

ABUSE RESEARCH

For archive and to sign up for distribution list:

<http://abuseresearch.info/>

Questions: Harise Stein, MD harise@stanford.edu

Child Abuse

Vermeulen S, Alink LRA, van Berkel SR.

Child Maltreatment During School and Childcare Closure Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Child Maltreat. 2022 Feb 1;10775595211064885. PMID: [35105228](#)

“Based on reports of Dutch childcare professionals and school teachers (N = 444)...The prevalence of emotional neglect was found to be three times higher during the lockdown compared to a period without lockdown...reflected in overall emotional neglect as well as for educational neglect and witnessing domestic violence. No significant differences were found for other types of child maltreatment. Most of the reported cases of maltreatment were already problematic before the lockdown and became worse...the closure of schools and childcare settings may have enormous negative consequences for vulnerable children.”

Machlin L, Gruhn MA, Miller AB, et. al.

Predictors of family violence in North Carolina following initial COVID-19 stay-at-home orders.

Child Abuse Negl. 2021 Oct 25;105376. PMID: [34728100](#)

For 120 North Carolina families with children aged 4-11 who completed weekly surveys, “results clearly demonstrate that high levels of family violence occurred following the stay-at-home orders, especially in families with higher baseline violence, higher caregiver emotional reactivity, and caregiver un/under-employment...vulnerable families may...need additional support in moments of crisis.”

Malige A, Deemer A, Sobel AD.

The Effect of COVID-19 on Pediatric Traumatic Orthopaedic Injuries: A Database Study.

J Am Acad Orthop Surg Glob Res Rev. 2022 Feb 11;6(2). PMID: [35148285](#)

For 1112 children with orthopedic injuries seen during the pandemic at Pennsylvania trauma hospitals, compared to pre-pandemic data, more injuries occurred at home (54.9% vs. 44.7%) and

fewer at sporting areas, parks, pools and schools. Injuries caused by child abuse were more prevalent during the pandemic (11.0% vs. 5.6%), and injured children had longer mean hospital length of stay, higher mean number of ICU days, and higher mortality rate (3.8% vs. 1.3%).

Otjen JP, Menashe SJ, Romberg EK, Brown ECB, Iyer RS.

Pearls and Pitfalls of Thoracic Manifestations of Abuse in Children.

Semin Ultrasound CT MR. 2022 Feb;43(1):51-60. PMID: [35164910](#)

“The purpose of this article is to discuss the array of inflicted traumatic injuries to the thorax [chest] in children. Rib fractures are among the most common and telling features of physical abuse, especially in infants. The locations of such fractures and differences in appearance while healing will be presented, along with potential mimics and pitfalls. Less typical fractures seen in abuse will also be reviewed, including those of the sternum, clavicle, spine, and scapula. Finally, uncommon injuries to the lungs, heart and esophagus will be considered.”

Weiss R, He CH, Khan S, Parsikia A, Mbekeani JN.

Ocular Injuries in Pediatric Patients Admitted With Abusive Head Trauma.

Pediatr Neurol. 2022 Feb;127:11-18. PMID: [34922138](#)

From a national database of 10,545 children admitted with abusive head trauma, 24.2% had associated ocular (eye) injuries. 58.7% were female and 85.7% were aged one year or less. Common eye injuries included contusions (bruising) 73.7%, and retinal edema (swelling) 59.3%. Retinal hemorrhage (bleeding) was 5.3%. Eye injuries varied with age and different types of head injury.

Hildebrandt C, Wilson CR, Kritzer A.

Standardizing genetic and metabolic consults for non-accidental trauma at a large pediatric academic center.

Child Abuse Negl. 2022 Mar;125:105480. PMID: [35033936](#)

Authors detail the process whereby they standardized the genetic and metabolic consult evaluations for non-accidental trauma including fractures and brain bleeding, to evaluate a potential medical problem vs. abuse.

Ruch DA, Steelesmith DL, Warner LA, et. al.
Health Services Use by Children in the Welfare System Who Died by Suicide.

Pediatrics. 2021 Apr;147(4):e2020011585. PMID: [33685986](#)
Of 120 CPS-involved Ohio youth aged 5-21 years who died by suicide 2010-2017, and compared to a control group, suicide decedents were significantly more likely to use mental health, physical health, and ED services in the 6 months prior to death. "Youth involved in CPS may benefit from suicide prevention strategies in health care settings."

