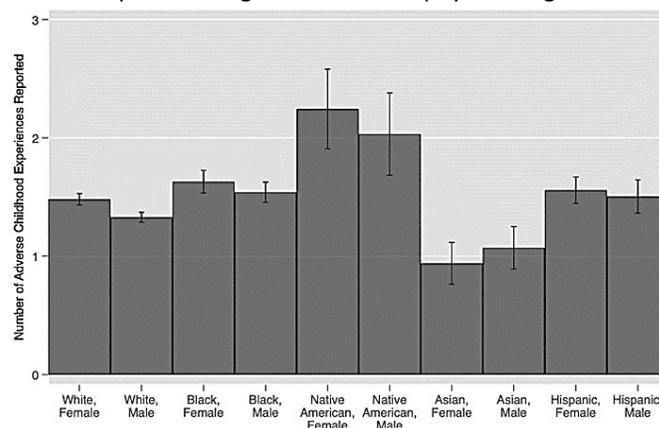
beliefs about interracial friendships and explanatory beliefs about racial inequalities."

Richards TN, Schwartz JA, Wright E.

### **Examining adverse childhood experiences among Native American persons in a nationally representative sample: Differences among racial/ethnic groups and race/ethnicity-sex dyads.**

Child Abuse Negl. 2021 Jan;111:104812. PMID: [33220946](#)

From a national survey, "Native American persons reported the greatest average number and variety of ACEs than persons from any other racial/ethnic group, and reported the highest rates of physical abuse, sexual abuse, parental substance abuse, and witnessing violence than members of any other racial/ethnic category." Native American females reported the greatest rates of emotional abuse and sexual violence, while Native American males reported the greatest rates of physical neglect.



## Sexual Assault

Graham S, Zha CC, King AC, et. al.

### **A Novel Model for Generating Creative, Community-Responsive Interventions to Reduce Gender-Based Violence on College Campuses.**

Int J Environ Res Public Health. 2021 Jul 27;18(15):7933.

PMID: [34360224](#)

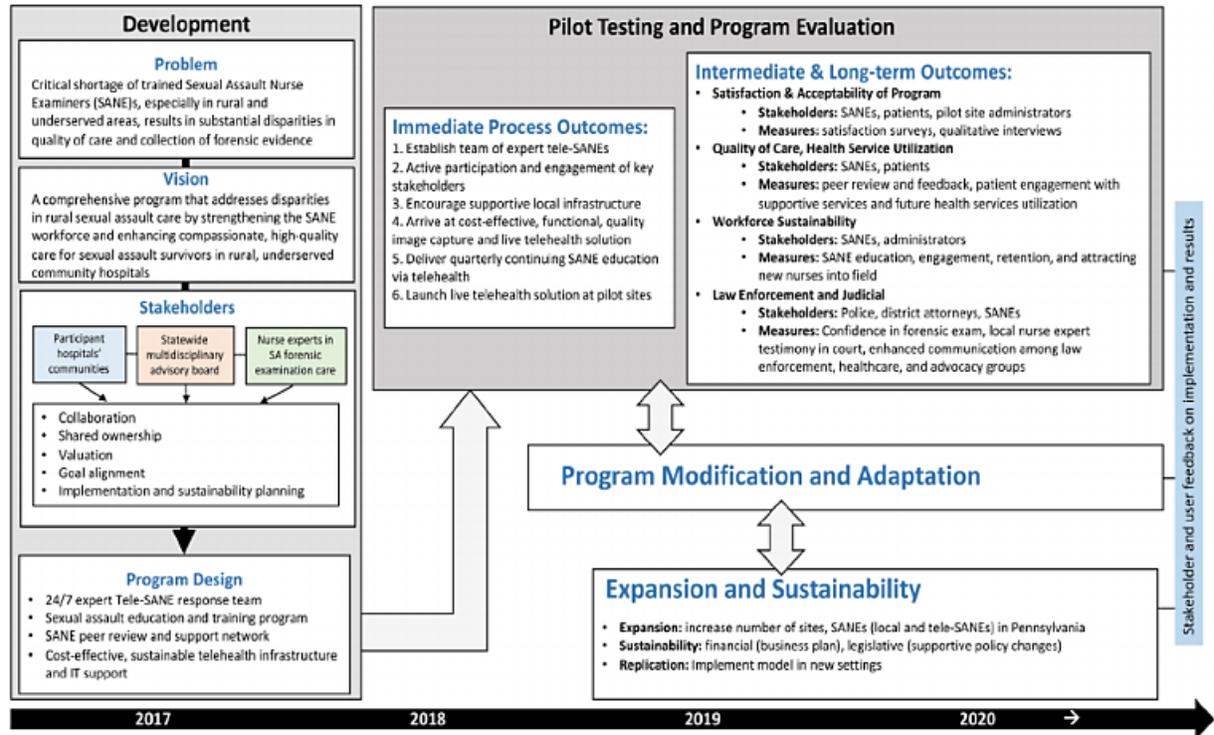
"The Our Voice model encourages groups of students to collect local data about SV, generate actionable solutions to reduce SV risk on campus, and to develop intervention strategies for factors that they identify as fostering an SV-risky environment. This empowers students to co-create a safer environment for all members of their community, and...allows researchers to understand how different group-level ideas emerge, and which members of the community are more or less activated by certain issues and solutions.

