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Child Abuse

Finkelhor D, Turner HA, Shattuck A, Hamby SL.

Violence, crime, and abuse exposure in a national sample of children and youth: an update.

JAMA Pediatr. 2013 Jul;167(7):614-21. PMID: [23700186](#)

Using 2011 data from the National Survey of Children's Exposure to Violence, 41.2% had experienced a physical assault in the last year, 2% sexual assault or abuse (but 10.7% for girls aged 14-17), and 13.7% maltreatment by a caregiver. Rates were approximately equivalent to 2008 data.

Deans KJ, Thackeray J, Askegard-Giesmann JR, et. al.

Mortality increases with recurrent episodes of nonaccidental trauma in children.

J Trauma Acute Care Surg. 2013 Jul;75(1):161-5. PMID: [23940863](#)

From 10 years of an Ohio statewide trauma registry, children who had experienced recurrent non-accidental trauma were significantly more likely to die than those who had experienced a single episode of trauma (24.5% vs. 9.9%).

Deans KJ, Minneci PC, Lowell W, Groner JI.

Increased morbidity and mortality of traumatic brain injury in victims of nonaccidental trauma.

J Trauma Acute Care Surg. 2013 Jul;75(1):157-60. PMID: [23940862](#)

Using the same registry data, at all levels of severity of injury, children experiencing traumatic brain injury from non-accidental trauma showed increased morbidity and mortality compared to children with accidental brain injury.

Heads D, Ahn J, Petrosyan V, Petersen H, Ireland A, Sandy J.

Dental caries in children: a sign of maltreatment or abuse?

Nurs Child Young People. 2013 Jul;25(6):22-4. PMID: [23957137](#)

Thoughtful discussion on when to consider a child's dental caries/poor oral hygiene as a symptom of abuse/neglect.

McDonald JL, Milne S, Knight J, Webster V.

Developmental and behavioural characteristics of children enrolled in a child protection pre-school.

J Paediatr Child Health. 2013 Feb;49(2):E142-6. PMID: [23198929](#)

Of 55 children participating in an Australian child protection pre-school with average age 36 months, 91% showed a significant developmental delay in at least one domain of learning and/or a significant behavioral problem.

Price JM, Chiapa A, Walsh NE.

Predictors of externalizing behavior problems in early elementary-aged children.

J Genet Psychol. 2013 Jul-Aug;174(4):464-71. PMID: [23991617](#)

For a group of 177 elementary school children, the strongest predictor of externalizing behavior (behavior directed towards others, such as aggression) was physical abuse, followed by mother's negative behavior toward the child, and aggression between siblings.

Odgers CL, Jaffee SR.

Routine versus catastrophic influences on the developing child.

Annu Rev Public Health. 2013;34:29-48. PMID: [23297656](#)

While most child abuse research focuses on extreme forms of adversity, repeated exposure to less severe but often chronic stressors "are likely to play as large, if not larger, of a role in forecasting children's future mental and physical health...how exposure to toxic stressors can become biologically embedded."

Widom CS.

Translational research on child neglect: progress and future needs. Introduction.

Child Maltreat. 2013 Feb;18(1):3-7. PMID: [23486615](#)

Introduction to journal issue on child neglect, the most common form of child maltreatment.

Cicchetti D.

Annual Research Review: Resilient functioning in maltreated children--past, present, and future perspectives.

J Child Psychol Psychiatry. 2013 Apr;54(4):402-22. PMID: [22928717](#)

Review article on resilience of maltreated children, part of a special issue on resilience.

Adult Manifestations of Child Abuse

Karatsoreos IN, McEwen BS.

Annual Research Review: The neurobiology and physiology of resilience and adaptation across the life course.

J Child Psychol Psychiatry. 2013 Apr;54(4):337-47. PMID: [23517425](#)

Review of neurobiology and physiology of resilience in childhood and possible adaptations throughout life, countering the effects of maltreatment.

Midei AJ, Matthews KA, Chang YF, Bromberger JT.

Childhood physical abuse is associated with incident metabolic syndrome in mid-life women.

Health Psychol. 2013 Feb;32(2):121-7. PMID: [22775234](#)

From a national survey of mid-life women followed over 7 years and adjusted for multiple variables, childhood physical abuse was associated with the development of adult metabolic syndrome.

Spitzer C, Wegert S, Wollenhaupt J, et. al.

Gender-specific association between childhood trauma and rheumatoid arthritis: a case-control study.

J Psychosom Res. 2013 Apr;74(4):296-300. PMID: [23497830](#)

For 331 patients with rheumatoid arthritis compared to general population controls, various types of childhood abuse were significantly associated with adult RA – with the highest correlation being childhood emotional abuse 2.6 times more likely for this diagnosis. Findings were much stronger for women than men.