Marr MC, Gerson R, Lee M, et. al.
Trauma Exposure and Suicidality in a Pediatric Emergency Psychiatric Population.

Pediatr Emerg Care. 2022 Feb 1;38(2):e719-e723. PMID: [35100769](#)
Of 861 youth who presented to a dedicated child psychiatric emergency department during a 1-year period, 52% reported at least one type of trauma exposure. Emotional abuse, physical abuse, sexual abuse/assault, and bullying were associated with suicidality. Total number of trauma exposures were associated with suicide attempts. After adjusting for sociodemographic characteristics, children who reported a history of emotional abuse had 3.2-fold increased odds of attempted suicide.

Cuartas J, Weissman DG, Sheridan MA, et. al.
Corporal Punishment and Elevated Neural Response to Threat in Children.

Child Dev. 2021 May;92(3):821-832. PMID: [33835477](#)
For 40 children who were spanked (mean age 11.4 years) compared to 107 who were not spanked, and for whom none of the participants had experienced child physical or sexual abuse, brain scans of those who had been spanked showed increased brain activation in response to seeing fearful faces relative to neutral faces. "Spanking may alter neural responses to environmental threats in a manner similar to more severe forms of maltreatment." Overreaction to threats may result in behavioral consequences.

Christoffersen MN.
Sexual Crime Against Schoolchildren With Disabilities: A Nationwide Prospective Birth Cohort Study.

J Interpers Violence. 2022 Feb;37(3-4):NP2177-NP2205. PMID: [32608304](#)
From a large national Danish study, 1.8% of children aged 7-18 years were victims of a reported sexual crime once or several times. Children with intellectual disabilities were more likely to be victimized than non-disabled children: ADHD odds ratio 3.7, mental retardation 3.8, and autism 3.8.

Sonagra M, Jones J, McGill M, Gmuca S.
Exploring the intersection of adverse childhood experiences, pediatric chronic pain, and rheumatic disease.
Pediatr Rheumatol Online J. 2022 Feb 14;20(1):14. PMID: [35164793](#)

Of 412 patients seen at a pediatric rheumatology pain clinic, "more than 75% reported at least one ACE. Most frequent included history of mental illness in a first degree relative (56%) and parental divorce or separation (20%). Those with ≥ 2 ACEs had more somatic [physical] symptoms, worse functional disability, and a higher proportion of mental health conditions. There appeared to be a dose dependent interaction between ACEs and functional disability."

Lin SX, Bresnahan M, Amsel L, et. al.
Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and Insufficient Sleep among U.S. Children and Adolescents.

Acad Pediatr. 2022 Feb 12:S1876-2859(22)00067-5. PMID: [35167994](#)
From a national survey of 46,209 US youth, "Approximately half of U.S. children and adolescents (ages 6-17) experienced at least one ACE and a third did not get sufficient sleep. Among those exposed to any ACE, 40.3% had insufficient sleep duration. Seven of the nine ACEs examined were significantly associated with a 20-60% increase in odds of not getting sufficient sleep. Children exposed to two or more ACEs were nearly twice as likely as those exposed to no ACEs to have insufficient sleep duration. Moreover, each individual ACE, except parental death, was significantly associated with more than one hour less sleep than recommended."

Adult Manifestations of Child Abuse

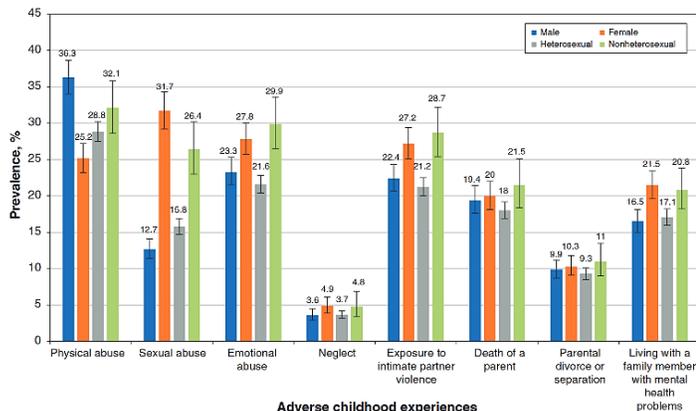
Hendrix CL, Dilks DD, McKenna BG, et. al.
Maternal Childhood Adversity Associates With Frontoamygdala Connectivity in Neonates.

