

MEDICAL SUMMARY FOR SCC DVC APRIL 2009

This summary includes selected articles indexed by the National Library of Medicine February 2008. To obtain a copy of the abstracts, go to pubmed.gov, and place the Pubmed ID numbers (PMID) in the search box, separated by commas.

Purpose: to provide members of the DVC with up-to-date information on effects of abuse and neglect on health and well being throughout the life cycle. This information can be a motivator for client individual change as well as policy change.

Child Abuse

Sher L.

The concept of post-traumatic mood disorder and its implications for adolescent suicidal behavior.

Minerva Pediatr. 2008 Dec;60(6):1393-9. PMID: 18971900

Child abuse is associated with PTSD and major depression. Teens who have both PTSD and depression (termed "post-traumatic mood disorder" PTMD) have greater severity of symptoms and higher risk of suicidality.

Adams JA.

Guidelines for medical care of children evaluated for suspected sexual abuse: an update for 2008.

Curr Opin Obstet Gynecol. 2008 Oct;20(5):435-41. PMID: 18797265

Authors argue that genital injuries in sexually abused prepubertal children heal quickly (as opposed to longer in adolescents), and that examinations should be performed within 24 hours.

Silverstein M, Augustyn M, Young R, Zuckerman B.

The relationship between maternal depression, in-home violence and use of physical punishment: what is the role of child behaviour?

Arch Dis Child. 2009 Feb;94(2):138-43. PMID: 18786952

A child was more likely to be "smacked" if the mother was depressed or in an abusive relationship, and much more likely to be smacked if the mother was both depressed and abused. This correlation was not modified by how the child behaved.

Guenther E, Knight S, Olson LM, Dean JM, Keenan HT.

Prediction of child abuse risk from emergency department use.

J Pediatr. 2009 Feb;154(2):272-7. PMID: 18822431

Data analysis from four states and almost 5000 identified abused children showed that these children were twice as likely as controls to have been seen in the ED prior to abuse being identified. However, no pattern of diagnosis emerged to be predictive of abuse.

Sebald AM.

Child abuse and deafness: an overview.

Am Ann Deaf. 2008 Fall;153(4):376-83. PMID: 19146074

Review article sums up known information on abuse of deaf children, with conflicting and inconsistent results other than that disabled children are more likely to be abused. Many questions raised that need research.

Goebbels AF, Nicholson JM, Walsh K, De Vries H.

Teachers' reporting of suspected child abuse and neglect: behaviour and determinants.

Health Educ Res. 2008 Dec;23(6):941-51. PMID: 18559400

Australian teachers who had less confidence in their skills at recognizing abuse and less years of teaching experience were less likely to ever report child abuse or neglect. Teachers who consistently reported their suspicions were more likely to have a firm action plan about detecting and reporting neglect and abuse.

Lippert T, Favre T, Alexander C, Cross TP.

Families who begin versus decline therapy for children who are sexually abused.

Child Abuse Negl. 2008 Sep;32(9):859-68. PMID: 18950858

Of 101 families whose children were referred for therapy due to sexual abuse, only 54% of children started therapy. Children in African American families were particularly less likely to start therapy.

Adult Manifestations of Child Abuse

Dube SR, Fairweather D, Pearson WS, Felitti VJ, Anda RF, Croft JB.

Cumulative childhood stress and autoimmune diseases in adults.

Psychosom Med. 2009 Feb;71(2):243-50. PMID: 19188532

From data via the Kaiser Adverse Childhood Events study, childhood traumatic stress increased the likelihood of hospitalization with a diagnosed autoimmune disease decades later in adulthood.

Scott KM, et al

Childhood adversity, early-onset depressive/anxiety disorders, and adult-onset asthma.

Psychosom Med. 2008 Nov;70(9):1035-43. PMID: 18941133

In a study of over 18,000 New Zealand adults, childhood adversity and early-onset depressive/anxiety disorders independently predicted adult onset asthma.

Rohde P, Ichikawa L, Simon GE, Ludman EJ, Linde JA, Jeffery RW, Operskalski BH.

Associations of child sexual and physical abuse with obesity and depression in middle-aged women.

Child Abuse Negl. 2008 Sep;32(9):878-87. PMID: 18945487

A telephone survey of over 4600 women (mean age 52) enrolled in a northwest healthcare plan revealed a significant correlation between childhood physical and sexual abuse with adult depression and adult obesity.