Kempke S, Luyten P, Claes S, et. al.

The prevalence and impact of early childhood trauma in Chronic Fatigue Syndrome.

J Psychiatr Res. 2013 May;47(5):664-9. PMID: [23421962](#)

54.4% of 90 chronic fatigue syndrome patients had experienced at least one type of early trauma, with the majority reporting multiple traumas and particularly high rates of emotional abuse and/or neglect. Total trauma scores and emotional abuse significantly predicted higher levels of daily fatigue and pain, even after controlling for multiple factors including depression.

Hartwell KJ, Moran-Santa Maria MM, Twal WO, et. al.

Association of elevated cytokines with childhood adversity in a sample of healthy adults.

J Psychiatr Res. 2013 May;47(5):604-10. PMID: [23415658](#)

Of 38 adults (ave. age 35) without any major medical illness or psychiatric disorder, those with a history of childhood trauma showed increased

levels of certain inflammatory factors, “suggesting that these alterations may precede the development of significant stress-related psychiatric disorder or disease.”

Edmiston EK, Blackford JU.

Childhood maltreatment and response to novel face stimuli presented during functional magnetic resonance imaging in adults.

Psychiatry Res. 2013 Apr 30;212(1):36-42. PMID: [23477839](#)

Using brain scans to assess face-processing ability in inhibited-temperament adults exposed to childhood maltreatment, findings suggest possible heightened sensitivity to potential threat – for example, from new people – and may contribute to both altered social functioning and increased incidence of anxiety disorders in this population.

Sachs-Ericsson N, Corsentino E, Rushing NC, Sheffler J.

Early childhood abuse and late-life suicidal ideation.

Aging Ment Health. 2013;17(4):489-94. PMID: [23336400](#)

From a national study of adults 60+, male gender, mother’s internalizing symptoms and childhood physical and sexual abuse were associated with increased risk of suicidal ideation.

Yeoman K, Safranek T, Buss B, Cadwell BL, Mannino D.

Adverse childhood experiences and adult smoking, nebraska, 2011.

Prev Chronic Dis. 2013 Sep 19;10:E159. PMID: [24050529](#)

Adverse childhood experiences contributed to 1.5-1.8 times increased risk of smoking for Nebraska residents.

Bader K, Schäfer V, Nissen L, Schenkel M.

Heightened beta EEG activity during nonrapid eye movement sleep in primary insomnia patients with reports of childhood maltreatment.

J Clin Neurophysiol. 2013 Apr;30(2):188-98. PMID: [23545770](#)

Of 45 insomnia patients, half of whom had experienced moderate to severe childhood maltreatment, maltreatment history was associated with EEG results suggesting heightened psychophysiological arousal during nonrapid eye movement sleep, as a contributor to insomnia.

Larsson S, Aas M, Klungsøyr O, Agartz I, et. al.

Patterns of childhood adverse events are associated with clinical characteristics of bipolar disorder.

BMC Psychiatry. 2013 Mar 22;13:97. PMID: [23522391](#)

For 141 Norwegian patients with bipolar disorder, a history of childhood maltreatment was associated with a more severe course of bipolar illness – earlier onset, reduced level of functioning, and increased self-harm.

Adolescents

Flaherty EG, Thompson R, Dubowitz H, et. al.

Adverse childhood experiences and child health in early adolescence.

JAMA Pediatr. 2013 Jul;167(7):622-9. PMID: [23645114](#)

From a nationally representative sample of 933 adolescents reported for or at risk for maltreatment, increasing numbers of childhood adversities, especially recent adversity, was associated with health problems, poor health, and concern about physical symptoms.

Lyons-Ruth K, Bureau JF, Holmes B, et. al.

Borderline symptoms and suicidality/self-injury in late adolescence: prospectively observed relationship correlates in infancy and childhood.

Psychiatry Res. 2013 Apr 30;206(2-3):273-81. PMID: [23123044](#)

[23123044](#)

“Maternal withdrawal in infancy was a significant predictor of both borderline symptoms and suicidality/self-injury in late adolescence. The effect of maternal withdrawal was independent of, and additive to, the effect explained by severity of childhood abuse.”

Shin SH, Miller DP, Teicher MH.

Exposure to childhood neglect and physical abuse and developmental trajectories of heavy episodic drinking from early adolescence into young adulthood.

Drug Alcohol Depend. 2013 Jan 1;127(1-3):31-8. PMID: [22749563](#)

[22749563](#)

For 8503 adolescents followed into young adulthood from a national study, and controlling for multiple risk factors, childhood neglect and physical abuse were both associated with faster increased rates and persistence of heavy episodic drinking.