Miyamoto S, Thiede E, Dorn L, et. al.

## The Sexual Assault Forensic Examination Telehealth (SAFE-T) Center: A Comprehensive, Nurse-led Telehealth Model to Address Disparities in Sexual Assault Care.

J Rural Health. 2021 Jan;37(1):92-102. PMID: [32511800](#)

Detailed, practical article including stakeholders, barriers, and evaluation measures in developing a telehealth center to serve sexual assault survivors in rural areas. Principles can be applied to any collaborative program.



## Swartout KM, Wood L, Busch-Armendariz N. Responding to Campus Climate Data: Developing an Action Plan to Reduce Campus Sexual Misconduct.

Health Educ Behav. 2020 Jun;47(1\_suppl):70S-74S. PMID: [32452258](#)

Guidance on a framework for how institutions can use and respond to their climate data. [Special Issue devoted to Campus Sexual Assault Policy and Prevention](#)

## Corcoran CT, Miller E, Sohn L, Chugani CD. The Development and Piloting of a Digital Checklist to Increase Access and Usage of Campus Online Sexual Violence Resources.

Health Educ Behav. 2020 Jun;47(1\_suppl):36S-43S. PMID: [32452256](#)

"The 'Digital Checklist' delineates action steps that campus administrators can take to determine whether online information related to campus sexual assault is easily located, current, relevant, and accessible." [Full article.](#)

## Steele B, Martin M, Yakubovich A, Humphreys DK, Nye E. Risk and Protective Factors for Men's Sexual Violence Against Women at Higher Education Institutions: A Systematic and Meta-Analytic Review.

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2020 Nov 11:1524838020970900. PMID: [33176596](#)

In a research review of sexual violence perpetration at Higher Education Institutions (HEI), "History of sexual violence perpetration (perpetration prior to entering an HEI) emerged as the strongest predictor of sexual violence perpetration at HEIs, complicating the notion that HEI environments themselves foster a culture of sexual violence... interventions targeting peer norms (e.g., bystander interventions) and early sexual violence prevention and consent interventions for high school and elementary school students could be effective in reducing and preventing sexual violence at HEIs."

## Saadatzadeh T, Salas NM, Walraven C, et. al. Improving Emergency Access to HIV Prophylaxis for Patients Evaluated After Sexual Assault.

J Healthc Qual. 2021 Mar-Apr 01;43(2):82-91. PMID: [32195742](#)

Description of an intervention that improved HIV screening and prevention in patients seen in the emergency department after sexual assault, but also improved the care of patients with other indications for HIV assessment.

Pebole M, Gobin RL, Hall KS.

### Trauma-informed exercise for women survivors of sexual violence.

Transl Behav Med. 2021 Mar 16;11(2):686-691. PMID: [32535635](#)

“The purpose of this paper is to comment on the importance of incorporating women-specific trauma-informed principles in the content and delivery of exercise interventions in trauma-affected populations, particularly as it relates to SV.”

