

NOVEMBER 2009 ABUSE MEDICAL SUMMARY for Santa Clara County Domestic Violence Council <http://dvc.sccgov.org>

This summary includes selected articles indexed by the National Library of Medicine September 2009. 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.

Child Abuse

DePrince AP, Weinzierl KM, Combs MD.

Executive function performance and trauma exposure in a community sample of children.

Child Abuse Negl. 2009 Jun;33(6):353-61. PMID: 19477515.

In an ethnically diverse group of 110 children with mean age of 10, exposure to familial trauma (as opposed to non-familial trauma or no trauma) was associated with a significant decrease in performance of executive function (working memory, auditory attention, and processing task speed).

Shin SH, Edwards EM, Heeren T.

Child abuse and neglect: relations to adolescent binge drinking in the national longitudinal study of Adolescent Health

(AddHealth) Study.

Addict Behav. 2009 Mar;34(3):277-80. PMID: 19028418.

Utilizing data of over 12,000 teens from the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health, and controlling for age, gender, race and parental alcoholism, child maltreatment was a significant risk factor for adolescent binge drinking.

Girardet RG, Lahoti S, Howard LA, Fajman NN, Sawyer MK, Driebe EM, Lee F, Sautter RL, Greenwald E, Beck-Sagué CM, Hammerschlag MR, Black CM.

Epidemiology of sexually transmitted infections in suspected child victims of sexual assault.

Pediatrics. 2009 Jul;124(1):79-86. PMID: 19564286.

Of 536 children age 0 to 13 referred for evaluation of possible sexual abuse, less than 10% tested positive for a sexually transmitted disease, and those who tested positive had normal or nonspecific findings on exam. Number of positive tests were as follows: chlamydia – 15, gonorrhea – 16, trichomonas – 5, syphilis – 1, HIV – 0, HPV – 12 (not all tests were done on all children).

Lin HW, Wieland AM, Ostrower ST.

Child abuse presenting as oral cavity bruising.

Otolaryngol Head Neck Surg. 2009 Aug;141(2):290-291. PMID: 19643269.

Case report of 7 month old girl brought to ED for decreased oral intake, with findings of bruising on the floor of the mouth. Suspicion of abuse led to full evaluation revealing fractures of skull, right arm, and multiple ribs, in various stages of healing. Author stresses importance of medical personnel recognizing subtle signs of abuse.

Adult Manifestations of Child Abuse

Carpenter LL, Tyrka AR, Ross NS, Khoury L, Anderson GM, Price LH.

Effect of childhood emotional abuse and age on cortisol responsivity in adulthood.

Biol Psychiatry. 2009 Jul 1;66(1):69-75. PMID: 19375070.

In 230 adults without major psychiatric disorders, self-reported childhood emotional abuse was an independent risk factor for abnormal stress hormone regulation in adulthood, which worsened with advancing age. The ability to appropriately raise stress hormones in response to a stressor is important for health.

Polanczyk G, Caspi A, Williams B, Price TS, Danese A, Sugden K, Uher R, Poulton R, Moffitt TE.

Protective effect of CRHR1 gene variants on the development of adult depression following childhood maltreatment: replication and extension.

Arch Gen Psychiatry. 2009 Sep;66(9):978-85. PMID: 19736354.

A certain variation of a gene relating to stress hormones may protect women with a history of childhood abuse from developing depression in adulthood.

Coles J.

Qualitative study of breastfeeding after childhood sexual assault.

J Hum Lact. 2009 Aug;25(3):317-24. PMID: 19414736.

Women with a history of childhood sexual abuse were interviewed about their breast feeding experiences, which were viewed as challenging but positive. "Breastfeeding gave her body a positive purpose, a good story, one that she had not previously told of her abused body." "The physical closeness helped them to feel connected, and breastfeeding, when it was difficult, helped them to confront old patterns of avoidant behavior."

Domestic Violence – Physical Health

Btoush R, Campbell JC, Gebbie KM.

Care provided in visits coded for intimate partner violence in a national survey of emergency departments.

Womens Health Issues. 2009 Jul-Aug;19(4):253-62. PMID: 19589474.

In a large national survey of emergency departments, patients whose visits were coded for IPV presented with 86% pain symptoms, 50% physical or sexual violence, and 38% injuries to the body.

Domestic Violence – Mental Health

Woods SM, Melville JL, Guo Y, Fan MY, Gavin A.

Psychosocial stress during pregnancy.

Am J Obstet Gynecol. 2009 Sep 19. [Epub ahead of print] PMID:19766975.

Of 1522 women receiving prenatal care, 78% described low-moderate and 6% high levels of stress. The odds ratio of certain conditions causing stress were: depression 9.6, panic disorder 6.8, drug use 3.8, domestic violence 3.3, and having more than two medical problems 3.1.

Cultural Issues

Lee YS, Hadeed L.

Intimate partner violence among Asian immigrant communities: health/mental health consequences, help-seeking behaviors, and service utilization.

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2009 Apr;10(2):143-70. PMID: 19383628.