Domestic Violence – Effects on Children

Chen PH, Jacobs A, Rovi SL.

Intimate partner violence: childhood exposure to domestic violence.

FP Essent. 2013 Sep;412:24-7. PMID: [24053262](#)

Review article on the short and long term negative effects of DV on children, including how to identify and assist children in this situation.

Sanchez SE, Alva AV, Diez Chang G, et. al.

Risk of spontaneous preterm birth in relation to maternal exposure to intimate partner violence during pregnancy in Peru.

Matern Child Health J. 2013 Apr;17(3):485-92. PMID: [22527763](#)

[22527763](#)

Comparing 479 Peruvian women who delivered a preterm vs. 480 delivering a full-term infant, any IPV during pregnancy was associated with a two times increased risk of prematurity; emotional abuse alone 1.6 times increased risk, and emotional plus physical abuse carried a 4.7 times increased risk.

Conger RD, Schofield TJ, Neppl TK, Merrick MT.

Disrupting intergenerational continuity in harsh and abusive parenting: the importance of a nurturing relationship with a romantic partner.

J Adolesc Health. 2013 Oct;53(4 Suppl):S11-7. PMID: [24059934](#)

[24059934](#)

In a group of 550 adolescents followed for 22 years and 3 generations, generation 2 romantic partner warmth and positive communication appeared to disrupt the likelihood of the intergenerational influence of harsh and abusive parenting from generation 1.

Saini MA, Black T, Fallon B, Marshall A.

Child custody disputes within the context of child protection investigations: secondary analysis of the Canadian Incident Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect.

Child Welfare. 2013;92(1):115-37. PMID: [23984488](#)

[23984488](#)

From a Canadian survey, children who were the subject of custody disputes within the context of child protection investigations had higher rates of emotional and functioning issues compared to non-custody-related investigations.

Domestic Violence – Physical Health

Rahman M, Nakamura K, Seino K, Kizuki M.

Intimate partner violence and chronic undernutrition among married Bangladeshi women of reproductive age.

Eur J Clin Nutr. 2013 Mar;67(3):301-7. PMID: [23232590](#)

[23232590](#)

From a national study of Bangladeshi married women, over 53% experienced physical and/or sexual violence from their husbands. Regardless of socioeconomic status, both physical and sexual IPV was associated with an increased risk of chronic under-nutrition, with poor women being at even more of a nutritional disadvantage.

Domestic Violence – Mental Health

Jaquier V, Hellmuth JC, Sullivan TP.

Posttraumatic stress and depression symptoms as correlates of deliberate self-harm among community women experiencing intimate partner violence.

Psychiatry Res. 2013 Mar 30;206(1):37-42. PMID: [23040795](#)

From a sample of 212 women exposed to IPV, one-third reported current or past deliberate self-harm (DSH). Women currently using DSH reported more severe sexual IPV and PTSD numbing symptoms.

Fisher J, Tran TD, Biggs B, Dang TH, Nguyen TT, Tran T.

Intimate partner violence and perinatal common mental disorders among women in rural Vietnam.

Int Health. 2013 Mar;5(1):29-37. PMID: [24029843](#)

For 497 Vietnamese obstetric patients, lifetime or current IPV was associated with significantly increased risk of perinatal mental health disorders and 4.7-6.1 times increased odds of suicidal thoughts.

Cultural Issues

Childress S.

A Meta-Summary of Qualitative Findings on the Lived Experience among Culturally Diverse Domestic Violence Survivors.

Issues Ment Health Nurs. 2013 Sep;34(9):693-705. PMID: [24004364](#)

Review of multi-cultural research studies which highlight “key cross-cultural differences in women’s perceptions of abuse and the causes and strategies for responding to abuse...also lack of studies on DV from Central Asia and the former Soviet Union.”

Widom CS, Czaja S, Wilson HW, Allwood M, Chauhan P.

Do the long-term consequences of neglect differ for children of different races and ethnic backgrounds?

Child Maltreat. 2013 Feb;18(1):42-55. PMID: [23076836](#)

Over 1,000 US children with documented cases of neglect were interviewed in adulthood. Compared to controls, black and white neglected children showed negative consequences for IQ, reading ability, and occupational status. White children showed extensive mental health consequences, black children more anxiety (and were arrested for violence two times more often than black controls), and Hispanic children increased risk for alcohol problems.

Kennedy AC, Bybee D, Kulkarni SJ, Archer G.

Sexual victimization and family violence among urban African American adolescent women: do violence cluster profiles predict partner violence victimization?

