

# ABUSE RESEARCH

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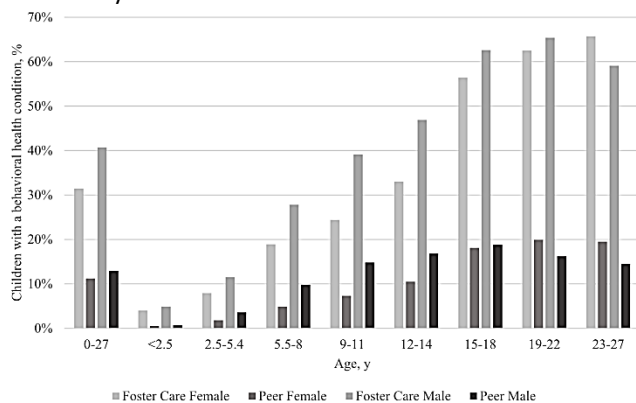
## Child Abuse

Kaferly J, Orsi-Hunt R, Hosokawa P, et al.

### Health Differs by Foster Care Eligibility: A Nine-Year Retrospective Observational Study Among Medicaid-Enrolled Children.

Acad Pediatr. 2023 Dec 22;S1876-2859(23)00471-0. PMID: [38142889](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/38142889/)

Using data from over 1 million Colorado children using Medicaid, those in foster care had significantly higher rates of physical and behavioral health conditions. “While children in foster care are impacted by health care, child welfare, and policy systems, these individual stakeholder systems operate with distinct priorities and obligations which, often, do not intersect. A broader understanding of health conditions among children in foster care provides opportunities to advance coordinated strategies to improve health across systems.”



Reddy J, Palmer L, Putnam-Hornstein E.

### Three-Year Custody Outcomes Among Infants Investigated by CPS for Prenatal Substance Exposure in California.

Matern Child Health J. 2023;27(Suppl 1):94-103. PMID: [37256517](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/37256517/)

Of 22,855 infants investigated by CPS in 2017 in California, more than 26% had documentation of prenatal substance use. These infants were 2.2 times more likely to be in nonparental placement at age 3.

Ahn H, Williams K, Kim J, Moeller E.

### Factors Associated With Permanency for Children in Out-Of-Home Placement: A Survival Analysis.

Child Maltreat. 2023;10775595231217278. PMID: [38018083](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/38018083/)

Using administrative data from one state during 6 years including 1,874 children, “Determinants associated with achievement of permanency were examined...The median length of time in days to achieve permanency was: 188 for reunification, 505 for guardianship, and 932 for adoption. Race/ethnicity, age at removal, number of placement changes, number of siblings, having a removal family team decision meeting, and placement type were significantly associated with achievement of permanency.”

Eg MB, Graesholt-Knudsen T, Madsen KB, et al.

### Distinct age-related differences among victims in cases of suspected child abuse.

J Forensic Sci. 2024 Jan;69(1):252-263. PMID: [37792506](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/37792506/)

Of 756 children <15 years old suspected of experiencing child abuse 2001-2013 at a Dutch University Department of Forensic Medicine, “8% of children <4 years old died from child abuse, 36% through violence resulting in death, and 64% by manslaughter, whereas 1% > 4 years old died, solely by manslaughter. External injuries were mainly located to head and torso in children <4 years old, changing to the upper and lower extremities in older children. Child sexual abuse was suspected in 52% of cases with living children <4 years old, 83% of children 4-7 years of age, 88% of children 8-11 years of age, and 93% of children >12 years old.”

Leventhal JM, Asnes AG, Otterman GJ.

### How Antiscience Creates Confusion About the Diagnosis of Abusive Head Trauma.

JAMA Pediatr. 2023 Dec 1;177(12):1257-1258. PMID: [37902740](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/37902740/)

“This Viewpoint exposes the antiscience and misinformation used to generate skepticism about abusive head trauma in young children, putting this vulnerable population at risk,” such as using flawed alternative explanations, cherry picking only some facts of a case, and requiring certain factors for a diagnosis while ignoring a comprehensive evaluation.

Alkan F, Sapmaz SY, Kardelen C, et al.

### **Should pediatric cardiologists refer all patients with unexplained chest pain to a psychiatrist?**

Cardiology in the young. 2023;1-7. PMID: [38149344](#)

For 43 Turkish children with unexplained chest pain and a control group of 33 children, the children with chest pain were more likely to have experienced “life events causing difficulties, derangement in the family, loss of a close person, and exposure to violence”. 67.4% were diagnosed with mental disorders, and these children were much more likely to also have other physical symptoms. Authors recommend psychiatric evaluation prior to possibly unnecessary medical diagnostic procedures in children with unexplained chest pain.

## Adult Manifestations of Child Abuse

Peterson C, Aslam MV, Niolon PH, et al.