Biol Psychiatry Cogn Neurosci Neuroimaging. 2021 Apr;6(4):470-478. PMID: [33495120](#)
For 48 mother and 1 month-old child pairs, "the infant children of mothers who had themselves experienced childhood emotional neglect displayed altered brain circuitry involved in fear responses and anxiety...This effect was specific to early experiences of emotional neglect and was not explained by maternal exposure to other forms of childhood maltreatment or by maternal distress during pregnancy."

Joshi D, Raina P, Tonmyr L, MacMillan HL, Gonzalez A.
Prevalence of adverse childhood experiences among individuals aged 45 to 85 years: a cross-sectional analysis of the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging.

CMAJ Open. 2021 Mar 2;9(1):E158-E166. PMID: [33653771](#)

Of 44,817 Canadian adults aged 45-85, 61.6% reported exposure to at least 1 ACE. "Exposure to physical abuse (25.7%), intimate partner violence (22.4%) and emotional abuse (21.8%) were the most prevalent types of ACEs...Reporting for many ACEs was higher among women and those of non-heterosexual orientation."



Lin L, Sun W, Lu C, Chen W, Guo VY.

Adverse childhood experiences and handgrip strength among middle-aged and older adults: a cross-sectional study in China.

BMC Geriatr. 2022 Feb 12;22(1):118. PMID: [35148695](#)

Of 7209 Chinese adults aged 45 years or older from 28 provinces, 31.3% reported 3+ ACEs. Exposure to 3+ ACEs, compared to those with 0 ACEs, and after adjusting for for age, sex, marital status, ethnicity, area of residence, smoking and drinking status, body mass index, hypertension, dyslipidaemia, diabetes mellitus, cardiovascular disease, arthritis, hip fracture, and memory-related disease, was negatively associated with continuous hand grip strength, and positively associated with low muscle strength, for both men and women.

Hardcastle K, Ford K, Bellis MA.

Maternal adverse childhood experiences and their association with preterm birth: secondary analysis of data from universal health visiting.

BMC Pregnancy Childbirth. 2022 Feb 16;22(1):129. PMID: [35172776](#)

From a study of Welsh pregnant women, half of all mothers sampled had experienced at least one ACE. "Preterm birth was significantly independently associated with retrospective reports of childhood sexual abuse (adjusted odds ratio [AOR] = 3.83),

neglect (AOR = 7.60) and overall ACE exposure (AOR = 2.67)."

Yang Q, Þórðardóttir EB, Hauksdóttir A, et. al.

Association between adverse childhood experiences and premenstrual disorders: a cross-sectional analysis of 11,973 women.

BMC Med. 2022 Feb 21;20(1):60. PMID: [35184745](#)

From a large national survey of Icelandic women, mean age 34.0 years, 27% met probably criteria for PMD (pre-menstrual disorders) - 21% PMS (pre-menstrual syndrome) and 6% for PMDD (pre-menstrual dysphoric disorder). PMDs were positively linearly associated with number of ACEs, with PMDs 2.46 times more likely in women with 4+ ACEs compared to those with 0 ACEs.

Daníelsdóttir HB, Aspelund T, Thordardottir EB, et. al.

Adverse childhood experiences and resilience among adult women: A population-based study.

Elife. 2022 Feb 1;11:e71770. PMID: [35101173](#)

From a large study of Icelandic female adults aged 18-69, number of ACEs was inversely associated with adult resilience in a dose-dependent manner. "Specific ACEs including emotional neglect, bullying, sexual abuse and mental illness of household member were consistently associated with reduced adult resilience. We observed only slightly attenuated associations after controlling for adult socioeconomic factors and social support in adulthood... indicating that adult resilience may be largely determined in childhood."

Bellis MA, Hughes K, Ford K, et. al.

Associations between adverse childhood experiences, attitudes towards COVID-19 restrictions and vaccine hesitancy: a cross-sectional study.

