

## **MEDICAL RESEARCH SUMMARY ON ABUSE FOR SANTA CLARA COUNTY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNCIL NOVEMBER 2011**

This summary includes selected research articles relating to abuse indexed by the National Library of Medicine September 2011. To obtain a copy of the abstracts, go to [pubmed.gov](http://pubmed.gov) and place the Pubmed ID numbers (PMID) in the search box, separated by commas. PTSD = Post Traumatic Stress Disorder IPV = Intimate Partner Violence

### **Child Abuse**

Sidebotham P, Bailey S, Belderson P, Brandon M.

#### **Fatal child maltreatment in England, 2005-2009.**

Child Abuse Negl. 2011 Apr;35(4):299-306. PMID: 21481462

In characterizing 276 cases of child fatalities from abuse, neglect was involved in 40% of cases, but was rarely the cause of death. The most frequent cause of death was severe physical assault.

Toon MH, Maybauer DM, Arceneaux LL, Fraser JF, Meyer W, Runge A, Maybauer MO.

#### **Children with burn injuries--assessment of trauma, neglect, violence and abuse.**

J Inj Violence Res. 2011 Jul;3(2):98-110. PMID: 21498973

Australian review of burn injuries in children, the third leading cause of death behind motor vehicle accidents and drowning. Burn injuries account for the greatest length of stay of all hospital admissions for injuries.

Helton JJ, Cross TP.

#### **The relationship of child functioning to parental physical assault: linear and curvilinear models.**

Child Maltreat. 2011 May;16(2):126-36. PMID: 21441277

Using a national sample of 1675 families investigated for child maltreatment, among other findings, children with mildly impaired or average language skills experienced more minor assault than both children with severe impairment or above average/superior skills.

Friedman MS, Marshal MP, Guadamuz TE, Wei C, Wong CF, Saewyc E, Stall R.

#### **A meta-analysis of disparities in childhood sexual abuse, parental physical abuse, and peer victimization among sexual minority and sexual nonminority individuals.**

Am J Public Health. 2011 Aug;101(8):1481-94. PMID: 21680921

In a review of studies on sexual minority youth, this group was significantly more likely to experience sexual abuse, parental physical abuse, assault at school, or to miss school through fear. Authors feel this array of abuse may be a driving mechanism underlying higher rates of mental health problems and substance use in this population.

Trejo-Hernández J, Loredó-Abdalá A, Orozco-Garibay JM. ]

#### **Munchausen syndrome by proxy in Mexican children: medical, social, psychological and legal aspects.**

Rev Invest Clin. 2011 May-Jun;63(3):253-62. PMID: 21888289

In 18 cases of Munchausen by proxy from Mexico, all perpetrators were the mother, 13/18 victims were female, 10/18 were under six years old, and the manifestations were as follows: fever from non-determined origin, seizures, chronic diarrhea, hematuria, and probable sexual abuse.

Afifi TO, Macmillan HL.

#### **Resilience following child maltreatment: a review of protective factors.**

Can J Psychiatry. 2011 May;56(5):266-72. PMID: 21586192

This article reviews research evaluating resilience factors in child maltreatment; while stable family environment and supportive relationships appear to be consistently linked to resilience, authors state need for increased research to determine effective strategies and interventions to promote resilience.

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

American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. Committee on Health Care for Underserved Women.

#### **Committee opinion no. 498: Adult manifestations of childhood sexual abuse.**

Obstet Gynecol. 2011 Aug;118(2 Pt 1):392-5. PMID: 21775872

Committee report from ACOG delineating psychological and gynecological problems in adulthood resulting from childhood sexual abuse. "Obstetrician-gynecologists can offer support to abuse survivors by giving them empowering messages, counseling referrals, and empathic care during sensitive examinations."

Reid JA.

**An exploratory model of girls' vulnerability to commercial sexual exploitation in prostitution.**

Child Maltreat. 2011 May;16(2):146-57. PMID: 21482554

Using data from 174 predominately African American women, 12% of whom indicated involvement in prostitution while a minor, experiencing child maltreatment was linked to running away, initiating substance use at an earlier age, and higher levels of sexual denigration of self/others. This last factor was significantly related to the likelihood of prostitution as a minor.

Salazar AM, Keller TE, Courtney ME.

**Understanding social support's role in the relationship between maltreatment and depression in youth with foster care experience.**

Child Maltreat. 2011 May;16(2):102-13. PMID: 21471145

In a sample of 513 youth exiting the foster care system, maltreatment prior to or during care was associated with depression. Social support had a direct effect on reducing depressive symptoms, and this effect was stronger for those with fewer types of maltreatment.