### **Economic Burden of Health Conditions Associated With Adverse Childhood Experiences Among US Adults.**

JAMA Netw Open. 2023 Dec 1;6(12):e2346323. PMID: [38055277](#)

Using “estimated ACE-population attributable fractions (ie, the fraction of total cases associated with a specific exposure) for selected health outcomes (anxiety, arthritis, asthma, cancer, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, depression, diabetes, heart disease, kidney disease, stroke, and violence) and risk factors (heavy drinking, illicit drug use, overweight and obesity, and smoking) among the 2019 US adult population, “An estimated 160 million of the total 255 million US adult population (63%) had 1 or more ACE, associated with an annual economic burden of \$14.1 trillion (\$183 billion in direct medical spending and \$13.9 trillion in lost healthy life-years). This was \$88,000 per affected adult annually and \$2.4 million over their lifetimes...22% of adults had 4 or more ACEs and comprised 58% of the total economic burden -- the estimated per person lifetime economic burden for those adults was \$4.0 million.”

Hanson JL, O'Connor K, Adkins DJ, Kahhale I.

### **Childhood adversity and COVID-19 outcomes in the UK Biobank.**

J Epidemiol Community Health. 2023 Nov 1;jech-2023-221147. PMID: [37914378](#)

Using data from a large UK biobank, “Childhood adversity was significantly associated with COVID-19-related hospitalisation and COVID-19-related

mortality after adjusting for sociodemographic and health confounders. Further research is needed to clarify the biological and psychosocial processes underlying these associations to inform public health intervention and prevention strategies to minimise COVID-19 disparities.”

### **Boatman D, Kennedy-Rea S, Cottrell L, Hazard-Jenkins H. Cancer Screening Behaviors and Associations with Childhood Trauma, Resiliency, and Patient-Provider Relationships: Findings from an Exploratory Study of Appalachian Cervical Cancer Survivors.**

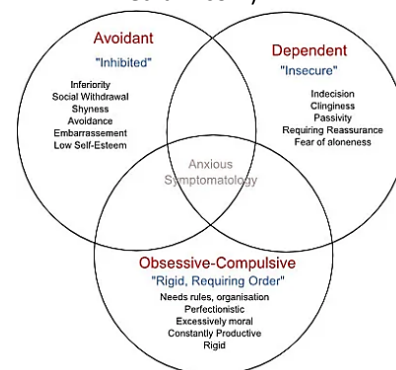
J Appalach Health. 2023;5(1):22-37. PMID: [38023113](#)

Of 90 West Virginia cervical cancer survivors, ACEs were associated with weaker patient-provider relationships and fewer resilience protective factors. More protective factors were associated with stronger patient-provider relationships, earlier stage of cancer at diagnosis, and positive cancer screening behaviors.

### **Çrişan Ş, Stoia M, Predescu E, Miu AC, Szentágotai-Tătar A. The association between adverse childhood events and cluster C personality disorders: A meta-analysis.**

Clin Psychol Psychother. 2023;30(6):1193-214. PMID: [37129438](#)

From a research review, “ACEs were consistently associated with overall cluster C personality disorders, as well as each of the specific disorders in this cluster.” Disorders include avoidant, dependent, and obsessive-compulsive. (Figure from medium.com)



Airikka A, Lahti-Pulkkinen M, Tuovinen S, et al.

### **Maternal exposure to childhood maltreatment and mental and behavioral disorders in children.**

Eur Child Adolesc Psychiatry. 2023;32(12):2463-75. PMID: [36181574](#)

Following 2252 pregnant individuals until their children were 8-12 years old, “maternal exposure to childhood maltreatment [abuse but not neglect] is associated with mental and behavioral disorders in children...call for interventions to prevent intergenerational transmission.”

Alkema A, Marchi M, van der Zaag JAJ, et al.

**Childhood abuse v. neglect and risk for major psychiatric disorders.**

Psychol Med. 2023;1-12. PMID: [38018135](#)

Combining three studies looking at major depressive disorder (MDD), bipolar disorder, and schizophrenia, childhood abuse was a stronger risk factor for schizophrenia (OR 3.51), and childhood neglect for bipolar disorder (OR 2.69). Combined abuse and neglect were related to increased risk exceeding additive effects of abuse and neglect for MDD. “Across disorders, abuse was associated with hallucinations (OR 2.16) and suicide attempts (OR 2.16) whereas neglect was associated with agitation (OR 1.24) and reduced need for sleep (OR 1.64).

Joannès C, Kelly-Irving M, Couarraze S, Castagné R.

**The effect of smoking initiation in adolescence on the subsequent smoking trajectories of people who smoke, and the role of adverse childhood experiences: Results from the 1958 British cohort study.**

Public Health Nurs. 2024 Jan-Feb;41(1):127-138. PMID: [37953700](#)

Using data from a long-term British study, individuals who initiated smoking in adolescence were 3.66 times more likely to relapse, and 5.25 times more likely to persist, compared to those who started smoking in their twenties. “These effects were particularly pronounced in case of ACEs.”

## Adolescents

Adams DR, Pérez-Flores NJ, Mabrouk F, Minor C.