BMJ Open. 2022 Feb 1;12(2):e053915. PMID: [35105582](#)

For 2285 Welsh adults, "Increasing ACE counts were independently related to low trust in NHS [National Health Service] COVID-19 information, feeling unfairly restricted by government, and ending mandatory face coverings. High ACE counts (4+ vs 0 ACEs) were also associated with supporting removal of social distancing. Breaking COVID-19 restrictions increased with ACE count with likelihood doubling from no ACEs to 4+ ACEs. Vaccine hesitancy was threefold higher with 4+ ACEs (vs 0 ACEs) and higher in younger age groups...ACEs are common across populations of many countries. Understanding how they impact trust in health advice and uptake of medical interventions could play a critical role in the continuing response to COVID-19 and controlling future pandemics."

Kisely S, Strathearn L, Najman JM.

Self-reported and agency-notified child abuse as a contributor to health anxiety in a population-based birth cohort study at 30-year-follow-up.

J Acad Consult Liaison Psychiatry. 2022 Feb 14:S2667-2960(22)00016-7. PMID: [35176517](#)

Health anxiety is the worry of having an illness (older term hypochondriasis). For 2458 Australian adults with data on health anxiety, "Self-reported childhood maltreatment of all types showed significant associations with increased health anxiety..Effects were strongest in women."

Roberts AL, Zafonte R, Chibnik LB, et. al.

Association of Adverse Childhood Experiences With Poor Neuropsychiatric Health and Dementia Among Former Professional US Football Players.

JAMA Netw Open. 2022 Mar 1;5(3):e223299. PMID: [35315919](#)

"Of 1755 former professional US football players, ACEs were associated with a positive dementia screening result. Players with at least 4 ACEs were 48% more likely to have a positive finding on a dementia screen and were at greater risk of poor cognition-related quality of life, pain, and depression compared with players with no ACEs." From a commentary, this article "makes a strong addition to the literature that athletes with a history of psychological trauma or a mental health disorder are at greater risk of psychological manifestations of concussion compared with athletes without such history – 'athletes injure the brain they have'." [Consider the implications for women with ACEs and IPV concussion...]

Adolescents

Aytur SA, Carlino S, Bernard F, West K, Dobrzycki V, Malik R. **Social-ecological theory, substance misuse, adverse childhood experiences, and adolescent suicidal ideation: Applications for community-academic partnerships.**

J Community Psychol. 2022 Jan;50(1):265-284. PMID: [33942321](#)

In a 2015 survey of New Hampshire 9-12 grade students, the prevalence of suicidal ideation was 15.4% (girls 20.15%, boys 10.67%), and higher ACE scores were associated with a 61% increased risk of suicidality. Protective factors included parental support, good grades, physical activity and community service. Authors show a concept of academic and community partnership impacting community services and legal policy regarding risk and protective behavioral factors.

Teplin LA, Potthoff LM, Aaby DA, et. al.

Prevalence, Comorbidity, and Continuity of Psychiatric Disorders in a 15-Year Longitudinal Study of Youths Involved in the Juvenile Justice System.

JAMA Pediatr. 2021 Jul 1;175(7):e205807. PMID: [33818599](#)

Of 1829 randomly selected teens in an Illinois juvenile justice facility and followed for 15 years, "64% of males and 35% of females with a psychiatric disorder during detention had a disorder 15 years later...persistent psychiatric disorders may complicate the transition from adolescence to adulthood."

Parks MJ, Roesler J, Menanteau B, Raguet M, Eisenberg ME. **The Intersection of Depressive Symptoms, Adverse Childhood Experiences, and Protective Factors Among Adolescents: Epidemiological Evidence from Minnesota, 2016 and 2019.**

Advers Resil Sci. 2022 Jan 26:1-16. PMID: [35098150](#)

From surveys of students in 8, 9, and 11th grades in Minnesota, "Depressive symptoms are highest among adolescents with high risk [4+ ACEs] and few protective factors, and recent increases in the prevalence of depressive symptoms appear to have disproportionately occurred among these adolescents."

Dubowitz H, Roesch S, Lewis T, et. al.

Neglect in Childhood, Problem Behavior in Adulthood.

