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Child Abuse

Chevignard M, Câmara-Costa H, Dellatolas G.

Predicting and improving outcome in severe pediatric traumatic brain injury.

Expert Rev Neurother. 2024;24(10):963-83. PMID: [39140714](#)

From this review, "Severe pediatric traumatic brain injury is a major public health issue...Socioeconomic factors have an important impact on treatments and outcomes...Abusive head trauma has a poorer outcome than other pediatric traumatic brain injuries...All cognitive, behavioral and psychosocial domains may be affected after severe pediatric traumatic brain injury in the long-term, impacting quality of life, autonomy, independence and overall participation. Family/caregiver-focused interventions, ecological approaches, and use of technology in delivery of interventions are recommended to improve long-term difficulties."

Derinkuyu BE, Caré MM, Makoroff KL, Choi JJ.

Abusive spinal injury: imaging and updates.

Pediatr Radiol. 2024 Oct;54(11):1797-1808. PMID: [39235479](#)

"This review highlights key points in the imaging literature of abusive spinal injury, describes typical patterns of injury, and addresses appropriate imaging practice for work-up...Increased utilization of MRI has been pivotal in recognizing that most abusive spinal injuries involve the soft tissues and ligaments...which are often undetectable by radiography or CT. Detecting spinal injury in the work-up of non-accidental trauma improves management for abused children and their siblings."

McNamara CR, Wood JN, Lindberg D, et al.

Yield of skeletal surveys in national network of child abuse pediatricians: Age is key.

Child Abuse Negl. 2024;157:106992. PMID: [39299062](#)

"Skeletal surveys (SS) are recommended for the evaluation of suspected physical abuse in children <2 years old. No guidelines exist for SS completion in children between 2 and 5 years old...of 10 US pediatric centers 2/2021-9/2022 including children

<6 years old evaluated for physical child abuse...Of 450 children 2-5 years old with a SS, 4 % had an occult fracture...Over 30 % of children 2-5 years old were diagnosed with child abuse by a child abuse pediatrician without completion of a SS."

MacPherson SC, Golonka M, Liu Y, et al.

Child Sexual Abuse Documentation in Primary Care Settings.

Clin Pediatr (Phila). 2024;63(9):1247-57. PMID: [38142359](#)

"We performed a retrospective, chart-based study of children 3 to 17 years old with SA [sexual assault] history...Of 131 included patients, 43% had PCP[primary care provider] documentation of their SA history. There was greater mental health management and mental health referrals by PCPs for the group with documentation compared with the group without documentation (52% vs 23%). Overall, child SA history was poorly documented in primary care settings. Identifying mechanisms to improve communication about a child's SA history with PCPs is important for the child's ongoing care."

Adult Manifestations of Child Abuse

Tonon AC, Ramos-Lima LF, Kuhathasan N, Frey BN.

Early Life Trauma, Emotion Dysregulation and Hormonal Sensitivity Across Female Reproductive Life Events.

Curr Psychiatry Rep. 2024;26(10):530-42. PMID: [39187611](#)

"This review integrates cumulative findings supporting a theoretical framework linking early life trauma to hormonal sensitivity and mood disorders...Childhood trauma significantly increases the risk of subsequent mood disorders during periods of intense hormonal fluctuation such as premenstrual, pregnancy, postpartum, and perimenopause. Neurobiological changes resulting from early trauma influence emotion regulation, which emerges as a key predisposing, exacerbating, and perpetuating factor to hormonal sensitivity and subsequent psychiatric symptoms...some women might be more susceptible to such hormonal fluctuations because of emotion dysregulation following significant early life trauma."

Ploesser M, Silverman S, Diaz JDL, Zincke MT, Taylor MB.

The link between traumatic stress and autoimmune rheumatic diseases: A systematic scoping review.

Semin Arthritis Rheum. 2024;69:152558. PMID: [39332061](#)

From a research review, “Traumas such as ACEs, PTSD, and major life events were frequently examined, showing a strong association with an increased risk and severity of autoimmune rheumatic diseases, particularly rheumatoid arthritis (RA) and systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE).”

Wyles P, O'Leary P, Tsantefski M, Young A.

Male Survivors of Institutional Child Sexual Abuse: A Review.

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2024:15248380241277272. PMID: [39302820](#)

From this research review on the effects of the institutional child sexual abuse of males, “Male victim/survivors of institutional CSA, as children and young people, often struggle to understand their abuse and as adults they can take some time to disclose, discuss, and seek help for the impacts of their abuse. Significant trauma results from CSA, with mental health impacts frequently lasting a lifetime. Alcohol and substance abuse in men commonly result from CSA. Victim/survivors want to be listened to and believed, a meaningful apology, to support other victim/survivors, and institutional reform.”

Adolescents

Choudhury S, Peskin MF, Walker TJ, et al.