Bebbington P, Jonas S, Kuipers E, King M, Cooper C, Brugha T, Meltzer H, McManus S, Jenkins R.

**Childhood sexual abuse and psychosis: data from a cross-sectional national psychiatric survey in England.**

Br J Psychiatry. 2011 Jul;199:29-37. PMID: 21508437

In this large (n = 7353) British adult survey, those who experienced sexual abuse before the age of 16, especially if it involved non-consensual intercourse, were 10 times more likely to experience psychosis as an adult. [Psychosis = a mental state involving losing touch with reality, such as hallucinations or delusions.]

Fisher HL, Craig TK, Fearon P, et al

**Reliability and comparability of psychosis patients' retrospective reports of childhood abuse.**

Schizophr Bull. 2011 May;37(3):546-53. PMID: 19776204

Since an increasing number of studies are showing an association between childhood abuse and psychosis, this study looked at the correlation between psychosis patients' report of childhood abuse and their records. There was a good correlation between the history as given and record review during initial history taking as well as over a seven year period, regardless of severity of psychotic or depressive symptoms.

Alemamy S, Arias B, Aguilera M, Villa H, Moya J, Ibáñez MI, Vossen H, Gastó C, Ortet G, Fañanás L.

**Childhood abuse, the BDNF-Val66Met polymorphism and adult psychotic-like experiences.**

Br J Psychiatry. 2011 Jul;199:38-42. PMID: 21719879

In a Spanish study of 533 individuals from the general population, child abuse showed a strong independent effect on psychotic experiences. In addition, those with certain versions of a gene involved with aspects of learning and memory experienced more breaks with reality than individuals with other versions.

Walton G, Co SJ, Milloy MJ, Qi J, Kerr T, Wood E.

**High prevalence of childhood emotional, physical and sexual trauma among a Canadian cohort of HIV-seropositive illicit drug users.**

AIDS Care. 2011 Jun;23(6):714-21. PMID: 21390877

A Canadian group of 233 HIV positive injection drug users reported childhood emotional abuse 51.9%, emotional neglect 36.9%, physical abuse 51.1%, physical neglect 46.8%, and sexual abuse 41.6%.

Gover AR, Jennings WG, Tomsich EA, Park M, Rennison CM.

**The influence of childhood maltreatment and self-control on dating violence: a comparison of college students in the United States and South Korea.**

Violence Vict. 2011;26(3):296-318. PMID: 21846019

For college students in both South Korea and the US, experiencing childhood maltreatment and having low self-control were key predictors of perpetration and victimization for both psychological and physical relationship violence.

Appleyard K, Berlin LJ, Rosanbalm KD, Dodge KA.

**Preventing early child maltreatment: implications from a longitudinal study of maternal abuse history, substance use problems, and offspring victimization.**

Prev Sci. 2011 Jun;12(2):139-49. PMID: 21240556

In a longitudinal study of 499 multi-ethnic women, there appeared to be a strong pathway from childhood physical and sexual abuse (but not neglect), to adult substance abuse, to maternal maltreatment of their children.

## **Domestic Violence – Effects on Children**

Emery CR.

### **Controlling for selection effects in the relationship between child behavior problems and exposure to intimate partner violence.**

J Interpers Violence. 2011 May;26(8):1541-58. PMID: 20587450

Using data from a longitudinal study of 1816 Chicago families, IPV was associated with significantly greater children's behavior problems, mood problems and truancy.

Dalal K, Lawoko S, Jansson B.

### **The relationship between intimate partner violence and maternal practices to correct child behavior: a study on women in Egypt.**

J Inj Violence Res. 2010 Jan;2(1):25-33. doi: 10.5249/jivr.v2i1.17. PMID: 21483195

In a study of over 14,000 married Egyptian women, to correct children, mothers used shouting (90.6%), striking (69.1%), slapping (39.3%), and explaining (only 7%). Experiencing physical IPV and tolerant attitudes towards IPV were associated with an increased risk of maternal use of violent methods to correct child behavior.

## **Domestic Violence – Mental Health**

Ansara DL, Hindin MJ.

### **Psychosocial consequences of intimate partner violence for women and men in Canada.**

J Interpers Violence. 2011 May;26(8):1628-45. PMID: 20501897

As part of a Canadian General Social Survey on Victimization with over 1100 men and women, experiencing any pattern of violence was associated with a range of negative psychosocial outcomes. These outcomes were worse for women than for men, and were worse with more severe and chronic patterns of abuse.