**Assessing Access to Trauma-Informed Outpatient Mental Health Services for Adolescents: A Mystery Shopper Study.**

Psychiatr Serv. 2023;appips20230198. PMID: [38018150](#)

“In this mystery shopper study, three women (White, Latina, and Black voice actresses) called community mental health centers (CMHCs) and federally qualified health centers (FQHCs) in Cook County, Illinois, posing as mothers requesting a mental health appointment for their traumatized adolescent child...Callers could schedule an appointment in only 17% (N=78 of 451) of contacts. The primary reasons for denial were capacity constraints (67%) at CMHCs and administrative requirements to switch to in-network primary care providers (62%) at FQHCs...Non-White callers were significantly less likely (incidence rate ratio=1.18) to be offered an appointment than the White caller. The average wait time was 12 days.”

Bendall S, Eastwood O, Spelman T, et al.

**Childhood trauma is prevalent and associated with co-occurring depression, anxiety, mania and psychosis in young people attending Australian youth mental health services.**

Aust N Z J Psychiatry. 2023 Dec;57(12):1518-1526. PMID: [37243364](#)

Of 775 Australian young adults being seen for mental health services including depression, anxiety, mania, and psychosis, “84% reported some form of abuse (emotional: 68%; physical: 32%; sexual: 22%) or neglect (emotional: 65%; physical: 46%). Exposure to multiple trauma types was common...More severe childhood trauma was more strongly associated with the co-occurrence of symptoms than with any one symptom domain in isolation...Childhood trauma is pervasive in youth mental health services and associated with a symptom profile that cuts across traditional diagnostic boundaries.”

Schlenso-Schuster F, Keil J, Von Klitzing K, et al.

**From Maltreatment to Psychiatric Disorders in Childhood and Adolescence: The Relevance of Emotional Maltreatment.**

Child Maltreat. 2024;29(1):142-54. PMID: [36426806](#)

From detailed assessments of 778 German 3-16 year-olds recruited from CPS, mental health services, and the general community, “Besides confirming known relationships between maltreatment exposures and psychiatric disorders, emotional maltreatment exerted particularly strong effects on internalizing disorders in older youth and externalizing disorders in younger children...urging researchers and practitioners alike to prioritize future work on emotional maltreatment.”

Ackard DM, Eisenberg ME.

**Verbal, physical and sexual dating violence among a population-based sample of teens: Does exposure to intimate partner violence in the home account for the association between dating violence and mental health?**

Child Abuse Negl. 2023;147:106581. PMID: [38101101](#)

Of 71,635 Minnesota 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade students, teen dating violence (TDV) was reported by 36.4% of those with exposure to IPV at home (eIPV), vs. 13.6% without such exposure. Each type of teen dating violence was significantly associated with adverse mental health, even after adjusting for demographic variables. “Education on healthy, consensual dating relationships is critical, alongside regular screening for eIPV and TDV, and referring affected youth for treatment.”

# Domestic Violence – Effects on Children

Herbert K, Xi Q, Feder G, et al.

**Child maltreatment and parental domestic violence and abuse, co-occurrence and the effect on lifetime outcomes in the Avon Longitudinal Study of Parents and Children (ALSPAC).**

SSM - population health. 2023;24:101555. PMID: [38073858](#)

From a long-term UK study including 3 generations beginning with over 15,000 pregnant women 1991-1992, “Childhood exposure prevalences were estimated at 41.7% for any form of CM [child maltreatment], 19.3% for parental DVA [domestic violence and abuse], and 49.0% for exposure to at least one form of CM and/or parental DVA. Co-occurring parental DVA was reported in 21%-42% of CM-exposed households...Co-occurring CM and parental DVA exposures were associated with increased risks of drug use, anxiety, depression, smoking, unemployment, social welfare use, and perpetration of intimate partner violence as a young person - highlighting the intergenerational effects of exposure...The high cumulative prevalence of childhood exposure to CM and/or parental DVA, and the scale of the resulting adverse impacts, emphasise the need for policies and family interventions sensitive to the possibility of co-occurring forms of abuse.”

# Domestic Violence – Physical Health

Harruff RC, Johnston R, Lubin M, Perera ULMS.

**Analysis of female strangulation homicides in King County, Washington, from 1978 to 2022.**

J Forensic Sci. 2024 Jan;69(1):199-204. PMID: [37753824](#)

Using data from one county in Washington State, “from 1995 through 2022, females accounted for 22.8% of 2394 homicides but 80.3% of strangulation homicides. The average annual rate of all strangulation homicides decreased until 2020. Mean ages of female decedents were 27.7 years in homicides associated with sexual assault, 36.8 years with domestic violence, and 63.9 years with robbery. Lethal assaults most often occurred in private homes, and perpetrators were usually well known to the victim. Injuries included petechiae [bruising] in 83%; ligature marks in 20%; fingernail

marks in 1.4%; hyoid [small bone in neck] fractures in 23%; and thyroid cartilage fractures in 31%. Fractures were more common in manual strangulation and in decedents of ages over 40 years.”

Spencer CN, Khalil M, Herbert M, et al.