Figure 1. Examples of trauma-informed considerations across trial domains

Recruitment	Use inclusive language Partner with organizations of female empowerment Avoid overtly sexualized images Avoid weight loss marketing Use inclusive body types / images on recruitment materials Use clear instructions Emphasize confidentiality Avoid jargon and stigmatizing language
Orientation	Establish a culture of trust and respect Provide easy to understand information Assess willingness / comfort to working with opposite gender staff Establish confidentiality and safety regulations Emphasize participant's bodily autonomy Encourage realistic expectations Utilize motivational interviewing Include behavioral counselling and psychoeducation
Intervention	Build trust with participant via consistency Assess somatic symptoms prevalent in SV survivors Employ trauma informed exercise staff Explain all procedures beforehand Ask for permission before touching a participant Give participants ability to choose exercise modalities Maintain confidentiality and safety of participant Provide child-care

White D, McMillan L.

### Innovating the Problem Away? A Critical Study of Anti-Rape Technologies.

Violence Against Women. 2020 Aug;26(10):1120-1140. PMID: [31327309](#)

“We are witnessing the emergence of an array of new anti-rape technologies targeted at women. These tools, promoted primarily through the Internet, include a variety of apps for mobile phones, signal- and alarm-emitting wearable technologies, and internal and external body devices...we critically examine these devices with respect to their possible benefits, limitations, and unintended physical, social, and legal consequences for women.”

## Human Trafficking

Starcher DL, Anderson VR, Kulig TC, Sullivan CJ.

### Human Trafficking Cases Presenting within Child Advocacy Centers.

J Child Sex Abus. 2021 Jul 27:1-16. PMID: [34314659](#)

“Child Advocacy Centers are uniquely positioned to encounter human trafficking cases and provide needed services to trafficking survivors...recommendations are provided for CACs regarding the intake and identification of trafficking cases more broadly.”

Letsie NC, Lul B, Roe-Sepowitz D.

### An eight-year analysis of child labor trafficking cases in the United States: Exploring characteristics, and patterns of child labor trafficking.

Child Abuse Negl. 2021 Aug 24;121:105265. PMID: [34450487](#)

From an analysis of 52 US child labor trafficking victims, “The majority of the cases (73.5%) were child labor trafficking only while 26.5% were both sex trafficking and labor trafficking. Fifty-eight percent of the victims were children from countries outside of the U.S. Victims in more than half of the cases identified their relationship with their traffickers as “friendly strangers/acquaintances”. Techniques for recruitment and retention used by the child labor traffickers included psychological, physical, and sexual violence along with offering shelter to the victims.”

## Perpetrators

Davis M, Padilla-Medina DM.

### Brief Intimate Partner Violence Perpetration Screening Tools: A Scoping Review.

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2021 Oct;22(4):900-913. PMID: [31771463](#)

“The development and evaluation of tools to screen for IPV perpetration in health-care settings, particularly brief instruments, is limited by the lack of adequate guidelines, clear institutional policies for screening, and reviews of the available literature.” This review identifies several brief (2-5 question) validated perpetrator screening tools, “however none of the screening tools reviewed included practice guidelines practitioners should follow if a patient screens positive for IPV perpetration...it is imperative that health-care providers are able to participate in a system that connects patients to treatment.” Authors also suggest that consideration be given to cultural concerns in the wording and naming of the screening tools, that they be gender-neutral, and that high vs. low-risk perpetrators be able to be identified for appropriate referral – and referrals that are available. There is also a research gap in finding out acceptability of these tools.

# Police and Court Systems

Eisen ML, Goodman GS, Diep J, et. al.