The Impact of Household Dysfunction on Dating Violence Perpetration Among Adolescents in the United States: A Scoping Review.

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2024:15248380241277267. PMID: [39297448](#)

“Findings from 3/4 (75%) of studies that evaluated family conflict found it to be a significant predictor of DV perpetration. Additionally, 8/10 (80%) studies that assessed exposure to IPV reported significant associations with various forms of DV perpetration among adolescents...Findings from this review may help initiate the development of a more comprehensive household dysfunction measure, promote early intervention, and foster resilience among adolescents.”

Strohacker ER, Pontes NMH, Pontes MCF.

Interactions Between Forced Sexual Intercourse Victimization and Gender on Violent Behaviors: Youth Risk Behavior Survey 2017-2019.

Violence Vict. 2024;39(4):475-94. PMID: [39018286](#)

From a large national survey of US teens, “forced sexual intercourse victimization significantly increases the risk of gun carrying and other violence-related behaviors among male and female U.S. high-school students; the increased risk is significantly greater among male students.”

Woolweaver AB, Abu Khalaf N, Espelage DL, et al.

Outcomes Associated with Adolescent Dating and Sexual Violence Victimization.

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2024;25(4):2781-96. PMID: [38265028](#)

From a research review, “Results demonstrate significant associations between DSV [dating and sexual violence] victimization and mental health symptoms, substance use, sexual health, academic, and social outcomes...this article recommends that schools offer additional training for staff on recognizing DSV. Additionally, improved research is needed in this area including surveys that are inclusive of diverse student identities and include more comprehensive measures of DSV.”

Exner-Cortens D, Camacho Soto JN, Yeates KO, et al.

The Association Between Teen Dating Violence and Concussion.

J Adolesc Health. 2024 Sep 21:S1054-139X(24)00379-3. PMID: [39320281](#)

From a survey of 9th and 10th grade Canadian students, “TDV [teen dating violence] was related to higher odds of concussion, both overall and when restricted to nonsport settings. In nonsport settings, youth who reported mutual TDV reported the highest odds of past-year concussion (adjusted odds ratio = 2.14). We also found that girls and nonbinary youth reported elevated risk of concussion in the context of TDV...Findings can be used to inform future research and may assist adolescent health providers who treat youth with concussion.”

Glass N, Bloom T, Alexander KA, et al.

Effectiveness of the myPlan Teen App, a Digital Healthy Relationship and Safety Planning Intervention With Adolescent Aged 15-17 Years.

J Adolesc Health. 2024;75(4):665-72. PMID: [39066749](#)

“myPlan Teen significantly increased the use and helpfulness of safety behaviors among adolescents compared to the control group. Intervention users also significantly reduced the perpetration of physical and sexual violence and suicide behaviors...myPlan Teen, a digitally delivered intervention, is one of the few interventions targeting dating violence in adolescence that has proven effective.”

Licitis L, Suarez N, Anderson KN, et al.

Alignment of parent-proxy report and teen self-report of adverse childhood experiences among U.S. teens.

Ann Epidemiol. 2024 Sep 23;99:32-40. PMID: [39322092](#)

From surveys of 522 teens aged 15-17 and their parents, “Based on teen-self report and parent-proxy report, cumulative and individual ACE prevalence was overall similar...Lowest agreement was among ACEs related to abuse, neglect, and violence victimization and highest among household challenges...parent-teen dyads with LGB+ youth (vs. heterosexual) and Black, Hispanic, and multiracial or another race (vs. White) youth were more likely to have discordant responses among several ACEs.”

Domestic Violence – Effects on Children

Hayer S, Mnuk RE, Garg B, Caughey AB.

Risk of adverse perinatal outcomes with violence in pregnancy.

Arch Gynecol Obstet. 2024 Nov;310(5):2515-2522. PMID: [39223381](#)

Using large California linked databases, “Violence experienced in pregnancy is associated with an increased risk of adverse perinatal outcomes”, including increased risk of non-severe hypertensive disorders (adjusted relative risk aRR = 1.36), preeclampsia with severe features (aRR = 1.34), chorioamnionitis (infected fluid around the fetus aRR = 1.68), anemia (aRR = 1.59), antepartum hemorrhage (heavy bleeding before delivery aRR = 2.17), and postpartum hemorrhage (heavy bleeding after delivery aRR = 1.65), Apgar score < 7 at 5 min (score of baby’s physical status at birth out of a score of 10 aRR = 1.37) and neonatal hypoglycemia (baby low blood sugar at birth often due to stress aRR = 1.26). “Understanding how universal screening and early recognition of violence in pregnancy may reduce disparities in maternal morbidity is critical.”

Prevalence and Correlates of Intimate Partner Violence in the Perinatal Period in a Representative Sample of Quebec Mothers.

