

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

This summary includes selected research articles relating to abuse indexed by the National Library of Medicine October 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**

Shrader MW, Bernat NM, Segal LS.

#### **Suspected nonaccidental trauma and femoral shaft fractures in children.**

Orthopedics. 2011 May 18;34(5):360. PMID: 21598897

In a 5 year retrospective evaluation of all children under age 5 with thigh fractures, 31% were suspicious for nonaccidental trauma. Age younger than 1 year was a highly significant risk factor for abuse (90%).

Pawlby S, Hay D, Sharp D, Waters CS, Pariante CM.

#### **Antenatal depression and offspring psychopathology: the influence of childhood maltreatment.**

Br J Psychiatry. 2011 Aug;199(2):106-12. PMID: 21727235

120 British mother-offspring pairs were followed for over 16 years. Depression during pregnancy increased the risk of child maltreatment by 4, and children who had experienced both antenatal depression and child maltreatment were 12 times more likely to develop psychological illness.

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

Scott KM, Von Korff M, Angermeyer MC, et al.

#### **Association of childhood adversities and early-onset mental disorders with adult-onset chronic physical conditions.**

Arch Gen Psychiatry. 2011 Aug;68(8):838-44. PMID: 21810647

Looking at data from over 18,000 adults from 10 countries, a history of 3 or more childhood adversities was independently associated with heart disease, asthma, diabetes, arthritis, chronic spinal pain, and chronic headaches, despite controlling for current mental disorder.

Testa M, Hoffman JH, Livingston JA.

#### **Intergenerational transmission of sexual victimization vulnerability as mediated via parenting.**

Child Abuse Negl. 2011 May;35(5):363-71. PMID: 21620163

In a community phone survey of 913 mothers and their college bound daughters, there was a positive association between mothers' history of sexual victimization and their daughters' victimization – partly mediated through parenting behaviors.

Allen B.

#### **Childhood psychological abuse and adult aggression: the mediating role of self-capacities.**

J Interpers Violence. 2011 Jul;26(10):2093-110. PMID: 20956437

In a study of 268 university students, child maltreatment, especially psychological abuse, adversely impacted the ability to relate to others and to regulate mood, which subsequently was associated with aggressive behaviors.

Cammack AL, Buss C, Entringer S, Hogue CJ, Hobel CJ, Wadhwa PD.

#### **The association between early life adversity and bacterial vaginosis during pregnancy.**

Am J Obstet Gynecol. 2011 May;204(5):431.e1-8. PMID: 21419384

Despite controlling for factors such as current stress and socioeconomic status, in a group of 312 pregnant women, a certain type of bacterial infection was associated with a history of childhood sexual abuse.

Vander Weg MW.

#### **Adverse childhood experiences and cigarette smoking: the 2009 Arkansas and Louisiana Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Systems.**

Nicotine Tob Res. 2011 Jul;13(7):616-22. PMID: 21447839

Among over 10,000 residents of Arkansas and Louisiana, a history of adverse childhood experiences was significantly associated with lifetime and current cigarette smoking. Efforts to prevent childhood abuse and neglect may include the benefit of reduced risk for later smoking-related illnesses.

Maniglio R.

**The role of child sexual abuse in the etiology of suicide and non-suicidal self-injury.**

Acta Psychiatr Scand. 2011 Jul;124(1):30-41. PMID: 20946202

In a review of medical studies including over 65,000 subjects, childhood sexual abuse was found to be a statistically significant risk factor for suicide and non-suicidal self-injury.

Reisner SL, Falb KL, Mimiaga MJ.

**Early life traumatic stressors and the mediating role of PTSD in incident HIV infection among US men, comparisons by sexual orientation and race/ethnicity: results from the NESARC, 2004-2005.**

J Acquir Immune Defic Syndr. 2011 Aug 1;57(4):340-50. PMID: 21499111

In a nationally representative sample of over 13,000 US men, early life violent events were associated with elevated odds of HIV infection. In addition, PTSD was highly associated with HIV infection (5.75 times more likely than those without PTSD).

**Domestic Violence – Effects on Children**

Choi J, Jeong B, Polcari A, Rohan ML, Teicher MH.