## **Disclosures of Sexual and Physical Abuse across Repeated Interviews.**

J Child Sex Abus. 2021 Aug 12:1-21. PMID: [34384332](#)

Of 132 children between 3 and 16 years of age who were being investigated for allegations of sexual and/or physical abuse, two interviews conducted over 5 days were analyzed. “39.2% of children with substantiated sexual abuse and 55.6% of those with substantiated physical abuse denied these experiences in one or both interviews. The denial rate was highest among school aged children (6-to-10-year-olds). Recantations were also relatively common, at 24%. The youngest children (3-to-5-year-olds) were most likely to be inconsistent in their denials/disclosures across interviews. “Custody status and relation to the perpetrator also predicted denials/disclosures of sexual, but not physical abuse. Overall, the data suggest that denials of both sexual and physical abuse are quite common.”

Wentz EA.

## **Funneled Through or Filtered Out: An Examination of Police and Prosecutorial Decision-Making in Adult Sexual Assault Cases.**

Violence Against Women. 2020 Dec;26(15-16):1919-1940. PMID: [31868129](#)

231 cases of adult sexual assault reported to the police were analyzed regarding charging decisions and arrest. “Legally relevant factors that focused on the collection of evidence were paramount in decisions at both stages; however, extralegal variables such as timely reporting and whether the victim physically resisted were also significantly related to decisions at each stage.”

# Providers

Wilson IA, Lee J.

## **Barriers and Facilitators Associated With Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Among Child Care Professionals: A Systematic Review.**

J Psychosoc Nurs Ment Health Serv. 2021 Jun;59(6):14-22. PMID: [34060955](#)

“Despite child abuse and neglect [CAN] reporting laws, approximately one fifth of child care professionals fail to report CAN.” From a research review, “Barriers to and facilitators of CAN reporting were categorized by the following common characteristics: system and structure (e.g., reporting

system infrastructure), resources and support (e.g., funding, time), sociocultural context (e.g., CAN as a family matter), reporter traits (e.g., gender), and psychological attributes (e.g., knowledge, beliefs, mistrust). Intervention strategies tailored to the needs of professionals that can maximize their CAN reporting behaviors must be developed.”

Goddard A.

## **Adverse Childhood Experiences and Trauma-Informed Care.**

J Pediatr Health Care. 2021 Mar-Apr;35(2):145-155. PMID: [33129624](#)

“The trauma-informed care approach includes the realization of how ACEs affect health, the recognition of pediatric clinical symptom presentation and screening protocols for ACEs, and the health care provider’s ability to respond and not re-traumatize patients when delivering evidence-based care.” Article includes an extensive list of ACEs; and summaries of ways to provide care, promote resiliency with topics for anticipatory guidance, and institute trauma therapy modalities.

Owens L, Terrell S, Low LK, et. al

## **Universal precautions: the case for consistently trauma-informed reproductive healthcare.**

Am J Obstet Gynecol. 2021 Aug 18:S0002-9378(21)00880-2. PMID: [34418349](#)

“Given the high prevalence of trauma in the United States, its impact on perinatal outcomes, the sensitive nature of reproductive healthcare, and the likelihood that many patients may not disclose their trauma history, we advocate for trauma-informed reproductive healthcare as the standard of care.”

Jack SM, Munro-Kramer ML, Williams JR, et. al.

## **Recognising and responding to intimate partner violence using telehealth: Practical guidance for nurses and midwives.**

J Clin Nurs. 2021 Feb;30(3-4):588-602. PMID: [33141467](#)

This article contains excellent, detailed and practical suggestions including sample scripts. “We present strategies for prioritising safety and promoting privacy while initiating, managing or terminating a telehealth encounter with patients who may be at risk for or experiencing IPV. Strategies for assessment, planning and intervention are also summarised...There are also implications for future secondary outbreaks, natural disasters or other physically isolating events, for improving healthcare efficiency, and for addressing the needs of vulnerable populations with limited access to health care.”

Williams EE, Arant KR, Leifer VP, et. al.

**Provider perspectives on the provision of safe, equitable, trauma-informed care for intimate partner violence survivors during the COVID-19 pandemic.**

BMC Womens Health. 2021 Aug 27;21(1):315. PMID: [34452616](#)

From interviews with IPV service providers, “the pandemic posed an increased threat to survivors of IPV by exacerbating external stressors and leading to heightened violence. On a system level, the pandemic led to widespread uncertainty, strained resources, amplified inequities, and loss of community. On an individual level, COVID-19 restrictions limited survivors' abilities to access resources and to be safe, and amplified pre-existing inequities, such as limited technology access. Those who did not speak English or were immigrants experienced even more difficulty accessing resources due to language and/or cultural barriers. To address these challenges, providers utilized video and telephone interactions, and stressed the importance of creativity and cooperation across different sectors of care.”