Violence Vict. 2024 Sep 12:VV-2022-0069.R1. PMID: [39266262](#)

Of 1264 Canadian mothers of young children, 10.9% reported experiencing IPV during the perinatal period (IPV-PP). “Younger maternal age at childbirth, drug consumption, being a single mother,

higher parental stress due to the child's temperament, and higher stress due to family and extrafamilial obligations were all associated with IPV-PP...Interventions should focus on victimization screening during the perinatal period and on enhancing victims' security and well-being.”

Tiyyagura G, Leventhal JM, Schaeffer P, et al.

Acceptability and feasibility of trauma- and violence-informed care for intimate partner violence.

Child Abuse Negl. 2024;157:107068. PMID: [39332141](#)

“We developed a trauma- and violence-informed care (TVIC)-based model that 1) evaluated IPV-exposed children and 2) linked survivor-caregivers to an IPV advocate.” Of 41 caregivers of children <3 years who were reported to CPS, 6 caregivers were already receiving IPV services. “Of the remaining 35, 24 (68.6 %) met with an IPV advocate, and 22 (91.7 %) had ≥1 follow-up visit with an advocate... Caregivers attended the visit due to behavioral concerns about the child and a desire to comply with CPS. Engagement occurred as medical providers established rapport and provided support without judgment. Benefits included recognizing the impact of IPV on the child and immediate linkage to advocacy services. A TVIC-based model is feasible and acceptable and could improve caregivers' engagement with the evaluation of IPV-exposed children and IPV services, which have the potential to improve safety and promote well-being.”

Domestic Violence – Physical Health

Dugan S, Patch M, Hoang T, Anderson JC.

Anoxic Brain Injury: A Subtle and Often Overlooked Finding in Non-Fatal Intimate Partner Strangulation.

J Emerg Med. 2024 Jun 25:S0736-4679(24)00191-4. PMID: [39304396](#)

191 patients (98% female, aged 18-68) reporting a total of 267 strangulation events were assessed by utilizing the Strangulation Hypoxia Anoxia Symptom Traumatic Brain Injury Assessment (SHASTA) tool. “Within our sample, 49% of patients with amnesia did not recall losing consciousness, demonstrating that loss of consciousness is an imperfect measure of anoxia [lack of oxygen causing brain damage] for patients following NF-IPS [non-fatal intimate partner strangulation]. Healthcare providers examining NF-IPS patients should inquire about additional symptoms of hypoxia and amnesia, which can be captured on the SHASTA tool.”

Domestic Violence – Mental Health

Hargrave AS, Dawson-Rose C, Schillinger D, et al.

In their own words: Perspectives of IPV survivors on obtaining support within the healthcare system.

PLoS One. 2024;19(9):e0310043. PMID: [39240948](#)

For 45 San Francisco women aged 18-64 years who had experienced IPV within the prior year and were interviewed about disclosing IPV within the healthcare system, “relationship-building, respect, autonomy, and IPV-related resources were essential components to providing support, promoting safety, and enabling healing in the healthcare setting...Systemic barriers such as visit time limitations, clinician turn-over and feared loss of autonomy from involvement of governmental systems leading to separation from children or harm to partners, negatively affected interpersonal dynamics.”

Reed LA, Brown ML, Kappas Mazzio A, et al.

Patterns of Technology-Based Abuse Among Adult Intimate Partner Violence Survivors and Associations with Offline Abuse.

J Interpers Violence. 2024;8862605241268782. PMID: [39329385](#)

A survey of 377 adult IPV survivors noted technology-based emotional abuse, technology-based monitoring, and technology-based control, which co-occurred with offline IPV. “Findings reinforce the significant role of TBA [technology-based abuse] in adult IPV survivors' lives and highlight the importance of assessing for TBA among survivors.”

Wood K, Giesbrecht CJ, Brooks C, Arisman K.

"I Couldn't Leave the Farm": Rural Women's Experiences of Intimate Partner Violence and Coercive Control.

Violence Against Women. 2024;10778012241279117. PMID: [39248216](#)

“Both the physical elements of rurality and the normalization of violence within rural communities affected the woman's capacity to act, their space for action, and opportunities for ending a relationship where they are subjected to abuse. Rural communities were shown to increase social isolation, shape norms linked to gender roles, normalize coercive control, and decrease the women's capacity for control over their life choices in multiple domains, including the ability to find work, seek informal support or formal assistance, and therefore their ability to leave a controlling IPV

relationship...rural women may be held in ‘literal captivity’ through geographic and social factors.”

Shields M, Tonmyr L, Pollock N, et al.

Determinants of non-physical intimate partner violence: A cross-sectional study with nationally representative data from Canada.