**Health effects associated with exposure to intimate partner violence against women and childhood sexual abuse: a burden of proof study.**

Nat Med. 2023;29(12):3243-58. PMID: [38081957](#)

From a research review, “Results indicated a moderate association of intimate partner violence with major depressive disorder and with maternal abortion and miscarriage (63% and 35% increased risk, respectively). HIV/AIDS, anxiety disorders and self-harm exhibited weak associations with intimate partner violence...childhood sexual abuse was shown to be moderately associated with alcohol use disorders and with self-harm (45% and 35% increased risk, respectively). Associations between childhood sexual abuse and 11 additional health outcomes, such as asthma and type 2 diabetes mellitus, were found to be weak. Although our understanding remains limited by data scarcity, these health impacts are larger in magnitude and more extensive than previously reported.”

# Domestic Violence – Mental Health

Siddiqi SH, Kandala S, Hacker CD, et al.

**Precision functional MRI mapping reveals distinct connectivity patterns for depression associated with traumatic brain injury.**

Sci Transl Med. 2023 Jul 5;15(703):eabn0441. PMID: [37406139](#)

“Depression associated with traumatic brain injury (TBI) is believed to be clinically distinct from primary major depressive disorder (MDD) and may be less responsive to conventional treatments.” Authors analyze brain imaging data from published studies, and note a distinct profile of brain connectivity (how different parts of the brain communicate with each other) in TBI depression vs. TBI alone, major depression, or PTSD. “Our results support the possibility of a physiologically distinct ‘TBI affective syndrome’, which may benefit from individualized approaches to target its distinct neural circuitry.”

Girard M, Fernet M, Godbout N.

**"Like A Mouse Pursued By the Snake": A Qualitative Metasynthesis on the Experiences of Revictimization Among Women Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse and Partner Violence.**

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2023;15248380231214783. PMID: [38049952](#)

Based on qualitative studies of women who had experienced childhood sexual abuse and then adult IPV, "Results identified two main conceptual categories: (a) Barriers to action: A belief system reflecting learned helplessness that hinders women's abilities to protect themselves and prevent further abuses, and (b) Broken internal compass: Cognitive elements blurring women's risk evaluation capacities and reference points limiting their ability to break the cycle of revictimization. These findings support the need to examine cognitive distortions and false beliefs in intervention practices and suggest valuable guidelines for practitioners."

## Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse

Bloemen E, Elman A, Baek D, et al.

**Strategies for dissemination of ED/hospital elder mistreatment response team model.**

J Elder Abuse Negl. 2023;1-17. PMID: [38117212](#)

"Interdisciplinary Emergency Department/hospital-based teams represent a promising care model to improve identification of and intervention for elder mistreatment. Two academic institutions have launched such programs and are exploring multiple strategies for effective dissemination. These strategies include: (1) program evaluation research, (2) framing as a new model of geriatric care, (3) understanding the existing incentives of health systems, EDs, and hospitals to align with them, (4) connecting to ongoing ED/hospital initiatives, (5) identifying and collaborating with communities with strong elder mistreatment response that want to integrate the ED/hospital, (6) developing and making easily accessible high-quality, comprehensive protocols and training materials, (7) offering technical assistance and support, (8) communications outreach to raise awareness, and (9) using an existing framework to inform implementation in new hospitals and health systems."

Berg K, Kjellberg I.

**Managing reports of trouble: designated officials' responses to reports of mistreatments initiated by service users and relatives.**

J Elder Abuse Negl. 2023;1-24. PMID: [38126731](#)

In an analysis of 28 reports of elder mistreatment in Swedish elder care facilities, authors note they were managed by officials with either dismissal, support, or treating complainants' accounts as credible but minimizing their seriousness. Staff were mainly dismissive of concerns by relatives but supportive of complaints by patients. Authors suggest that staff needs to listen more to relatives' accounts, as they may be speaking for patients who are not able to bring up concerns.

Marzbani B, Ayubi E, Barati M, Sahrai P.

**The relationship between social support and dimensions of elder maltreatment: a systematic review and Meta-analysis.**

BMC geriatrics. 2023;23(1):869. PMID: [38110874](#)

From a research review, lack of social support increased overall maltreatment (odds ratio: 1.24). Moreover, lack of social support had an increasing effect on the level of psychological abuse (1.55), physical abuse (1.31), and neglect (2.02). However, the lack of social support showed a decreasing effect on financial abuse (0.92).

Arias JJ, Morgado L, Prost SG.

**Forgotten and without Protections: Older Adults in Prison Settings.**

Hastings Cent Rep. 2023;53(6):17-24. PMID: [38131491](#)

"Older adults in prison may be particularly vulnerable to abuse, neglect, or exploitation. They are dependent on the carceral system for basic resources, are at risk for retaliatory actions for reporting mistreatment, and bear disproportionately high health burdens. This essay first considers standards and resources for mitigating elder mistreatment in the community and residential-care settings in contrast to the available resources in prisons...proposes a research agenda...in the creation of policy for detecting and mitigating elder mistreatment of incarcerated people."

## Sexual Assault

Ford K, Ham LS, Nguyen AMT, et al.