Finnie SM, Brach RJ, Dawson CA, et. al.

**A new roadmap for social medicine curriculum design based on mixed methods student and faculty evaluations of the preclinical curriculum.**

BMC Med Educ. 2021 Aug 20;21(1):442. PMID: [34416885](#)

“Student and faculty evaluations of an expanded and innovative longitudinal preclinical social medicine curriculum were strongly favorable. Both student and faculty respondents indicated a particular desire for deeper coverage of race and poverty among other social medicine domains. Qualitative student evaluations highlighted the importance of faculty champions to social medicine teaching as well as the educational impact of stories that exemplify the practical impact of the social determinants of health on specific patient experiences. Qualitative faculty evaluations pointed to the challenges of curriculum integration and the need for faculty career development in social medicine teaching.”

Reed-Ashcraft K, Hege A, Fiske E, et. al.

**Addressing adverse childhood experiences, trauma and resilience through interprofessional course development.**

J Interprof Care. 2020 Nov 21:1-7. PMID: [33222588](#)

“Faculty of nursing, public health, and social work collaborated to develop an interprofessional course at the undergraduate and graduate levels that focus on ACEs, trauma, and resiliency literature as well as interprofessional collaboration and evidence-based prevention and treatment. In this paper, the faculty

detail the approach undertaken to develop this interprofessional course, lessons learnt and key resources.”

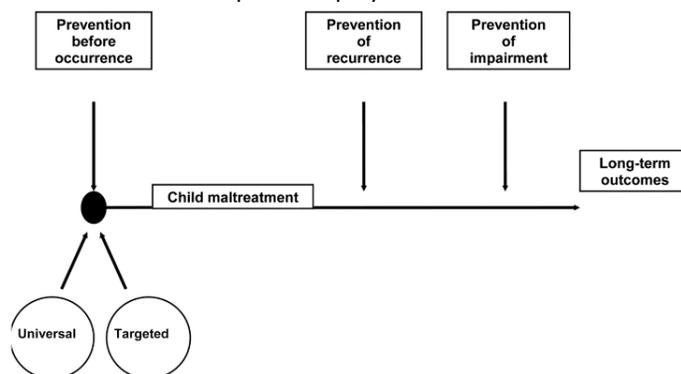
## Prevention

Bentovim A, Chorpita BF, Daleiden EL, et. al.

**The value of a modular, multi-focal, therapeutic approach to addressing child maltreatment: Hope for Children and Families Intervention Resources – a discussion article.**

Child Abuse Negl. 2021 Sep;119(Pt 1):104703. PMID: [32951866](#)

“The paper introduces an innovative strategy to help the field better organise and prevent the extensive sequelae of polyvictimization and ACEs.”



Kim JH, Hahlweg K, Schulz W.

**Early childhood parenting and adolescent bullying behavior: Evidence from a randomized intervention at ten-year follow-up.**

Soc Sci Med. 2021 Aug;282:114114. PMID: [34144432](#)

Of 280 parents in 17 preschools who received a parental training aimed at improving parenting techniques such as disciplinary strategies, 10 years later their adolescent children were significantly less likely to bully their peers. “Improving early childhood parenting can have important public health benefits through reduction in adolescent bullying behavior.”

Patterson TP, Fiene SL, Cole BP.

**No Less of a Man: Inducing Empathy to Reduce Male Rape Myth Acceptance.**

J Interpers Violence. 2021 Aug 3:8862605211035872. PMID: [34344212](#)

“The current research examines the effect of a hypothetical male sexual assault survivor story and empathy writing task” which showed a decrease in rape myth acceptance among 95 US men and women. The only predictor of change score was pre-task state of emotional empathy.

# Researchers

Alhowaymel F, Kalmakis K, Jacelon C.