Am J Epidemiol. 2024 Sep 3;kwae305. PMID: [39227150](#)

From a national Canadian survey on non-physical Intimate partner violence (NP-IPV), “defined as experiences of emotional abuse, controlling behaviours, or economic abuse during the past five years, Women (17.3%) and men (16.9%) were equally likely to report NP-IPV, often without co-occurring physical/sexual IPV. For both genders, the risk of NP-IPV decreased with age, and increased with financial strain and having a disability. Childhood maltreatment (sexual abuse, emotional abuse, and exposure to emotional IPV for women, and sexual abuse and emotional abuse for men) was associated with an increased likelihood of reporting NP-IPV in adulthood...Having confidence in the police was a protective factor for both genders.”

Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse

Reis da Silva TH.

Prevalence of elder abuse: a narrative review.

Br J Community Nurs. 2024;29(9):442-6. PMID: [39240800](#)

“This article provides an overview of the prevalence of elder abuse, highlighting its multifaceted nature, risk factors and the imperative need for intervention and prevention strategies.”

Pillemer K, Teresi JA, Ramirez M, et al.

Estimated Prevalence of Resident-to-Resident Aggression in Assisted Living.

JAMA Netw Open. 2024 May 1;7(5):e249668. PMID: [38700860](#)

From observations of 930 residents at 14 large assisted living facilities over one month, “The prevalence of resident-to-resident aggression (mean age 88.0 years; 79.4% women) was estimated to be 15.2%. The most common forms of aggression included verbal (11.2%), physical (4.4%), sexual (0.8%), and other (7.5%). These categories are not mutually exclusive.”

Ricoy-Cano AJ, Zambrano-Rodríguez CV, et al.
Violence, Abuse and Neglect in Older Women in Rural and Remote Areas.

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2024 Oct;25(4):3037-3053. PMID: [38433383](#)

Prevalence rates of abuse and neglect of women age 60+ in rural and remote areas exhibited wide variability, with an average of 27.3%. The most important risk factors were financial dependence and incapacity, while higher income and education levels were protective factors. Emotional/psychological abuse was the most common form, with significant impacts on older women's physical and mental health. "Cultural norms and gender expectations also influenced perceptions of abuse and victims' coping mechanisms. In a context in which access to specialized resources and services is hampered by significant limitations, community awareness and education prove vital to address this issue, which positions social work as key to addressing these challenges."

Sexual Assault

McGarrity LA, Shepardson RL, Carey KB, Carey MP.
Sexual assault predicts unhealthy weight management among college women: A longitudinal, prospective study.

J Am Coll Health. 2024;72(7):2014-21. PMID: [35882060](#)
For 483 female college students assessed monthly during their first year of college, "Frequency of sexual assault prior to college predicted dieting, purging, and diet pill use over the first year... Frequency of sexual assault during the first semester predicted purging and diet pill use during the second semester. Severity predicted all three unhealthy weight management behaviors. Findings held consistently when controlling for socioeconomic status (SES), race/ethnicity, body mass index (BMI), and pre-college mood, anxiety, and eating disorders...highlights the importance of prevention and intervention."

Patel TA, Mann AJ, Halverson TF, et al.
The association of military sexual assault and nonsuicidal self-injury in U.S. Gulf War-I era veterans.

Mil Psychol. 2024;36(5):525-35. PMID: [37294600](#)
For 1153 Gulf War-1 veterans, military sexual assault was associated with 2.5 times increased risk of engaging in non-suicidal self-injury.

LGBTQ Concerns

Berishaj K, Morrissey S, Kennedy MM.
Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Knowledge and Confidence in Providing Care for Transgender Patients Following Sexual Assault.

J Interpers Violence. 2024 Sep 9;8862605241270062. PMID: [39252508](#)

Of 240 responses to a survey distributed to two professional forensic nursing organizations, "The majority of participants reported that content related to transgender sexual assault (TGSA) was not part of their SA education...As over half of participants have provided care to a TGSA patient and more than 80% expect to provide care in the future, it is imperative include standardized content related to TGSA care as part of core SANE curriculum and to offer continuing education."

Human Trafficking

Braun B.
Human Trafficking Awareness in the Emergency Care Setting: Joint Position Statement.

J Forensic Nurs. 2024 Jul-Sep 01;20(3):E53-E56. PMID: [39102314](#)
"Virtually every country in the world is affected by human trafficking. Some of the greatest challenges for emergency nurses, healthcare providers, and community partners are identifying it, preventing its occurrence, and protecting and assisting victims." This position statement by the Emergency Nurses Association and International Association of Forensic Nurses delineates factors relating to education, recognition, management, policy, and advocacy.

Barnett K, Saye J, Beidler SM.
Establishing a community-academic nursing partnership to lead a healthcare response during a human trafficking extraction operation.