Han C, Masand PS, Krulewicz S, Peindl K, Mannelli P, Varia IM, Pae CU, Patkar AA.

Childhood abuse and treatment response in patients with irritable bowel syndrome: a post-hoc analysis of a 12-week, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial of paroxetine controlled release.

J Clin Pharm Ther. 2009 Feb;34(1):79-88. PMID: 19125906

Of 61 subjects enrolled in a drug trial for irritable bowel syndrome, 50.8% had an abuse history. The abused patients had overall higher pain scores, but did not respond differently to medication than non-abused patients.

Domestic Violence – Physical Health

Alio AP, Nana PN, Salihu HM.

Spousal violence and potentially preventable single and recurrent spontaneous fetal loss in an African setting: cross-sectional study.

Lancet. 2009 Jan 24;373(9660):318-24. PMID: 19167571

Cameroonian women who were exposed to spousal violence were 50% more likely to experience at least one episode of fetal loss compared to controls. The association was strongest for emotional abuse.

Glass N, Laughon K, Campbell J, Block CR, Hanson G, Sharps PW, Taliaferro E.

Non-fatal strangulation is an important risk factor for homicide of women.

J Emerg Med. 2008 Oct;35(3):329-35. PMID: 17961956

Non-fatal strangulation was found in 10% of abused controls, 45% of attempted homicides, and 43% of homicides. Women who experienced non-fatal strangulation were 6 times more likely to experience attempted homicide, and 7 times more likely to be killed. Importance of routinely asking abused women about strangulation.

Campbell JC, Baty ML, Ghandour RM, Stockman JK, Francisco L, Wagman J.

The intersection of intimate partner violence against women and HIV/AIDS: a review.

Int J Inj Contr Saf Promot. 2008 Dec;15(4):221-31. PMID: 19051085

Review article on the influence of IPV and HIV/AIDS in women, including the possibility that trauma related PTSD and depression may negatively affect immune function.

Domestic Violence – Mental Health

Schneider RZ, Feltey KM.

"No Matter What Has Been Done Wrong Can Always Be Redone Right": Spirituality in the Lives of Imprisoned Battered Women.

Violence Against Women. 2009 Feb 17. PMID: 19223663

Article examines the role that religion and spirituality played in 12 women's lives before and during incarceration for killing their abusive partners, including spiritual experiences in prison.

Poon MW.

Hypnosis for complex trauma survivors: four case studies.

Am J Clin Hypn. 2009 Jan;51(3):263-71. PMID: 19216211

A program of phased use of hypnotic techniques with 4 survivors of trauma showed significant reduction in symptoms.

Meinersmann KM, Bradberry J, Roberts FB.

Equine-facilitated psychotherapy with adult female survivors of abuse.

J Psychosoc Nurs Ment Health Serv. 2008 Dec;46(12):36-42. PMID: 19133493

Equine therapy (learning to care for and ride horses) was an effective intervention for abused women, making them feel "I can have power".

Próspero M.

Sex-symmetric effects of coercive behaviors on mental health? Not exactly.

J Interpers Violence. 2009 Jan;24(1):128-46. PMID: 18378811

A study of over 500 culturally diverse college students showed that the emotional abuse from coercion was a stronger factor on the victim's mental health problems than physical violence.

Lilly MM, Graham-Bermann SA.

Ethnicity and risk for symptoms of posttraumatic stress following intimate partner violence: prevalence and predictors in European American and African American women.

J Interpers Violence. 2009 Jan;24(1):3-19. PMID: 18299418

In a study of 120 low income women, African American women showed less signs of PTSD than European American women, despite having more stresses. Various hypotheses are proposed, including that AA women may express PTSD symptoms in other ways (original symptom description is from male combat veterans); that violence in the AA community may have different personal, political and social meaning; and that AA women may have more resilience due to homogeneous support groups.

Cultural Issues

Ruikar MM, Pratinidhi AK.

Physical wife abuse in an urban slum of Pune, Maharashtra.

Indian J Public Health. 2008 Oct-Dec;52(4):215-7. PMID: 19189826

In a study of Indian couples, physical abuse was 61.5%, with the most commonly reported behaviors by the husband slapping 98.8%, pushing 39.8%, and kicking 33.7%. The most commonly reported behaviors by the wives were crying 85.2% and silently bearing the abuse 59%.

Chan KL, Tiwari A, Fong DY, Leung WC, Brownridge DA, Ho PC.