Violence Against Women. 2012 Nov;18(11):1319-38. PMID: [23334817](#)

180 urban African American adolescents from one high school in Chicago experienced: 29.4% sexual victimization (average age of initial victimization 12 with perpetrator 21), 47.6% dating IPV victimization, 85% witnessed IPV in their family, 49.4% witnessed seeing an adult go to a doctor with an injury from IPV, 71.7% physical abuse within the family, 14.4% exposed to others’ sex trade involvement, 9.4% involved in sex trade themselves.

Pedersen JS, Malcoe LH, Pulkingham J.

Explaining aboriginal/non-aboriginal inequalities in postseparation violence against canadian women: application of a structural violence approach.

Violence Against Women. 2013 Aug;19(8):1034-58. PMID: [24048189](#)

Canadian Aboriginal women were 4.12 times more likely to experience post-separation IPV than non-Aboriginal women. This was mainly explained by increased rates of younger age, coercive control and stalking in the Aboriginal group.

Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse

Committee Opinion No. 568: elder abuse and women's health.

Obstet Gynecol. 2013 Jul;122(1):187-91. PMID: [23787938](#)

Review on elder abuse from the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

Dow B, Hempton C, Cortes-Simonet EN, et. al.

Health professionals' and students' perceptions of elder abuse.

Australas J Ageing. 2013 Mar;32(1):48-51. PMID: [23521736](#)

Australian health care students were more likely than health professionals to categorize locking someone in the house alone all day and restraining someone in a chair as abusive. “This suggests a mismatch between what students are taught and what professionals come to believe through exposure to practice. Future education should include real-life situations that health professionals are likely to face and how they can assist carers with constructive strategies for managing difficult situations.”

Teresi JA, Ramirez M, Ellis J, et. al.

A staff intervention targeting resident-to-resident elder mistreatment (R-REM) in long-term care increased staff knowledge, recognition and reporting: results from a cluster randomized trial.

Int J Nurs Stud. 2013 May;50(5):644-56. PMID: [23159018](#)
Description of a training program to educate staff on knowledge, recognition, and reporting of resident-to-resident elder mistreatment.

Jackson SL, Hafemeister TL.

Enhancing the safety of elderly victims after the close of an APS investigation.

J Interpers Violence. 2013 Apr;28(6):1223-39. PMID: [23262820](#)

At the close of an APS investigation, continued abuse was more likely when elders chose to have ongoing contact with their abusers, and when abusers experienced no consequences.

Perpetrators

Gallaway MS, Fink DS, Millikan AM, Mitchell MM, Bell MR.

The association between combat exposure and negative behavioral and psychiatric conditions.

J Nerv Ment Dis. 2013 Jul;201(7):572-8. PMID: [23817154](#)
Of 6128 active duty soldiers, those with the highest cumulative combat exposure self-reported significantly higher behavioral and psychiatric issues including physical altercations with a significant other.

Lohman BJ, Neppel TK, Senia JM, Schofield TJ.

Understanding adolescent and family influences on intimate partner psychological violence during emerging adulthood and adulthood.

J Youth Adolesc. 2013 Apr;42(4):500-17. PMID: [23430562](#)
Using data from an Iowa youth and family study, and controlling for multiple factors, exposure to parent-to-child psychological violence during adolescence was a key predictor of IPV throughout adulthood.

Zavala E.

Examining the offender-victim overlap among police officers: the role of social learning and job-related stress.

Violence Vict. 2013;28(4):731-48. PMID: [24047050](#)
Using data from a 1997-1999 Baltimore survey on stress in police families, one element of job-related stress (negative emotions) was positive and significant in predicting IPV perpetration.

Police and Court Systems

Ahsan S, Leung JY, Hicks D.

Tackling knife crime-a joint venture between ed and police in redbridge to identify patterns of attendance of domestic violence victims.

Emerg Med J. 2013 Oct;30(10):874-5. PMID: [24014715](#)
In a British joint program between police and ED providers, knife assault victims were categorized to identify DV locations and patterns. Data identified a significant number of female assault patients who were repeat DV victims and who had not called police.

Fakunmoju S.

Substantiation assessment criteria: a framework for evaluating contested substantiation in child protection practice.

Child Welfare. 2013;92(1):89-114. PMID: [23984487](#)
Discussion of the complexities of contested substantiation of child maltreatment, including recommended validation criteria to guide substantiation decisions, evidentiary hearings and future research.

Navarro AE, Gassoumis ZD, Wilber KH.

Holding abusers accountable: an elder abuse forensic center increases criminal prosecution of financial exploitation.