**Reduced fractional anisotropy in the visual limbic pathway of young adults witnessing domestic violence in childhood.**

Neuroimage. 2012 Jan 16;59(2):1071-9. PMID: 21985907

Compared to a control group, 20 young adults who had witnessed childhood domestic violence but were not abused themselves showed brain scan changes consistent with decreased formation of the pathway linking emotion, learning and memory to vision. The degree of change was associated with duration of witnessing interparental aggression and with exposure between ages 7 and 13.

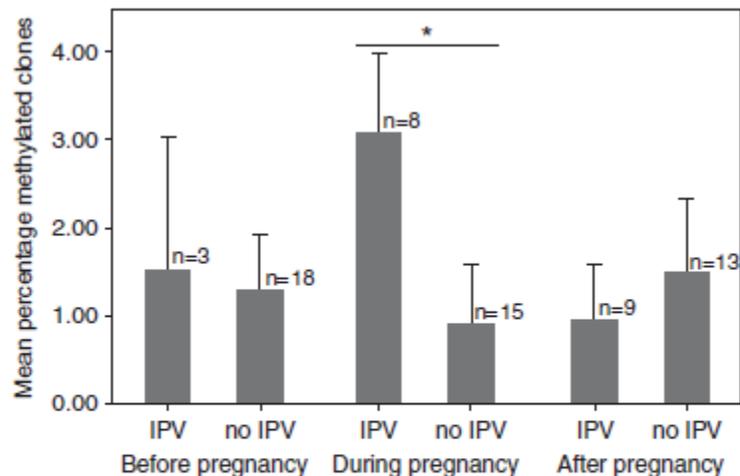
Radtke KM, Ruf M, Gunter HM, Dohrmann K, Schauer M, Meyer A, Elbert T.

**Transgenerational impact of intimate partner violence on methylation in the promoter of the glucocorticoid receptor.**

Translational Psychiatry 2011 1:e21

<http://www.nature.com/tp/journal/v1/n7/pdf/tp201121a.pdf>

This small German study of 25 mother/adolescent child pairs looked at methylation of the glucocorticoid receptor gene, which is associated with an impaired ability to cope with stress. Controlling for many variables, maternal experience of IPV during pregnancy, but not during or after pregnancy, was associated with GR gene methylation in their children, and this effect was still manifest over 10 years later. This increase in gene methylation was not found in the mothers themselves.



**Figure 2** Gestational effects of IPV on methylation of the GR promoter in the children. Mean  $\pm$  s.e.m. of percentage of methylated clones for the children of women exposed to IPV. IPV only associates with increased methylation, if maternal exposure occurred during pregnancy. The percentage of methylated clones was calculated as the number of clones containing at least one methylated CpG site divided by the total number of clones. \* $P < 0.05$ ; IPV, intimate partner violence.

**Domestic Violence – Physical Health**

Decker MR, Miller E, McCauley HL, Tancredi DJ, Levenson RR, Waldman J, Schoenwald P, Silverman JG.

**Intimate partner violence and partner notification of sexually transmitted infections among adolescent and young adult family planning clinic patients.**

Int J STD AIDS. 2011 Jun;22(6):345-7. PMID: 21680673

Of 1282 young adults being seen in family planning clinics in Northern California, a history of physical or sexual IPV was associated with fear of partner sexually transmitted disease notification, and such partners were less likely to seek indicated STI treatment or testing.

Stöckl H, Hertlein L, Himsl I, Delius M, Hasbargen U, Friese K, Stöckl D.

**Intimate partner violence and its association with pregnancy loss and pregnancy planning.**

Acta Obstet Gynecol Scand. 2012 Jan;91(1):128-33. PMID: 21880025

In a German survey of 401 adult women delivered within the past 7 days (73% response), 4% revealed physical violence by a current or previous partner. Despite controlling for a variety of factors, having experienced IPV was associated with an 8.33 times higher risk for a prior pregnancy loss, and a 5.03 times risk that this last pregnancy was unplanned.

**Domestic Violence – Mental Health**

Sartor CE, McCutcheon VV, Pommer NE, et al.