**Victim Centered, Aggressor Focused, and Bystander Friendly: A Qualitative Analysis of Bystander Intervention Strategies and Outcomes for Sexual Harassment or Assault.**

J Interpers Violence. 2024;39(1-2):184-213. PMID: [37655590](#)

From interviews with 25 college students who had experienced a bystander intervention during an instance of sexual harassment or abuse, “Most participants reported that the aggressor’s behavior stopped or paused following bystander action, and in these cases, at least one distance or direct strategy was reportedly used most frequently. Approximately 24% and 8% of participants reported verbal or physical harm, respectively, to at least one party. Direct and distance strategies were most frequently mentioned in experiences that involved harm. When the aggressor’s behavior continued (i.e., was not altered during the event) despite bystander actions, strategies most frequently reported included distract, delegate, and proximity...bystanders may need to be persistent and use a variety of strategies in their efforts to stop an ongoing sexual assault considering that over half of the participants used a combination of strategies.”

**Table 3.** Strategies and Descriptions Based on Results from Present Study.

Aim	Themes	Description
Bystander intervention strategies	Distance	Creating distance between the aggressor and the victim while either staying in the same location or removing someone from the current location. This can be done by pulling the aggressor or victim away, or verbally telling someone to leave the event.
	Direct	Confronting or asking the aggressor about their behavior or checking in with the victim about their perceptions and feelings of the interaction, which can take place in private, among the parties involved, or in front of a group of people.
	Distract	Temporarily shifting the aggressor’s attention off the victim by starting or taking over the conversation, among other strategies.
	Delegate	Seeking other individuals that are peers or a person in authority that may have more power to make a difference in the situation. This can include seeking an audience or a crowd for the behavior in efforts to have more attention on the situation at hand.
	Proximity	Closing the physical or interpersonal distance between the bystander(s) and the victim by either staying close to the person that may be harmed or indicating through other nonverbal cues that the bystander and victim are acquainted in some way.

Goodman-Williams R, Volz J, Fishwick K.

**Reasons for Not Reporting Among Sexual Assault Survivors Who Seek Medical Forensic Exams: A Qualitative Analysis.**

J Interpers Violence. 2023 Nov 16:8862605231211926. PMID: [37970805](#)

“20% to 25% of survivors who have a sexual assault evidence kit collected do not report their assault to police at that time and choose instead to have it stored for possible future use...of 296 individuals

aged 18 and older who had documented their reasons for not reporting to police in their medical record...We identified four themes: Reporting Won't Help, Reporting Will Harm, Not Now, and Not What I'm Here For...For some survivors, the decision...was based on their needs at that moment, whereas for other survivors it was based on their desire to move on from the assault more permanently. Practice and policy recommendations are discussed, including the importance of providing survivors information about what police reporting would look like in specific circumstances.”

Kane D, Holmes A, Eogan M.

**Post-exposure prophylaxis, STI testing and factors associated with follow-up attendance: a review of 4159 cases of acute post-sexual assault medical care.**

Sex Transm Infect. 2023 Nov 17:sextrans-2023-055980.

PMID: [37977653](#)

From a review of all patients seen within 7 days after sexual assault at the Irish sexual assault treatment unit network, “A total of 4159 acute cases presented during the study period. Emergency contraception (EC) was administered to 53.8% of cases, while postexposure prophylaxis (PEP) for chlamydia was given in 75.1% and for HIV in 11.0%. Hepatitis B vaccination was initiated in 53.7%. 1.4% of the attendees were referred to an emergency department for the treatment of injuries. Follow-up appointments were scheduled for 75.8% of acute cases, with 71.6% attending follow-up.

## Human Trafficking

Hadjikyriakou M, Martinez-Sosa N, Harvey PD, et al.

**Visit Data and Telehealth in a Clinic for Trafficked Persons: Virtual Care and Human Trafficking During the COVID-19 Pandemic.**

J Health Care Poor Underserved. 2023;34(3):989-1002. PMID: [38015133](#)

“THRIVE, a multidisciplinary University of Miami clinic for trafficked persons, transitioned to a hybrid telehealth model during the COVID-19 pandemic...There were 15% more scheduled and 8% more completed appointments per month early in the pandemic period with telehealth use compared to the pre-pandemic period. Telehealth was most used within psychiatry...Telehealth succeeded in connecting THRIVE patients during the pandemic, highlighting its potential for long-term use amongst trafficked persons.”

## LGBTQ Concerns

Ethier KA, Jones SE, Kilbourn-Shear E, Dittus PJ.

**Associations Between Verbal and Physical Abuse in the Home and Mental Health Indicators Among Heterosexual and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Questioning High School Students in the US-Adolescent Behaviors and Experiences Survey, 2021.**

J Adolesc Health. 2024;74(1):198-201. PMID: [37791925](#)

Using national CDC High School Student survey data, “Experiencing verbal or physical abuse in the home is strongly associated with poor mental health and suicidality among youth, regardless of sexual identity; however, among LGBTQ students who experienced abuse, the prevalence of poor mental health and suicidality reached crisis levels...more than one in four LGBTQ students who were verbally abused and half of LGBTQ students who were physically abused had attempted suicide. That 75% of LGBTQ young people indicated they had experienced verbal abuse in their home during the pandemic, suggests that concerns raised about the impact of increased time in unsupportive homes among LGBTQ young people are well-founded.”