From the School of Social Work at San Francisco State University, a comprehensive review of Asian immigrant experience of IPV, social context, health consequences, and barriers to seeking help.

Lehavot K, Walters KL, Simoni JM.

Abuse, mastery, and health among lesbian, bisexual, and two-spirit American Indian and Alaska Native women.

Cultur Divers Ethnic Minor Psychol. 2009 Jul;15(3):275-84. PMID: 19594256.

Interviews with 152 LGBT Indian and Alaska Native women about their health concerns revealed very high abuse rates – 85% sexual and 78% physical abuse. This abuse history was associated with poor mental and physical scores of wellbeing.

Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse

Wagenaar DB, Rosenbaum R, Page C, Herman S.

Elder abuse education in residency programs: how well are we doing?

Acad Med. 2009 May;84(5):611-8. PMID: 19704194.

A 58% response to a survey of elder abuse education opportunities in residency programs in Michigan revealed that only 1/3 had lectures devoted to elder abuse. The most frequently requested material (63%) was a screening tool.

Perpetrators

Oliver J, Washington KT.

Treating perpetrators of child physical abuse: a review of interventions.

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2009 Apr;10(2):115-24. PMID: 19447845.

Research review of current practice and gaps in knowledge of treatments and intervention for perpetrators of child physical abuse.

Guterman NB, Lee Y, Lee SJ, Waldfogel J, Rathouz PJ.

Fathers and maternal risk for physical child abuse.

Child Maltreat. 2009 Aug;14(3):277-90. PMID: 19581432.

Research on 1480 families in the Chicago area showed that when fathers had higher educational attainment and more positive involvement with their children, there was less maternal child physical abuse. There was no association with degree of maternal child physical abuse and marital status or fathers' economic status.

Police and Court System

Laughon K, Glass N, Worrell C.

Review and analysis of laws related to strangulation in 50 states.

Eval Rev. 2009 Aug;33(4):358-69. PMID: 19509117.

Nonlethal strangulation has direct health consequences as well as risk of later lethal violence. Seven states have specific new statutes related to strangulation, and six added strangulation under existing statutes (CA law does not address strangulation). Ideal policies are discussed.

Providers

Iyengar R, Sabik L.

The dangerous shortage of domestic violence services.

Health Aff (Millwood). 2009 Nov-Dec;28(6):w1052-65. PMID: 19773252.

National “snapshot” survey of domestic violence services in the US on 11/2/06 revealed that in a 24 hour period, 48,350 people used these services, and that 10% of requests were denied due to lack of resources.

Niolon PH, Rollins CM, Glass N, Billhardt K, Connor-Smith J, Baker C.

An innovative approach to serving the needs of IPV survivors: description of a CDC-Funded study examining the Volunteers of America Home Free rent assistance program.

J Womens Health (Larchmt). 2009 Jun;18(6):775-8. PMID: 19445641.

Described program offers survivors of IPV permanent housing rent assistance plus client-centered advocacy.

Moreno MA, Furtner F, Rivara FP.

Adolescents and dating violence.

Arch Pediatr Adolesc Med. 2009 Aug;163(8):776. PMID: 19652114.

One page handout for parents on teen dating abuse.

Wolfe DA, Crooks C, Jaffe P, Chiodo D, Hughes R, Ellis W, Stitt L, Donner A.

A school-based program to prevent adolescent dating violence: a cluster randomized trial.

Arch Pediatr Adolesc Med. 2009 Aug;163(8):692-9. PMID:19652099.

A randomized controlled trial of a 21 lesson manualized curriculum given by teachers to 9th grade health classes “Fourth R: Skills for Youth Relationships” included information on healthy relationships, sexual health, and substance use – and was associated 2.5 years later with a significant decrease in physical dating violence and increased condom use.

Barth RP.

Preventing child abuse and neglect with parent training: evidence and opportunities.

Future Child. 2009 Fall;19(2):95-118. PMID: 19719024.

Author reviews possible parental education interventions aimed at preventing child abuse by addressing the four most common risk factors – parental substance abuse, mental illness, DV, and child conduct problems.

Dougall A, Fiske J.

Surviving child sexual abuse: the relevance to dental practice.

Dent Update. 2009 Jun;36(5):294-6, 298-300, 303-4. PMID:19585853.

Discussion of presentations of possible prior abuse history in the dental setting, with recommendations for sensitive interaction and support.

Goodman LA, Smyth KF, Borges AM, Singer R.

When crises collide: how IPV and poverty intersect to shape women's mental health and coping?

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2009 Oct;10(4):306-29. PMID: 19776085.

IPV and poverty each are associated with stress, powerlessness, and social isolation, and combined can contribute to PTSD and depression. “Survival-focused coping” describes women’s methods of coping with IPV in the context of poverty, and this article suggests methods for providers to address these combined factors.

Other of Interest

Flood M, Pease B.

Factors influencing attitudes to violence against women.

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2009 Apr;10(2):125-42. PMID: 19383630.

Discussion of individual, organizational, gender and cultural factors influencing attitudes towards violence against women, with recommendations for improvement.