Hassan S, Mallozzi L, Dhingra N, Haden SC.

### **Victimization in young urban adults and depressed mood: understanding the interplay of coping and gender.**

Violence Vict. 2011;26(3):329-46. PMID: 21846021

In a study of 211 young urban adults, women who used problem-focused coping (finding out information and learning new skills) after their first physical assault reported lower rates of depression, vs. those who used emotion-focused coping (releasing emotions) or avoidant coping (trying not to think about it).

## **Cultural Issues**

Gottlieb K, Outten B.

### **Family Wellness Warriors.**

Fam Community Health. 2011 Jul-Sep;34(3):235-41. PMID: 21633216

In Alaska, the concept of Family Wellness Warriors has been strategized within the Alaska Native population to improve resiliency in adults who have experienced physical, mental, emotional and spiritual harm.

Begay RC.

### **A women's shelter in a rural American indian community.**

Fam Community Health. 2011 Jul-Sep;34(3):229-34. PMID: 21633215

Author presents a personal case study of initiating a women's shelter in a rural American Indian reservation community, with problems identified, resolutions described, and lessons learned.

Peek-Asa C, Wallis A, Harland K, Beyer K, Dickey P, Saftlas A.

### **Rural disparity in domestic violence prevalence and access to resources.**

J Womens Health (Larchmt). 2011 Nov;20(11):1743-9. PMID: 21919777

In a survey of women experiencing IPV in Iowa, rural women reported the highest IPV rates (22.5% vs. 15.5% for urban women), had higher severity of physical abuse, and the mean distance to the nearest IPV resource was three times greater than for urban women. Over 25% of rural women were >40 miles from the closest program.

## **Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse**

Assunção LA, Grams AC, Ribeiro CS, Magalhães T.

### **"Broken heart" syndrome in an elder abuse case: forensic considerations from the case.**

Forensic Sci Med Pathol. 2011 Jun;7(2):217-21. PMID: 21318471

A case report is described of a 76 year old victim of elder abuse who experienced "broken heart syndrome". ["Broken heart syndrome" is when acute stress can cause symptoms and serious physical findings similar to a heart attack, but the effects are reversible and short-lived.]

Lund EM.

**Community-based services and interventions for adults with disabilities who have experienced interpersonal violence: a review of the literature.**

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2011 Oct;12(4):171-82. PMID: 21908437

In a review of violence-related programs for people with disabilities, the author notes a lack of valid services and information for diverse types of disability. "Efforts should be made to improve accessibility and increase cross-collaboration between domestic violence services and disability service organizations, and there is a need for accessible, culturally sensitive, and rigorously tested abuse intervention and prevention programs."

**Perpetrators**

Mendez M, Shapira JS.

**Pedophilic behavior from brain disease.**

J Sex Med. 2011 Apr;8(4):1092-100. PMID: 21235721

Article describes 8 cases of mid to late-life pedophilic behavior coincident with the development of neurological disorders.

Roche MJ, Shoss NE, Pincus AL, Ménard KS.

**Psychopathy moderates the relationship between time in treatment and levels of empathy in incarcerated male sexual offenders.**

Sex Abuse. 2011 Jun;23(2):171-92. PMID: 21540362

Of 58 male incarcerated sexual offenders, those with greater degree of psychopathy did not exhibit greater general, female-oriented, or child-oriented empathy with longer time in treatment.

Wilson RJ, Abracen J, Looman J, Picheca JE, Ferguson M.

**Pedophilia: an evaluation of diagnostic and risk prediction methods.**

Sex Abuse. 2011 Jun;23(2):260-74. PMID: 21062948

Of 130 child sexual abusers, prediction of re-offending was best assessed by a Rapid Risk Assessment of Sex Offender Recidivism (RRASOR) score.

Fergusson DM, Boden JM, Horwood LJ, Miller AL, Kennedy MA.

**MAOA, abuse exposure and antisocial behaviour: 30-year longitudinal study.**

Br J Psychiatry. 2011 Jun;198(6):457-63. PMID: 21628708

In a 30 year study of 398 New Zealand men, those with a low-activity variant of the MAOA gene (a gene responsible for modifying brain chemicals), and who had also experienced childhood abuse, were significantly more likely to report offending, conduct problems and hostility than those with other versions of the gene.

**Police and Court Systems**

Canning KE, Hilts MA, Muirhead YE.

**False allegation of child abduction.**

J Forensic Sci. 2011 May;56(3):794-802. PMID: 21361941

In an analysis of 61 cases of false allegations of child abduction, the mean age of the victim was 5 years old; they were primarily killed by biological parents because they were unwanted, viewed as an obstacle to a desired goal, or were victims of abuse or maltreatment that ended in fatality.