## Race/Cultural Concerns

Mehta PM, Wang MC, Cameron NA, et al.

**Association of Prepregnancy Risk Factors With Racial Differences in Preterm Birth Rates.**

Am J Prev Med. 2023 Dec;65(6):1184-1186. PMID: [37552145](#)

“The study sample included 509,890 live births to non-Hispanic Black individuals and 1,790,350 live births to non-Hispanic White individuals. PTB [pre-term birth] among non-Hispanic Black individuals occurred in 116.3 per 1,000 live births and 72.3 per 1,000 live births among non-Hispanic White individuals...Black individuals at the time of delivery were younger; more likely to have prepregnancy hypertension, diabetes, and obesity; and less likely to smoke, have a college education, or have private insurance than non-Hispanic White individuals...nearly one third of racial differences in PTB were explained by differences in a few select socio-economic and prepregnancy cardiovascular risk factors...these findings may inform public health interventions.”

Jiwatram-Negrón T, Cardenas I, Meinhart M, Rubio-Torio N.

**Different Types of Intimate Partner Violence Among Latinx Women: A Call for Expanded Measurement, Screening, and Safety Planning.**

Violence Against Women. 2023:10778012231216715. PMID: [38008996](#)

“Despite increased attention on intimate partner violence (IPV) among Latinx women in the United States, measurement often overlooks economic abuse, reproductive coercion, institution-related threats, and technology-facilitated abuse...Findings emphasize the need for comprehensive IPV measurement, screening, expanded safety planning, and research on the impact of these types of abuse.”

Ellington L, Racine N, Mushquash C.

**Indigenous youth wellbeing: Risk and resilience.**

Child Abuse Negl. 2023:106580. PMID: [38065788](#)

This editorial briefly reviews articles from a special issue on indigenous youth wellbeing around the world. [Table of Contents](#)

Saad F, Eisenstadt M, Liverpool S, Carlsson C, Vainieri I.

**Self-Guided Mental Health Apps Targeting Racial and Ethnic Minority Groups: Scoping Review.**

JMIR mental health. 2023;10:e48991. PMID: [38055315](#)

“Considering the growing interest in MHAs [mental health apps], the available evidence for MHAs for racial and ethnic minority groups appears limited. Although the acceptability seems consistent, more research is needed to support the effectiveness of MHAs. Future research should also prioritize studies to explore the specific needs of racial and ethnic minority groups if MHAs are to be successfully adopted...Barriers to use included the repetitiveness of the MHAs, stigma, lack of personalization, and technical issues.”

## Perpetrators

Koolschijn M, Janković M, Bogaerts S.

**The impact of childhood maltreatment on aggression, criminal risk factors, and treatment trajectories in forensic psychiatric patients.**

Frontiers in psychiatry. 2023;14:1128020. PMID: [38098623](#)

Using data from two Dutch studies, of 128 patients residing in a Forensic Psychiatry [incarcerated mental health] facility, and 468 who had been released from such a facility, patients with higher child maltreatment (CM) scores had higher aggression scores. “Patients with histories of CM had a significantly longer length of stay in a forensic facility than patients without CM (respectively, 10.8 years and 9.3 years on average).”

MacInnes P, Calcia MA, Martinuzzi M, et al.  
**Patterns of mental health service use among perpetrators of domestic homicide: descriptive study of Domestic Homicide Reviews in England and Wales.**

BJPsych bulletin. 2023;1-9. PMID: [38073285](#)

Of 180 perpetrators of domestic homicide in England and Wales, “Over two-thirds (64.5%) of the perpetrators had accessed mental healthcare before the homicide. Perpetrators of intimate partner homicide who had used mental health services compared with those who had not were more likely to have a history of substance misuse, contact with the criminal justice system and a history of self-harm or suicide attempts. Our findings support the need for health services, particularly mental health, addictions and primary care, to take an assertive role in the prevention of domestic violence and abuse by identifying patients who are potential perpetrators of domestic violence and abuse.”

Ghossoub E, Harake NE.  
**Insights on Female Sex Offenders from the Missouri Registry.**

J Am Acad Psychiatry Law. 2023;51(4):500-5. PMID: [37704259](#)

“Although reports have shown that female sex offenders make up two percent of the whole sex offender population, the true rate is remarkably higher because the caretaking behavior of women masks their sexual offenses.” Of 532 female sex offenders in Missouri, mean age of 29.8 years at the time of their first offense, recidivism rate was close to 0.6%; 89.5% had strictly contact offenses, whereas 5.0% had strictly pornography offenses. “Implications for risk assessment are discussed.”