Public Health Nurs. 2024 Sep-Oct;41(5):1199-1201. PMID: [39031545](#)
"A community-academic nursing partnership formed to care for the urgent healthcare needs of individuals extracted from human trafficking during a multidisciplinary team operation...The healthcare team consisted of advanced practice nurses, mental health nurses, sexual assault nurses, and nurses with expertise in substance use disorder. The patient's physical comfort was met by providing hygiene kits, blankets, socks, food, and drinks...The innovative community-academic partnership laid the groundwork for providing healthcare to future human trafficking extraction operations."

Race/Cultural Concerns

Venables J, Povey J, Kolesnikova I, et al.

Children in out-of-home care's right to family and cultural connection: Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous Australian children's perspectives.

Child Abuse Negl. 2024;107009. PMID: [39232885](#)

The participants were 62 Australian children aged 4-15 years (average 9 years), 42 non-Indigenous and 20 identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children who were in out-of-home care. "Children had differing levels of understanding as to why they could not reside with their family. Most children referred to a family-of-origin member not living with them as important in their lives, but it was not always their parent/s. Siblings were mentioned frequently. Barriers to connections with family included distance and cost of travel, parents not attending visits and being uncontactable, incarcerated or deceased...Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children showed varying levels of connection to culture...The inclusion of children's voices is needed to inform responsive policies and practices that safely support their rights to family and culture when in out-of-home care."

Burgess AW, Petreca V, Brucato G, et al.

Murdered Elder Indigenous Women and Legal Outcomes.

J Interpers Violence. 2024;8862605241280084. PMID:

[39313938](#)

"This qualitative descriptive analysis examines 33 cases of missing and murdered Indigenous women aged 50 years and older...the offender was known and/or identified in the majority of cases, with a significant portion resulting in guilty pleas or jury convictions. However, a notable portion of cases remained unsolved or ended with the offender's suicide...Most murders occurred off tribal land and were perpetrated by men, typically younger than their victims, with some form of relationship to them. Themes for the resolved cases varied, including familial violence, sexual violence, and financial gain. The findings underscore the need for intervention strategies."

From a brain scan study of IPV perpetrators who participated in an intervention and a non-IPV control group, "certain brain structures not only distinguished IPV perpetrators from controls but also played a role in explaining dropout and recidivism. Given the multifactorial nature of IPV perpetration, it is crucial to combine neuroimaging techniques with other psychological instruments to effectively create risk profiles of IPV perpetrators."

Gosse M, Halpin M, Maguire F.

Stochastic Gender-Based Violence: How Incels Justify and Encourage Sexualized Violence Against Women.

Violence Against Women. 2024;10778012241279816. PMID: [39279344](#)

"This study examines how involuntarily celibate ('incels') men justify gender-based and sexualized violence against women. Based on an analysis of 22,060 discussion board comments, we argue that: (1) incel justifications of sexualized violence are tied to their perception of gender relations, (2) incels justify sexual assault as a form of revenge for their incel status, and (3) incels misuse science to argue that women enjoy sexual assault...incels and similar communities...justify and encourage acts of violence."

Napier SS, Seto MC, Cashmore J, Shackel R.

Characteristics that predict exposure to and subsequent intentional viewing of child sexual abuse material among a community sample of Internet users.

Child Abuse Negl. 2024;156:106977. PMID: [39217741](#)

From an anonymous survey of internet users, "The characteristics of respondents that were significantly associated with ever viewing CSAM [child sexual abuse material] were being male, older in age (25-34 and 55+ years), earlier exposure to adult pornography (<14 years), experiencing childhood physical abuse or neglect, viewing bestiality pornography featuring adults, viewing bondage/S&M (BDSM) pornography featuring adults, being likely (self-reported) to have sexual contact with a child, and visiting pedophilic chat forums online. In the subset sample, almost half (218, 47.5 %) viewed CSAM again intentionally after first exposure."

Perpetrators

Romero-Martínez Á, Beser-Robles M, et al.

Gray matter volume differences in intimate partner violence perpetrators and its role in explaining dropout and recidivism.

J Psychiatr Res. 2024;179:220-8. PMID: [39321520](#)

Police and Court Systems

McGoldrick K, Collis S, Mulligan L.

Femicide in Ireland 2012-2023.

J Forensic Leg Med. 2024;107:102754. PMID: [39284246](#)

“All homicides referred to the Office of the State Pathologist (OSP) from 2012 to 2023 were reviewed and a total of 97 cases of femicide included in this study. Femicide rates increased from 1 in 5 (19 %) in 2012-2020 to 3 in 10 from 2021 to 2023 (29 %). Domestic femicides accounted for 74 % of cases, with 41 % of women murdered in the home they shared with their killer. 56 % of women were killed by a current or former intimate partner and 20 % by a family member...These cases had the highest average number of injuries per case and a significantly lower average age than that of the entire cohort (19 years versus 41 years)...The true scale of gender-based violence against women remains largely hidden due to a lack of focused official statistics and a clear definition of femicide.”

Salinas OC.