**Common genetic and environmental contributions to post-traumatic stress disorder and alcohol dependence in young women.**

Psychol Med. 2011 Jul;41(7):1497-505. PMID: 21054919

In a study of 3768 female twins aged 18-29, the genetic factors that lead to an increased risk of developing PTSD after trauma were also associated with an increased risk of alcohol dependence.

Zahnd E, Aydin M, Grant D, Holtby S.

**The link between intimate partner violence, substance abuse and mental health in California. Policy Brief**

UCLA Cent Health Policy Res. 2011 Aug;(PB2011-10):1-8. PMID: 21949956

<http://www.healthpolicy.ucla.edu/pubs/files/IPV2011PBFINAL.pdf>

Among the 3.5 million Californians who have experienced adult IPV, one in three has expressed a need for mental health, alcohol or other drug services (vs. 12.6% for non-victims).

**Cultural Issues**

Bhandari S, Bullock LF, Anderson KM, Danis FS, Sharps PW.

**Pregnancy and intimate partner violence: how do rural, low-income women cope?**

Health Care Women Int. 2011 Sep;32(9):833-54. PMID: 21834721

In this small in-depth study of 20 low income rural pregnant US women experiencing IPV, the main coping strategy used was to leave their abusive partners in response to recognizing that they needed to protect their unborn child.

Hyman I, Mason R, Guruge S, Berman H, Kanagaratnam P, Manuel L.

**Perceptions of factors contributing to intimate partner violence among Sri Lankan Tamil immigrant women in Canada.**

Health Care Women Int. 2011 Sep;32(9):779-94. PMID: 21834718

This Canadian article explores pre- and post-immigration cultural issues regarding IPV in the Sri Lankan immigrant population, with suggestions on factors to be considered to prevent IPV post-immigration.

**Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse**

Curry MA, Renker P, Robinson-Whelen S, Hughes RB, Swank P, Oschwald M, Powers LE.

**Facilitators and barriers to disclosing abuse among women with disabilities.**

Violence Vict. 2011;26(4):430-44. PMID: 21882667

Using a special anonymous computer-assisted self-interview, 305 women with diverse disabilities revealed a 90% history of lifetime abuse, 68% abuse within the past year, and the fact that only 15% of healthcare providers had ever discussed abuse and personal safety.

Lunsky Y, Elserafi J.

**Life events and emergency department visits in response to crisis in individuals with intellectual disabilities.**

J Intellect Disabil Res. 2011 Jul;55(7):714-8. PMID: 21492291

In this Canadian study of 746 adults with intellectual disabilities, individuals were more likely to visit an emergency room after experiencing certain life events: residence move; serious problem with family, friend or caregiver; problems with police or other authority; unemployed for more than 1 month; recent trauma/abuse; or a drug or alcohol problem.

## **Perpetrators**

Putkonen H, Amon S, Eronen M, Klier CM, Almiron MP, Cederwall JY, Weizmann-Henelius G.

### **Gender differences in filicide offense characteristics—a comprehensive register-based study of child murder in two European countries.**

Child Abuse Negl. 2011 May;35(5):319-28. PMID: 21620158

In examining filicide (parental murder of a child) in Austria and Finland, mothers more often: killed younger children (3.4 years vs. 6.1 years); used drowning, negligence and poisoning; and tried to get rid of the body. Fathers were more likely to be intoxicated during the offense, use shooting, and act more impulsively.

Kohl PL, Jonson-Reid M, Drake B.

### **Maternal mental illness and the safety and stability of maltreated children.**

Child Abuse Negl. 2011 May;35(5):309-18. PMID: 21620157

Of 4,895 low income US families followed for 15 years, 67% of children had a report of child maltreatment over the course of their childhood – however this number was 80-90% for children of mother with a diagnosed mental illness. Foster placement was more than double for children of mothers with mental illness, despite these mothers having access to mental health services.

Fournier B, Brassard A, Shaver PR.

### **Adult attachment and male aggression in couple relationships: the demand-withdraw communication pattern and relationship satisfaction as mediators.**

J Interpers Violence. 2011 Jul;26(10):1982-2003. PMID: 20587474

From completed questionnaires of 55 Canadian men undergoing counseling for relationship difficulties, there was a correlation between attachment anxiety (anxiety over abandonment) and physical and psychological aggression.