Lane EJ, Lating JM, Lowry JL, Martino TP.

**Differences in compassion fatigue, symptoms of posttraumatic stress disorder and relationship satisfaction, including sexual desire and functioning, between male and female detectives who investigate sexual offenses against children: a pilot study.**

Int J Emerg Ment Health. 2010 Fall;12(4):257-66. PMID: 21870384

For 47 law enforcement detectives who work with child victims of sexual abuse or assault, compassion fatigue symptoms were associated with symptoms of PTSD. Male detectives who talked openly with their spouse or significant other experienced less burnout, but this was not true for female detectives.

**Providers**

Kuehn BM.

**US requires coverage for contraceptives, other women's preventive health services.**

JAMA. 2011 Sep 14;306(10):1070-1. PMID: 21917569

As of August 2012, as required by the new rules enacted by the US Dept of Health and Human Services, health insurance plans will be required to fully cover contraception, breastfeeding counseling and supplies, and counseling for domestic violence, without a co-pay or deductible.

Steil R, Jung K, Stangier U.

**Efficacy of a two-session program of cognitive restructuring and imagery modification to reduce the feeling of being contaminated in adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse: a pilot study.**

J Behav Ther Exp Psychiatry. 2011 Sep;42(3):325-9. PMID: 21367358

In a small German study using a brief (2 session) method of cognitive restructuring and imagery, female adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse at six week follow-up had significantly decreased symptoms of PTSD and “the feeling of being contaminated”.

Hughes HM, Cangiano C, Hopper EK.

**Profiles of distress in sheltered battered women: implications for intervention.**

Violence Vict. 2011;26(4):445-60. PubMed PMID: 21882668

Article discusses the types and levels of distress experienced by women at two diverse samples at battered women shelters, and the need to provide individually tailored interventions.

Fontenot HB, Fantasia HC.

**Do women in abusive relationships have contraceptive control?**

Nurs Womens Health. 2011 Jun-Jul;15(3):239-43. PMID: 21672174

Review article for medical practitioners on the ways that IPV can impact reproductive choices and outcomes.

Haxhihamza K, Doarn CR, Marija R, Dimitrinka JP, Rozalinda I, Izabela F, Viktor I, Lidija S.

**Domestic and peer violence in secondary school among adolescents: can telemedicine help?**

Telemed J E Health. 2011 Nov;17(9):700-4. PMID: 21882995

Article from Macedonia delineates the rates of family as well as school violence (bullying) experienced by middle school adolescents, and proposes the use of telemedicine for private counseling.

Hinchliffe J.

**Forensic odontology, part 4. Human bite marks.**

Br Dent J. 2011 Apr 23;210(8):363-8. PMID: 21509016

Discussion of the correct protocols for collection, management, preservation, analysis and interpretation of human bite mark evidence.

## **Researchers**

Cornelius TL, Truba N, Bell KM.

**Using the Internet to prescreen participants for research on interpersonal violence: experimental design considerations.**

Violence Vict. 2011;26(3):319-28. PMID: 21846020

This article discusses challenges in methodology when using the internet to perform IPV research.

Foley-Schain K, Finholm V, Leventhal JM.

**Building a statewide home visiting program from 2 to 42 sites: a state agency's perspective.**

Child Abuse Negl. 2011 Apr;35(4):283-6. PMID: 21481463

Connecticut developed a greatly expanded statewide home visitation program. “Chief among these strategies were efforts to gain the support of the state legislature, to develop a partnership with academic centers that would conduct carefully designed research to provide data and feedback to inform and refine practices as the program developed, and to put in place an infrastructure to ensure an effective program model that could be adapted based on advances in the field and findings from the Trust Fund's research in Connecticut.”

Chibber KS, Krishnan S.

**Confronting intimate partner violence: a global health priority.**

Mt Sinai J Med. 2011 May-Jun;78(3):449-57. PMID: 21598270

In this review addressing IPV in the health care system, 3 challenges were identified. “First, interventions should focus on creating a supportive environment within the health system and strengthening linkages across health care and allied sectors. Second, rigorous evaluations of health sector-based interventions are needed for a sound evidence base to guide programmatic and policy decisions. Finally, research is needed to identify the entry points for engaging men on violence prevention, and to examine the feasibility and effectiveness of such interventions.”

Giardino AP, Hanson N, Hill KS, Leventhal JM.