Eligible offender samples are missing in CODIS: A statewide approach to performing a lawfully owed DNA census.

J Forensic Sci. 2024;69(5):1758-70. PMID: [38922865](#)

Investigation by Texas Rangers found 3300 registered sex offenders without lawfully owed DNA (LODNA) samples in the FBI Combined DNA Index System (CODIS). Upon further investigation, 43,245 individuals with various offenses were also not registered, indicating a statewide DNA collection problem. After receiving a grant, 5183 samples were collected with 276 CODIS hits. “This manuscript aims to create an awareness within other agencies of the importance of implementing best practices to ensure the collection and upload of LODNA from every eligible individual.”

Zeoli AM, Molocznik A, Paruk J, et al.

A multi-state evaluation of extreme risk protection orders: a research protocol.

Injury epidemiology. 2024;11(1):49. PMID: [39252094](#)

“Extreme Risk Protection Orders (ERPOs) are civil court orders that prohibit firearm purchase and possession when someone is behaving dangerously and is at risk of harming themselves and/or others. As of June 2024, ERPOs are available in 21 states and the District of Columbia to prevent firearm violence. This paper describes the design and protocol of a six-state study of ERPO use...Addressing firearm violence in the U.S. is a priority. Understanding ERPO use in these six states can inform implementation planning and ERPO uptake, including promising opportunities to enhance safety and prevent firearm-related injuries and deaths.”

Lockwood K, Rowe C, Sager E.

Policy Recommendations to Address the Nexus of Domestic Violence and Gun Violence.

N C Med J. 2023;84(4):233-7. PMID: [39302302](#)

“A considerable proportion of firearm injuries and deaths, as well as mass shootings, are related to domestic violence (DV). This article discusses the relationship between guns and DV and shares policy recommendations for creating a safer North Carolina” including a three-pronged policy approach of increased implementation, expansion, and preservation of existing DV firearm protections...Increased funding of DV intervention services for harm-doers, and expanded access to mental health treatment are needed to address some of the risk factors for DV homicide.”

Providers

Thomas KA, Bailey C.

The 21st Century Cures Act: More Harm Than Good for Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence?

Violence Against Women. 2024:10778012241280053. PMID: [39290055](#)

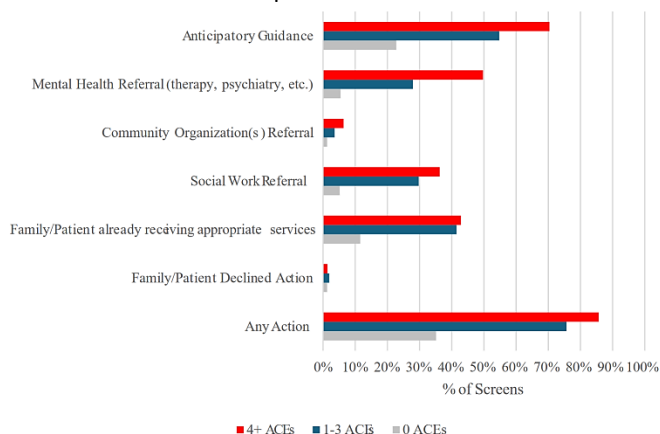
“The 21st Century Cures Act requires that health organizations make all medical records rapidly available to patients through secure online portals. Referred to as ‘open notes’, this approach is intended to improve health outcomes by facilitating easier and more transparent communication between patients and providers...This clinical note aims to raise awareness of how open notes can be harmful in IPV situations, provide a set of evidence-informed recommendations on how healthcare providers and institutions can help to mitigate this harm, and outline areas for future research...the combination of open notes and IPV, especially when coercive control is present, gives abusive partners the ability to influence what the survivor and children are willing to discuss with their provider during medical appointments (out of fear that the abusive partner will see what social and medical topics are discussed)...Regardless of whether the abuser has access to the patients’ online portal, providers working with IPV survivors should engage in ongoing conversations about what information should be included in the notes and whether or what notes should be blocked using the preventing harm exemption. Relatedly, providers should inform patients about their right to withhold notes through the privacy exemption.”

Dumke KA, Hamity C, Peters K, et al.
Pediatric ACEs Screening and Referral: Facilitators, Barriers, and Opportunities for Improvement.
 Journal of child & adolescent trauma. 2024;17(3):877-86.
 PMID: [39309345](#)

Across 6 Kaiser Permanente pediatric clinics in Southern California, “Key facilitators for screening and referrals for pediatric ACEs screening included providing clinician education to normalize conversations about ACEs, using screening data to provide more holistic and compassionate care, and collaborating across different types of clinicians. Key barriers included screening tool challenges related to patient confusion and cultural differences, capacity limitations, training issues, and care team silos. When used in the context of a trauma- and resilience-informed workforce, ACEs screening may be a powerful tool to support more collaborative and impactful care decisions that move away from symptom management to address root causes and promote prevention.”