Kavanagh E, Kinsella E, Ryan P.  
**The Lived Experiences of Female Relatives of Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM) Offenders in Ireland and the United Kingdom.**

J Child Sex Abus. 2023;32(8):940-62. PMID: [37927236](#)

“There is a limited understanding about how an association with those that download Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM), a highly stigmatized crime, impacts the lives of their innocent family members.” From interviews with 15 such family members, “The analysis highlighted how non-offending family members experienced considerable shame, trauma, and stigma with consequences that reached into every aspect of their lives. The findings are discussed in the context of...recommendations for both policy and practice.”

## Police and Court Systems

Anillo I, Feldman D, Kennedy T.

**A Global Outlook on Child Sexual Abuse and Sexually Explicit Material Online During COVID-19: Trends and Interdisciplinary Prevention Methods.**

J Child Sex Abus. 2023;32(8):921-39. PMID: [37994473](#)

“Globally, CSEM [child sexually explicit material] consumption increased dramatically during the pandemic, as well as trafficking of self-generated material. The hypothesized reasons for the increase in OCSA [online child sexual abuse] and CSEM included stay-at-home orders, COVID-19-related precautions, technology use increase, economic instability, and lack of available victim and legal resources. Current global and national law enforcement procedures to prevent the proliferation of online sexual abuse are reviewed with suggestions for preventing further increases in CSEM production, distribution, and consumption.”

Cohen PR.

**The Cutaneous Manifestations of Drug Reactions Can Mimic Traumatic Injuries: Case Reports.**

Cureus. 2023 Oct 26;15(10):e47734. PMID: [38021749](#)

“The evaluation of the skin of the decedent is an essential component of the assessment by the forensic pathologist or the medical examiner. Age-associated cutaneous changes, primary diseases of the skin, and systemic conditions with mucocutaneous manifestations can be present. Importantly, several skin conditions can be misinterpreted for traumatic injuries; specifically, adverse reactions to medications can mimic assault, burns, elder abuse, and mutilation or torture.”

## Providers

Strauch KA.

**Primary care nurse practitioners' perceptions and experiences communicating with adults about ACEs.**

J Am Assoc Nurse Pract. 2024 Jan 1;36(1):48-56. PMID: [37882721](#)

From interviews with 15 primary care nurse practitioners about discussing ACEs with patients, “Key themes described communication approaches and perceived barriers and facilitators to ACE-related conversations. Scope of practice, provider biases, diversity in practice models, and secondary trauma were factors NPs' perceived as positively or negatively influencing ACE-related communication in primary care.”



Garg A, LeBlanc A, Raphael JL.

**Inadequacy of Current Screening Measures for Health-Related Social Needs.**

JAMA. 2023 Sep 12;330(10):915-916. PMID: [37603327](#)

“In 2022, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), along with standard-setting organizations such as the National Committee for Quality Assurance and The Joint Commission, established new quality measures aimed at promoting health equity. Many of these measures center around screening patients for health-related social needs (HRSN)...determining how HRSN screening is introduced to patients matters critically, and empathy, trust, respecting parents’ autonomy and dignity, and leveraging existing relationships are core factors necessary for patients to share their social needs willingly and openly. Unfortunately, health systems have paid little attention to these critical factors in implementing HRSN screening.” From experiences in Pediatrics, “Despite parental support for HRSN screening and an opportunity for parents to connect and receive support from their pediatrician, there is also great concern particularly from low-income minoritized parents. Their concerns include feelings of shame, being judged and discriminated against by the health care team, fear that disclosing needs will lead to filings with child protective services and removal of their children, and frustration with disclosing sensitive needs without getting acknowledgment and help.”

Decker H, Schwab M, Shao S, et al.

**Screening for Intimate Partner Violence in Trauma: Results of a Quality Improvement Project.**

J Surg Res. 2023 Dec 7;295:376-384. PMID: [38064979](#)

At one San Francisco adult level 1 trauma center, there were 4147 admissions following traumatic injury, 70% men and 30% women, 77% admitted with blunt injuries and 16% for penetrating injuries. 13% were successfully screened for IPV, and screening rates did not differ by gender, race, or ethnicity. “After adjustment for demographic and clinical factors, patients admitted to the ICU were significantly less likely to be screened. Of the screened patients, 30% screened positive...There were no differences in injury severity in patients who screened positive versus those who screened negative...There are significant barriers to universal screening for IPV, including injury acuity, in patients admitted following trauma. However, the 30% rate of positive screens for IPV in patients admitted following trauma highlights the urgent need to understand and address barriers to screening in trauma settings.”

Elvir-Lazo OL, Yoshihara M, White PF, Yumul R.

**Impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences on Health-Related Outcomes in Adults: Potential Implications for Perioperative Anesthetic Management.**

Anesth Analg. 2024;138(1):210-5. PMID: [38100805](#)

“Our intent in writing this Open Mind article is to stimulate interest in the anesthesia community regarding the potential role of ACEs in influencing clinical outcomes in the perioperative and post-discharge periods. Given both the prevalence of ACEs and the well-established relationships between ACEs and the subsequent occurrence of comorbidities in adults, we would speculate that the number of ACEs may be a predictor for certain types of postoperative morbidity (e.g. postoperative depression, prolonged fatigue, and chronic pain). An understanding of the relationship between ACEs and comorbidities in adults may also allow anesthesiologists to tailor their perioperative anesthetic and analgesic management. A better understanding of how ACEs influence subsequent health-related issues in adults might lead to significant improvements in perioperative care.”