Committee on Child Abuse and Neglect.

### **Protecting children from sexual abuse by health care providers.**

Pediatrics. 2011 Aug;128(2):407-26. PMID: 21708795

Position statement from the American Academy of Pediatrics on this issue.

Bass C, Jones D.

### **Psychopathology of perpetrators of fabricated or induced illness in children: case series.**

Br J Psychiatry. 2011 Aug;199(2):113-8. PMID: 21804147

In this British study of 28 individuals who had induced illness in their children (formerly known as Munchausen's syndrome by proxy), 64% had produced or pretended disorders in themselves, and 61% were pathological liars, some since adolescence.

## **Police and Court System**

Schaeffer P, Leventhal JM, Asnes AG.

### **Children's disclosures of sexual abuse: learning from direct inquiry.**

Child Abuse Negl. 2011 May;35(5):343-52. PMID: 21620161

For 191 child sexual abuse victims aged 3-18, barriers to reporting the abuse were: threats made by perpetrator, fears, lack of opportunity, lack of understanding, and relationship with the perpetrator.

## **Providers**

Hughes HM, Cangiano C, Hopper EK.

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

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

Looking at samples of women from two shelters, different clusters of distress were found, consisting of low to high levels of anxiety or depression or both. Authors suggest individually tailored interventions.

Gamble SA, Smith PN, Poleshuck EL, He H, Talbot NL.

### **Domain-specific social functioning improvements during treatment of depressed women with histories of childhood sexual abuse.**

J Affect Disord. 2011 May;130(3):478-82. PMID: 21051087

Of 69 adult depressed women with a history of childhood sexual abuse (who may be more prone to trust and relationship problems), Interpersonal Psychotherapy provided greater improvement with immediate family and partner relationships than usual therapeutic care.

Dagenais C, Dutil J.

**Action in Childcare Settings training programme: development of an evidence-based training programme for the prevention of child maltreatment.**

Glob Health Promot. 2011 Mar;18(1):66-8. PMID: 21721305

In a Canadian evidence-based train-the-trainer model targeted at childcare practitioners to prevent child maltreatment, lessons learned are detailed, including the fact that the participants' perception of the value of evidence depended on the confidence inspired by the trainers.

Edwardsen EA, Horwitz SH, Pless NA, le Roux HD, Fiscella KA.

**Improving identification and management of partner violence: examining the process of academic detailing: a qualitative study.**

BMC Med Educ. 2011 Jun 16;11:36. PMID: 21679450

Qualitative description of a educational outreach program to change physician behavior regarding IPV screening and management.

Feder G, Davies RA, Baird K, et al.

**Identification and Referral to Improve Safety (IRIS) of women experiencing domestic violence with a primary care training and support programme: a cluster randomised controlled trial.**

Lancet. 2011 Nov 19;378(9805):1788-95. PMID: 22000683

In a randomized, controlled trial of British primary care practices, one year after an educational and support program re: domestic violence, 24 practices with training had referred 223 patients for advocacy vs. 12 patients in the 24 control practices.

Connor PD, Nouer SS, Mackey SN, Banet MS, Tipton NG.

**Dental students and intimate partner violence: measuring knowledge and experience to institute curricular change.**

J Dent Educ. 2011 Aug;75(8):1010-9. PMID: 21828294

In a survey of dental students, many did not have IPV training, but 20% reported personal experience with IPV.

Chapin J.

**Optimistic bias about intimate partner violence among medical personnel.**

Fam Med. 2011 Jun;43(6):429-32. PMID: 21656399

316 medical students, residents and nurses were surveyed and found to exhibit "optimistic bias" – the thought that they were less likely than others to become victims of IPV. Authors discuss how this might negatively impact IPV screening effectiveness or distancing from patients.

Goldstroom Y, Korman D, Goldstroom I, Bendavid J.

**The effect of rhythmic exercises on cognition and behaviour of maltreated children: a pilot study.**

J Bodyw Mov Ther. 2011 Jul;15(3):326-34. PMID: 21665109

In a small pilot study, maltreated children living in a group residential facility who participated in a rhythmic exercise program for eight weeks scored higher in visual-motor integration and lower in aggression than a group who did not do these exercises.