Scott Ashwood J, Malika N, Williamson S, et al.
Clinician actions in response to ACE screening.
 Preventive medicine reports. 2024;47:102887. PMID: [39318390](#)

Using data from 5 pediatric clinics with 2,652 ACE screens over 6 months, clinicians documented an action twice as often when ACEs were present, after controlling for patient demographics and their social and behavioral determinants of health. Clinicians were three times more likely to record referrals to mental health clinicians, social workers, and community organizations relative to anticipatory guidance when the number of ACEs increased from one to three to four or more. “Findings provide early information that ACE screening results are associated with patient care.”



Cooke A, Attar TI, L Carr V, et al.
Integrating a Parenting Assessment into Practice: Pediatric Providers' Time and Perspectives.

Matern Child Health J. 2024 Oct;28(10):1663-1670. PMID: [39283361](#)

“The Quick Parenting Assessment (QPA) is a validated, 13 item parent support tool that assesses healthy and unhealthy parenting practices....In a clinic serving low-income parents, the QPA was integrated into the 15 month, 30 month, 5 year, and 8 year well child visits...Most QPAs (78.7%) were low risk, 14.6% were medium risk, and 6.7% were high risk. The median time was 15-30 sec to review low risk and 30 sec to 1 min to review high risk QPAs... health care providers reported that the QPA increased their objectivity in determining the level of support needed (68%), facilitated communication about parenting (77%), and increased the value of the visit (68%).”

Cunha A, Gonçalves M, Matos M.
Understanding the Dynamics of Domestic Violence During the First Year of the Pandemic: An Integrative Review.
 Trauma Violence Abuse. 2024:15248380241277788. PMID: [39315677](#)

A worldwide research review, “reveals an alarming increase in domestic violence victimization during the pandemic in most regions, exacerbating pre-existing vulnerabilities. The increase...is linked to ecological factors such as lower physical and mental health, rising substance use, and financial stress, which heightened individuals' vulnerability. Lockdowns exacerbated these issues by increasing confinement in homes, disrupting support services, and limiting victims' access to help. Barriers to help-seeking and amplified personal and professional stressors at the care level are identified. Advocacy for improved awareness, cooperation, and inclusive national and institutional policies emerges.”

Ewy D.
Intimate Partner Violence: Physicians Must Address Physical and Mental Health Harms.
 South Med J. 2024;117(9):521-3. PMID: [39227042](#)

“Given the risk of lethality and impaired quality of life, robust protocols should be in place to address the comprehensive care of women who experience IPV, as follows: (1) screen adult women for IPV; (2) screen for mental health symptoms in those who screen positive for IPV; (3) refer affected women directly to community services for a comprehensive navigation of social and mental health needs; and (4) schedule subsequent office visits to grow the relationship of trust and repeatedly help women to move toward living empowered, mentally healthy lives with more equitable relationships without violence. Aggressively addressing IPV has potential benefits for the patient, her family, and society.”

Prevention

Pirkis J, Bantjes J, Dandona R, et al.

Addressing key risk factors for suicide at a societal level.

Lancet Public Health. 2024 Oct;9(10):e816-e824. PMID:

[39265612](#)

“In this paper...we consider four major risk factors for suicide (alcohol use, gambling, domestic violence and abuse, and suicide bereavement) and examine how their influence on suicide is socially determined...paper describes a range of universal, selective, and indicated interventions that might address these risk factors, and focuses particularly on key universal interventions that are likely to yield substantial population-level benefits.”

Russell DH, Trew S, Harris L, et al.

Engaging Parents in Child-Focused Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Education Strategies: A Systematic Review.

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2024;25(4):3082-98. PMID:

[38477488](#)

“Parents are their children's first teachers and there are long-standing calls for their involvement in child sexual abuse prevention...Rationales for parental involvement included monitoring and shaping parental attitudes toward CSA program delivery in schools; reinforcing children's learning at home; promoting parent-child communication about CSA prevention; building parent capacity to respond to child disclosures; and supporting program delivery for preschoolers...Barriers to parent involvement included ineffective program engagement modalities, and parental fears and misconceptions.”

Carthy SL, Schuurman B.

Adverse childhood experiences, education, and involvement in terrorist violence: Examining mediation and moderation.

J Sch Psychol. 2024;106:101348. PMID: [39251309](#)

Of 206 radicalized individuals from Europe and North America, half of whom became involved in terrorist violence at the end of their radicalization trajectories, this group was 2.08 times more likely to have exposure to ACEs, and 2.07 times more likely to have abandoned education. “Identifying the furtherance of education as a moderator of risk may signal an important preventative strategy for violent extremism.”

Pizarro JM, Messing JT, AbiNader M, et al.

Building a Transdisciplinary Team to Prevent Intimate Partner Homicide: A Research Note.