## Developing the Concept of Adverse Childhood Experiences: A Global Perspective.

J Pediatr Nurs. 2021 Jan-Feb;56:18-23. PMID: [33181368](#)

“The concept has evolved from the original ACE study, in which ACEs included abuse, neglect, and household disfunction, to a concept that encompasses family, community, social context, and cultural environment. Recognizing the context in which childhood adversity occurs, renders it more applicable in countries around the globe in which it is being studied.”

Test Krinner LM, Warren-Findlow J, Bowling J, et. al.

## The dimensionality of adverse childhood experiences: A scoping review of ACE dimensions measurement.

Child Abuse Negl. 2021 Aug 19;121:105270. PMID: [34419902](#)

“More research is needed on ACE domains not included in the original ACE-Study Questionnaire, such as bullying or experiencing poverty, and their dimensionality. The inclusion of ACE dimensions in research may increase the accuracy of models estimating the association between ACEs and health outcomes. Better models and screening tools will provide for more tailored treatment plans for people who have experienced ACEs.”

### Dimensions

#### Primary Dimensions

Frequency  
Timing  
Perception  
Perpetrator

#### Secondary Dimensions

Disclosure  
Duration  
Injury  
Intensity (author-rated)

#### Domain-specific Dimensions

Location of the abuse  
Medical attention was sought  
Number of times medical attention was received  
Penetration happened  
Use of force

# Other of Interest

Mannah I, Hussien M, Commodore-Mensah Y, Michos ED.

## Impact of social determinants of health on cardiovascular disease prevention.

Curr Opin Cardiol. 2021 Sep 1;36(5):572-579. PMID: [34397464](#)

“Social determinants of health (SDOH) describe conditions in one’s environment that have an impact on health, quality-of-life, outcomes, and risks. These include income, education, employment, culture, language, healthcare access, social support, race, ethnicity, structural racism, discrimination, social support, neighborhood characteristics, and others. SDOH manifest as persistent inequalities in cardiovascular risk factors and disease, and, therefore, contribute to cardiovascular disease (CVD)-related morbidity and mortality. This article reviews how SDOH affect CVD risk and the role they play in CVD prevention.”

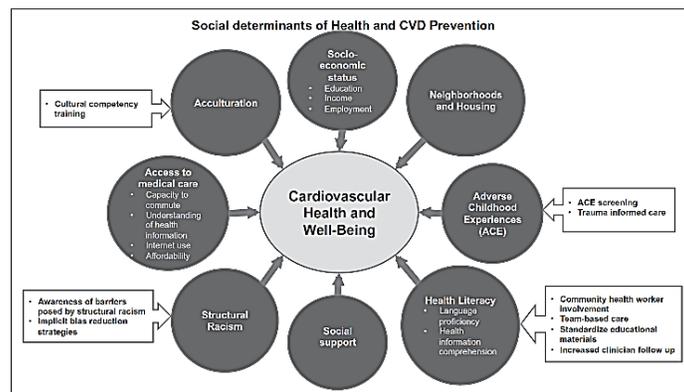


FIGURE 1. Social determinants of health that impact cardiovascular health and well-being and potential interventions.

Hillis SD, Unwin HJT, Chen Y, et. al.

## Global minimum estimates of children affected by COVID-19-associated orphanhood and deaths of caregivers: a modelling study.

Lancet. 2021 Jul 31;398(10298):391-402. PMID: [34298000](#)

“Beyond morbidity and mortality, pandemics carry secondary impacts, such as children orphaned or bereft of their caregivers. Such children often face adverse consequences, including poverty, abuse, and institutionalisation.” Per authors, more than 1.5 million children around the world are estimated to have lost at least one parent, custodial grandparent, or grandparent who lived with them due to death related to COVID-19 during the first 14 months of the pandemic. The countries with the highest numbers of children who lost primary caregivers (parents or custodial grandparents) included South Africa, Peru, United States, India, Brazil, and Mexico. Between two and five times more children had deceased fathers than deceased mothers. “These data show the need for an additional pillar of our response: prevent, detect, respond, and care for children.”