Correlates of in-law conflict and intimate partner violence against Chinese pregnant women in Hong Kong.

J Interpers Violence. 2009 Jan;24(1):97-110. PMID: 18378806

In a survey of over 3000 pregnant Chinese women, in-law conflict was significantly associated with partner abuse. The authors suggest that in-law conflict be included in risk assessment for IPV.

Elder Abuse

McCool JJ, Jogerst GJ, Daly JM, Xu Y.

Multidisciplinary reports of nursing home mistreatment.

J Am Med Dir Assoc. 2009 Mar;10(3):174-80. PMID: 19233057

Interviews with 22 nursing home employees revealed that there was a desire for more education about elder abuse and reporting requirements, and the sense that some abuse situations may occur because the staff is overworked, inexperienced, and/or frustrated from dealing with difficult residents.

Perpetrators

Lee TM, Chan SC, Raine A.

Hyperresponsivity to threat stimuli in domestic violence offenders: a functional magnetic resonance imaging study.

J Clin Psychiatry. 2009 Jan;70(1):36-45. PMID: 19192464

Compared to matched controls, brain scans of batterers were hyper responsive to mild threats, and to aggression against women.

Beech AR, Kalmus E, Tipper SP, Baudouin JY, Flak V, Humphreys GW.

Children induce an enhanced attentional blink in child molesters.

Psychol Assess. 2008 Dec;20(4):397-402. PMID: 19086763

When shown a series of rapidly presented visual images, seeing a picture of a child had an attention capturing effect on child molesters, causing them to have an enhanced “attention blink”, compared to a control group of non-offenders, and a group of new parents. Potential use for assessment of sexual interest.

Providers

O'Sullivan P, Chao S, Russell M, Levine S, Fabiny A.

Development and implementation of an objective structured clinical examination to provide formative feedback on communication and interpersonal skills in geriatric training.

J Am Geriatr Soc. 2008 Sep;56(9):1730-5. PMID: 18721223

Geriatric educators developed a “standardized patient” exam (with actors) for medical, dental and psychiatry fellows to evaluate their communication and interpersonal skills when dealing with challenging geriatric patients.

MacLeod KJ, Marcin JP, Boyle C, Miyamoto S, Dimand RJ, Rogers KK.

Using telemedicine to improve the care delivered to sexually abused children in rural, underserved hospitals.

Pediatrics. 2009 Jan;123(1):223-8. PMID: 19117886

Child abuse experts in a university setting used telemedicine very effectively to assist practitioners in rural underserved hospitals during live child sexual assault examinations.

Assan B, Burchell P, Chia A, Coffey C, Floreani S, Weir J, Hammond SW, Woods B.

The Adolescent Intensive Management Team: an intensive outreach mental health service for high-risk adolescents.

Australas Psychiatry. 2008 Dec;16(6):423-7. PMID: 18608165

Description of a very successful Australian outreach management team to care for high risk and difficult-to-engage adolescents.

Rudman W, Hart-Hester S, Brown CA, Pittman S, Choo E, Cohn F.

Ethical dilemmas in coding domestic violence.

J Clin Ethics. 2008 Winter;19(4):353-9. PMID: 19189767

Discussion of DV coding issues, such as the fact that an injury diagnosis (“facial fracture”) is reimbursed much higher by insurance companies than a signs and symptoms diagnosis (“domestic violence”), even though the DV diagnosis will initiate more system expenditure, such as a social work consult. Possible reason for undercoding DV.

Scheela RA.

A sex offender therapist's story.

Creat Nurs. 2008;14(4):171-5. PMID: 19090089

A therapist for sex offenders explains her work and why she finds it rewarding.

Other of Interest

Catherine NL, Ko JJ, Barr RG.

Getting the word out: advice on crying and colic in popular parenting magazines.

J Dev Behav Pediatr. 2008 Dec;29(6):508-11. PMID: 19034044

Analysis of Canadian parenting journals 2000-2004 with articles about crying and colic revealed few mentioning the possibility of abuse and shaken baby syndrome. Important opportunity for journalists to impact abuse prevention.

Potter SJ, Moynihan MM, Stapleton JG, Banyard VL.

Empowering bystanders to prevent campus violence against women: a preliminary evaluation of a poster campaign.

Violence Against Women. 2009 Jan;15(1):106-21. PMID: 19052283

A campus poster campaign was considered a good low cost way to raise awareness and willingness to take action on the issue of violence against women, although needing to be paired with other in-person activities.