Gerontologist. 2013 Apr;53(2):303-12. PMID: [22589024](#)
Elder abuse financial exploitation cases were 10 times more likely to be submitted to the District Attorney's Office from a multidisciplinary team at an elder abuse forensic center than from APS alone.

Providers

Chen PH, Jacobs A, Rovi SL.

Intimate Partner Violence: Counseling, Community Resources, and Legal Issues for IPV Victims and Perpetrators.

FP Essent. 2013 Sep;412:18-23. PMID: [24053261](#)
Comprehensive review article on IPV identification and management from the American Academy of Family Physicians.

Harris C, Welbury R.

Top tips for child protection for the GDP.

Dent Update. 2013 Jul-Aug;40(6):438-40. PMID: [23971341](#)
British review of presentations of child maltreatment in the dental setting and management strategies.

Pietrantonio AM, Wright E, Gibson KN, et. al.
Mandatory reporting of child abuse and neglect: crafting a positive process for health professionals and caregivers.
Child Abuse Negl. 2013 Feb-Mar;37(2-3):102-9. PMID: [23337443](#)

Discussion of the difficulties and barriers for providers in discussing reporting of child abuse with family members. Authors suggest a SPIKES protocol similar to breaking bad news – setting, perception, invitation, knowledge, emotions, strategy and summary.

PRAISE Investigators, Sprague S, Bhandari M, Della Rocca GJ.
Prevalence of abuse and intimate partner violence surgical evaluation (PRAISE) in orthopaedic fracture clinics: a multinational prevalence study.

Lancet. 2013 Sep 7;382(9895):866-76. PMID: [23768757](#)
Of women seen in fracture clinics in Canada, the USA, Netherlands, Denmark and India, overall one in six women disclosed a history of IPV within the past year, one in three in their lifetime, and 1 in 50 were being seen as a direct result of injury from IPV. “Our findings warrant serious consideration for fracture clinics to improve identification of, respond to, and provide referral services for victims of IPV.”

Salazar M, Högberg U, Valladares E, Ohman A.
The supportive process for ending intimate partner violence after pregnancy: the experience of Nicaraguan women.
Violence Against Women. 2012 Nov;18(11):1257-78. PMID: [23334814](#)

Interviews with 12 Nicaraguan mothers exposed to IPV during pregnancy show their subsequent cognitive changes and strategies to either end the violence or leave the relationship, helped by certain supportive environmental factors.

Researchers

Auchter B, Backes BL.
NIJ's Program of Domestic Violence Research: Collaborative Efforts to Build Knowledge Guided by Safety For Victims and Accountability of Perpetrators.
Violence Against Women. 2013 Jun;19(6):713-36. PMID: [23996853](#)

Description of the National Institute of Justice's Violence Against Women research and evaluation program, the success of which is attributed to researcher-practitioner-policy maker collaborations.

Edwards H.
A profile of post-ASFA hearings in the U.S. Congress.
Child Welfare. 2013;92(1):65-88. PMID: [23984486](#)
Examination of policy-making process through review of 38 child welfare hearings held by US Congress from 1999-2010, with implications for research and practice.

Putnam-Hornstein E, Needell B, Rhodes AE.
Understanding risk and protective factors for child maltreatment: the value of integrated, population-based data.
Child Abuse Negl. 2013 Feb-Mar;37(2-3):116-9. PMID: [23260115](#)
Discussion of the importance of integrating administrative data systems to better understand the distribution and interacting nature of risk and protective factors for maltreatment.

Wolfe D.
Risk and resilience in the context of child maltreatment: the way forward.
Child Abuse Negl. 2013 Feb-Mar;37(2-3):90-2. PMID: [23332314](#)
Emphasis on future research directions in this special issue on risk and resilience factors for children exposed to maltreatment.

Other of Interest

Abas M, Ostrovschi NV, Prince M, et. al.
Risk factors for mental disorders in women survivors of human trafficking: a historical cohort study.
BMC Psychiatry. 2013 Aug 3;13:204. PMID: [23914952](#)
Six months after returning to Moldova, 54% of 120 sex trafficking survivors met criteria for any mental health disorder – 35.8% PTSD, 12.5% depression without PTSD, and 5.8% anxiety without PTSD. Those with a history of childhood sexual abuse were 4.68 times more likely to have a mental health disorder.

Stöckl H, Devries K, Rotstein A, Campbell J, et. al.
The global prevalence of intimate partner homicide: a systematic review.
Lancet. 2013 Sep 7;382(9895):859-65. PMID: [23791474](#)
From the World Health Organization, “At least one in seven homicides globally and more than a third of female homicides are perpetrated by an intimate partner.” [Graph next page percentage of female homicides caused by intimate partner by country]