**Child abuse pediatrics: new specialty, renewed mission.**

Pediatrics. 2011 Jul;128(1):156-9. PMID: 21646255

In this review of the state of child abuse in the US, as of 2010, 191 pediatricians had become board certified in the new subspecialty of child abuse, and there has been an increased focus on the importance and role of child abuse teams at children's hospitals. However, although absolute numbers of child abuse have declined, there are only 26 newly forming fellowship programs to handle the approximately 6 million children/year who need to be assessed.

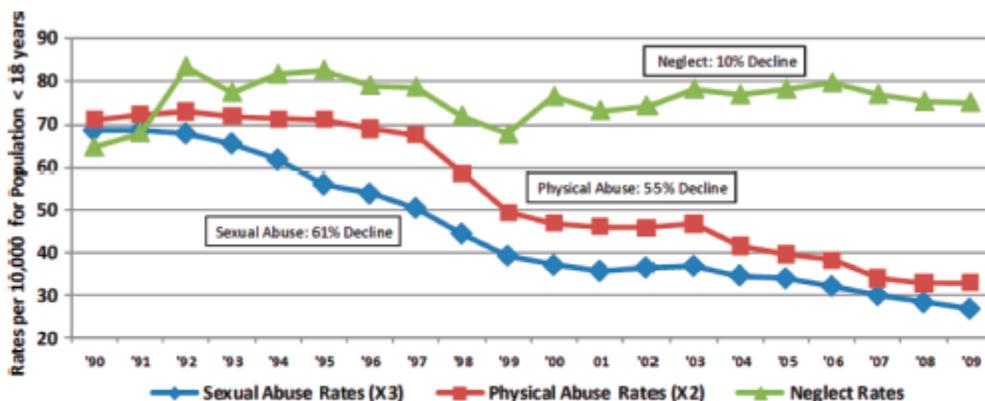


FIGURE 1

US maltreatment trends: 1990–2009. Note: trend estimates represent total change from 1992 to 2009. Annual rates for physical abuse and sexual abuse have been multiplied by 2 and 3, respectively, so that trend comparisons can be highlighted. <sup>1</sup> The statistics concern substantiated cases of sexual abuse, physical abuse, and neglect. A substantiated case means a case that has been reported to a child protection agency, investigated, and deemed to have occurred according to a "preponderance of evidence." The child maltreatment cases referred and investigated by state child protection agencies primarily involve abuse by caregivers. The cases do not include many involving stranger abusers, unless some element of caregiver neglect was involved. (Reprinted with permission from Finkelhor D, Jones L, Shattuck A. Updated trends in child maltreatment, 2009. Available at: [www.unh.edu/ccrc/pdf/Updated\\_Trends\\_in\\_Child\\_Maltreatment\\_2009.pdf](http://www.unh.edu/ccrc/pdf/Updated_Trends_in_Child_Maltreatment_2009.pdf).)

Busch-Armendariz NB, Johnson RJ, Buel S, Lungwitz J.

**Building community partnerships to end interpersonal violence: a collaboration of the schools of social work, law, and nursing.**

Violence Against Women. 2011 Sep;17(9):1194-206. PMID: 21914682

Description of the U of Texas at Austin Institute on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, established in 2001 as a collaboration between the Schools of Social Work, Law, Nursing, and 150 community affiliates.

**Other of Interest**

Stoltenborgh M, van Ijzendoorn MH, Euser EM, Bakermans-Kranenburg MJ.

**A global perspective on child sexual abuse: meta-analysis of prevalence around the world.**

Child Maltreat. 2011 May;16(2):79-101. PMID: 21511741

This analysis of global childhood sexual abuse (CSA) with over 9 million subjects was hampered by different methods used for self-report of CSA, but showed a worldwide problem – lowest rates were reported in Asia, highest rates for girls were found in Australia, and for boys in Africa.

Graham K, Bernards S, Wilsnack SC, Gmel G.

**Alcohol may not cause partner violence but it seems to make it worse: a cross national comparison of the relationship between alcohol and severity of partner violence.**

J Interpers Violence. 2011 May;26(8):1503-23. PMID: 20522883

As part of an international study across 13 countries, in all countries and for both men and women, the severity of IPV aggression was significantly worse when the aggressive partner had been drinking when the incident occurred.

Ortiz-Barreda G, Vives-Cases C, Gil-González D.

**Worldwide violence against women legislation: an equity approach.**

Health Policy. 2011 May;100(2-3):125-33. PMID: 21195502

In an analysis of key documents relating to international laws on violence against women, few laws address the needs of vulnerable women – disabled, pregnant, ethnic minority, immigrant and older women.