**NAPNAP position statement on child maltreatment.**

J Pediatr Health Care. 2011 Jul-Aug;25(4):e17-8. PMID: 21834222

[http://www.napnap.org/Files/NAPNAP\\_PS\\_Child\\_Maltreatment\\_2011\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.napnap.org/Files/NAPNAP_PS_Child_Maltreatment_2011_FINAL.pdf)

Position statement on child maltreatment from the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners

Hornor G.

**Medical evaluation for child sexual abuse: what the PNP needs to know.**

J Pediatr Health Care. 2011 Jul-Aug;25(4):250-6. PMID: 21700139

Review article on childhood sexual abuse for Pediatric Nurse Practitioners.

Anselmi KK.

**Domestic violence and its implications on child abuse.**

Nurse Pract. 2011 Nov;36(11):15-7. PMID: 22008596

Review article for Pediatric Nurse Practitioners by an attorney on the role of pediatric healthcare practitioner in the legal manifestations of domestic violence and children, which often involve high conflict custody battles.

## **Researchers**

Forgey MA, Badger L, Krase K.

### **The development of an evidence based assessment protocol for intimate partner violence in the U.S. Army.**

J Evid Based Soc Work. 2011 May;8(3):323-48. PMID: 21660826

This article describes a partnership between researchers and practitioners to develop a protocol for assessment of IPV in the US Army.

## **Other of Interest**

Potter SJ, Banyard VL.

### **The victimization experiences of women in the workforce: moving beyond single categories of work or violence.**

Violence Vict. 2011;26(4):513-32. PubMed PMID: 21882672

This New Hampshire phone survey of adult working women also reviews the research on the intersection of sexual assault, IPV, stalking, emotional abuse and sexual harassment and the workplace, showing effects at all levels of work income and all levels of management.

Card D, Dahl GB.

### **Family violence and football: the effect of unexpected emotional cues on violent behavior.**

Q J Econ. 2011;126(1):103-43. PMID: 21853617

In an analysis by UC Berkeley and the National Bureau of Economic Research correlating incidents of family violence and professional football season outcomes, losses when the game was expected to be close, and upset wins for a home team did not affect violence rates. However, upset (unexpected) losses for the home team led to a 10% increase in the rate of at-home violence by men against their wives and girlfriends in a narrow time window near the end of the game.

Tracy EE.

### **Three is a crowd: the new doctor-patient-policymaker relationship.**

Obstet Gynecol. 2011 Nov;118(5):1164-8. PMID: 22015887

Article discusses the ethical and professional difficulties physicians face when legislative initiatives prohibit certain doctor-patient communication, such as prohibiting asking patients about the presence of guns in the home (Florida), or having to use scripted language when patients request pregnancy termination.

Ernst AA, Weiss SJ, Holey K, Medoro I, Baker JJ, Kanter J.

### **Brief intervention for perpetration of intimate partner violence (IPV): simulation versus instruction alone.**

South Med J. 2011 Jun;104(6):446-55. PMID: 21886035

An educational opportunity about IPV for emergency department patients was provided with a set of powerpoint slides, with or without an additional video simulation. In general the simulation improved knowledge and attitudes in a post test for the group, however did not improve scores for IPV perpetrators or victims.

Casey EA, Ohler K.

### **Being a positive bystander: male antiviolence allies' experiences of "stepping up".**

J Interpers Violence. 2012 Jan;27(1):62-83. PMID: 21859757

Descriptive findings about the bystander experiences from 27 men to “actively intervene in the speech or behavior of others, the strategies they use, and the factors they weigh as they deliberate taking action.”

Sturm LA, Shultz J, Kirby R, Stelzner SM.

### **Community Partners as Co-Teachers in Resident Continuity Clinics.**

Acad Med. 2011 Dec;86(12):1532-1538. PMID: 22030765.

Describing mutual benefits and lessons learned, this article details the co-location of staff from a DV shelter, a community center for Latino families, and a special needs resource organization for parents into a pediatric continuity clinic. Community staff “taught both residents and faculty about accessing community resources, communicating with families, and working in multidisciplinary teams, and they provided expertise in their specific areas.”