Trockel MT, West CP, Dyrbye LN, et al.

**Assessment of ACEs, Adverse Professional Experiences, Depression, and Burnout in US Physicians.**

Mayo Clin Proc. 2023 Dec;98(12):1785-1796. PMID: [38043996](#)

From a large national physician survey with a 30.6% response rate to mailed survey and 6.9% response rate to electronic survey, the proportion of physicians age 29-65 who had lived with a family member with substance misuse during childhood was marginally lower than that of workers in other professions (13.4% vs. 17.9%), while those who experienced childhood emotional abuse was similar to that of workers in other professions (16.3% vs. 16.2%). The average physician depression T-score was similar to the normed US average. Adverse occupational experiences (AOEs) were associated with mild to severe depression, including making a recent significant medical error (OR 1.64), being named in a malpractice suit (OR 1.30), and experiencing one or more coronavirus disease 2019-related AOE (OR, 1.76). Having one or more ACEs was associated with mild to severe depression (OR 1.58). The ACEs, pandemic-related AOE, and medical errors were also associated with burnout. “Assessing ACEs and AOE and implementing selective primary prevention interventions may improve population health efforts to mitigate depression and burnout in physicians.”

Harding-Bremner M.

### **Overcoming barriers to recognizing and reporting child abuse.**

JAAPA. 2024 Jan 1;37(1):22-27. PMID: [38051825](#)

General review article for physician associates, including individual, interpersonal, organizational, and situational barriers to recognizing and reporting child abuse.

## Prevention

Kasimanickam MR, Kerr DCR, Killion RE, et al.

### **State Alcohol Policy Environments of U.S. Colleges.**

Am J Prev Med. 2024;66(1):1-9. PMID: [38123257](#)

Assessing data across 3 academic years at 1290 college institutions, higher state alcohol restrictions had direct associations with fewer alcohol-related arrests, alcohol-related disciplinary actions, and rape offenses. Alcohol restrictions were measured by the Alcohol Policy Scale, and included items such as laws regarding license revocation, blood alcohol concentration, restricted days or hours of sale, false ID, furnishing alcohol to minors, house party laws, ignition interlock laws, minimum drinking age, sales to intoxicated patrons, and taxes on alcohol.

Krause JT, Brown SM.

### **Mindfulness Intervention Improves Coping and Perceptions of Children's Behavior among Families with Elevated Risk.**

Int J Environ Res Public Health. 2023;20(23). PMID: [38063522](#)

“A mindfulness-informed intervention improved coping strategies and perceptions of children's behavior among 53 families with elevated risk...intervention participants demonstrated improvements in positive refocusing coping, positive adaptation coping, and perceptions of children's behavior problems compared to participants in the waitlist control group.”

## Researchers

Chung J, Pecora PJ, Sinha A, Prichett L, Lin FY, Seltzer RR.

### **A gap in the data: Defining, identifying, and tracking children with medical complexity in the child welfare system.**

Child Abuse Negl. 2023;147:106600. PMID: [38118290](#)

“Among nearly 400,000 children in US foster care, an estimated 10% are medically complex. Yet, population-level data about children with medical complexity (CMC) served by the child welfare system, both for prevention and foster care

services, are largely unavailable...The majority of agencies could not easily identify CMC or access CMC-related data within data systems. Agencies described lack of a clear definition as a barrier to collecting population level data.”

Hunt GR, Higgins DJ, Willis ML, Harris L.

### **Scoping Review of the Definitions Used to Describe and Understand Harmful Sexual Behaviors in Children and Young People.**

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2023:15248380231218294. PMID: [38153115](#)

“There was disagreement and inconsistency across the included papers in their conceptualization of harmful, abusive, or problematic sexual behavior in children and adolescents. Although the term HSB [harmful sexual behavior] has been adopted as an umbrella term in many policy, practice, and research settings, there is a large variance in behaviors, treatment needs, etiology, and harms. Relying solely on one term to describe a wide range of sexual behaviors may limit the understanding of this issue and imply similarities between groups that are not present.” Authors note the need for clearly defined subsets of HSB.

## Other of Interest

Lotzin A, Morozova-Larina O, Paschenko S, et al.

### **War-related stressors and ICD-11 (complex) post-traumatic stress disorders in Ukrainian students living in Kyiv during the Russian-Ukrainian war.**

Psychiatry Res. 2023;330:115561. PMID: [37956590](#)

Of 563 Ukrainian university students living in an active war zone, 84.4% female, 91.5% reported at least one war-related stressor (see chart below). The prevalence of ICD-11 PTSD and CPTSD (complex PTSD) was 12.4% and 11.2%, respectively. “Special attention should be paid to individuals exposed to sexual abuse or cumulative trauma exposure...found to be at increased risk for developing CPTSD.”