Homicide Stud. 2023;27(4):454-71. PMID: [39268013](#)

“To encourage scholars to adopt transdisciplinary practices when investigating multifaceted problems, this note employs a case study approach to detail one such effort--The Preventing and Assessing Intimate Partner Homicide Risk (PAIR) Studies. The goal of the PAIR Studies is to improve the understanding of IPH to inform the development of best practices for prevention. The note concludes with a discussion of the benefits of transdisciplinary approaches.”

Researchers

Parada ML, Parada JL.

Measuring Toxic Stress in Childhood and Youth: A Systematic Review.

J Pediatr Health Care. 2024 Sep 21:S0891-5245(24)00241-4.

PMID: [39306787](#)

“Our review identified over 30 different tools that have been used in research to operationalize toxic stress in children and youth. Methods ranged from instruments measuring biomarkers and physiological indicators to validated scales, diagnostic criteria, and novel questionnaires. Overall, there was no evidence of a general guideline or mutually agreed-upon set of variables to guide the construction of a toxic stress measure across studies.”

Wathen CN, MacGregor JCD, Burd C, et al.

A Scoping Review of Intimate Partner Violence Research in Canada.

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2024:15248380241275979. PMID:

[39268961](#)

From a review of Canadian research on IPV, “In general, there remains an overfocus on IPV epidemiology and on descriptions of service use, and not enough research examining the effectiveness and implementation of interventions, especially grounded in theoretical, gendered, and trauma- and violence-informed frameworks. Funders and researchers are encouraged to consider moving resources from ongoing description of well-established factors to assessment and implementation of evidence-informed interventions, and, crucially, primary prevention of IPV and all forms of gender-based violence.”

Waddell-Henowitch C, McPhail D, Kelly C, Ferris S.
Method Matters: Integrating Trauma-Informed Principles into Psychiatric and Mental Health Nursing Research.
Issues Ment Health Nurs. 2024;45(9):917-26. PMID: [39110850](#)

“Professions outside of the nursing sphere, specifically social work and social sciences, predominate the discourse around trauma-informed research. The authors of this manuscript provide detailed methods on a project using trauma-informed qualitative research methods...explore strengths, conflicts, and boundary issues PMH [psychiatric and mental health] nurses need to consider when integrating trauma-informed research methods into their research practices.”

Eliason SHY, Miller AR, Gibbard WB, Salh G, Lanphear N.
Asking difficult questions about fetal alcohol spectrum disorder in the context of the child, the mother, and the systems in which they live.
Lancet Child Adolesc Health. 2024 Nov;8(11):835-842. PMID: [39299258](#)

“Alcohol is a known teratogen [causes birth defects] and prenatal alcohol exposure remains a major ongoing public health concern...we raise major concerns about its continued use as a diagnostic term in how it perpetuates a misleading and outdated narrative about child development and maternal health. We argue that the term fetal alcohol spectrum disorder has contributed to a culture of racism and discrimination for many who are diagnosed with it. We call for urgent international collaborative action to review the use of it as a diagnostic term and, more broadly, to reconsider the practice of diagnosing disabilities as medical illnesses.”

Other of Interest

Testa A, Semenza DC, Anestis M.
Storage of firearms in vehicles: findings from a sample of firearm owners in nine U.S. states.
Injury epidemiology. 2024;11(1):50. PMID: [39256878](#)

Individuals who purchased a firearm after March 2020 were 2.5 times more likely to report storing a firearm in a vehicle, locked or unlocked. “Given the limited research on patterns of firearm storage in vehicles, these findings provide novel evidence suggesting that firearm purchases following the March 2020 firearm purchasing surge may have fomented behaviors that increased the likelihood of firearm storage in automobiles.”

Paruk J, Anestis MD, Semenza DC.
Parental Engagement With Children Around Firearms and Unsecure Storage.
JAMA Pediatr. 2024 Sep 9:e243055. PMID: [39250123](#)

From a survey of 7785 parents in 9 states, “Parents who demonstrated and practiced proper firearm handling with their children and taught them how to shoot their firearms were more likely to store at least 1 firearm unlocked and loaded...some parents may believe that modeling responsible firearm use negates the need for secure storage. However, it is unknown whether parents’ modeling responsible behavior is associated with a decreased risk of firearm injury. Study limitations include the inability to control for children’s characteristics (e.g. age, mental health concerns) and the possibility that findings are not generalizable to parents outside of the 9 states.”

McKie KA, Bell RC, Lee LK.
Variations by State in Firearm Suicide Among US Children and Young Adults, 2016-2021.
JAMA Pediatr. 2024 Jul 1;178(7):722-725. PMID: [38767910](#)

“Suicide accounted for more than half the firearm deaths in 19 states for children aged 10 to 19 years and in 24 states for young adults aged 20 to 24 years.”