J Interpers Violence. 2022 Feb 13:8862605211067008. PMID: [35156437](#)

For 473 participants in a long-term study now at age 23.8 years, "High-risk youth experiencing neglect beginning in mid-adolescence appear especially vulnerable to later criminal behavior, psychological distress, and IPAV [intimate partner aggression and violence]. Those working with such youth can help ensure that their needs are adequately met, to prevent or mitigate problems in adulthood."

Domestic Violence – Effects on Children

Martín-de-Las-Heras S, Khan KS, Velasco C, et. al.

Propensity score analysis of psychological intimate partner violence and preterm birth.

Sci Rep. 2022 Feb 21;12(1):2942. PMID: [35190645](#)

For 779 pregnant women in 15 public hospitals in Spain, preterm birth occurred in 7.3% of pregnancies. Psychological IPV, experienced by 21% of mothers, was associated with a 2.4 times increased risk of preterm birth.

Grasso DJ.

A Trauma-Informed Approach to Assessment, Case Conceptualization, and Treatment Planning for Youth Exposed to Intimate Partner Violence.

J Health Serv Psychol. 2022 Jan 28;1-9. PMID: [35106481](#)

“Children's exposure to intimate partner violence (IPV) is a prevalent public health problem that can result in serious mental health impairments...IPV early in life has also been described as a 'gateway exposure' to other forms of adversity and trauma. Children and families impacted by IPV have complex needs that complicate assessment and intervention. This paper highlights these issues and reviews best practices in assessment, case conceptualization, and treatment planning.”

Hong JS, Kim J, Lee JJ, Yoshihama M, Espelage DL, Voisin DR.
Sex Differences in the Pathways from Exposure to Parental Fighting to Risky Sexual Activities Among Adolescents in Urban Neighborhoods.

Matern Child Health J. 2022 Feb;26(2):424-433. PMID: [34655424](#)

From a survey of 673 adolescents from Chicago's South Side, exposure to parental fighting was not directly associated with risky sexual activities for either males or females. However, exposure to parental fighting was significantly and positively related to internalizing behaviors [actions that harm a person themselves vs. harming others] and running away from home.”

Muri K, Augusti EM, Bjørnholt M, Hafstad GS.

Childhood Experiences of Companion Animal Abuse and its Co-Occurrence with Domestic Abuse: Evidence from a National Youth Survey in Norway.

J Interpers Violence. 2022 Feb 12;8862605211072176. PMID: [35156447](#)

For 9240 Norwegian adolescents aged 12-16 years surveyed at school, 4% reported ever witnessing a parent being violent towards a family companion animal, and 1% had experienced an adult in the household threaten to harm a companion animal. There was a substantial overlap between companion animal abuse and child abuse and other forms of domestic abuse.

Domestic Violence – Physical Health

Sánchez-Guzmán MA, Paz-Rodríguez F, et. al.

Intimate Partner Violence in Persons With Parkinson's Disease.

J Interpers Violence. 2022 Feb;37(3-4):1732-1748. PMID: [32779513](#)

“We used a survey, in-depth interviews, and focus groups in 20 dyads of caregivers and patients. 60% of persons with PD [Parkinson's Disease] and 45% of caregivers reported receiving violence from the other. We describe three typologies of violence in PD: (a) disease and history of violence, (b) disease as a buffer of violence, and (c) the burden of disease as an inductor of violence. Previous relationships and the couple's biographical trajectories influence the types of violence and its nature.”

Madden K, Sprague S, Petrisor B, et. al.

Intimate Partner Violence During Recovery from an Orthopaedic Injury.

J Bone Joint Surg Am. 2022 Mar 16;104(6):512-522. PMID: [35041623](#)

“Orthopaedic injuries may lead to an increased incidence of intimate partner violence (IPV) during recovery as people dependent on others' help are at a higher risk for abuse.” Of 250 female participants from 6 orthopedic fracture clinics in Canada, Netherlands, Spain, and Finland, 32.4% disclosed lifetime IPV at their initial visit, and 12.4% disclosed IPV during follow-up visits. Disclosure of IPV at either time point was associated with a 32% decreased likelihood of returning to a pre-injury level of function; participants disclosing IPV also had a lower health-related quality of life.

Domestic Violence – Mental Health

Scott-Storey K, O'Donnell S, Ford-Gilboe M, et. al.

What About the Men? A Critical Review of Men's Experiences of Intimate Partner Violence.

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2022 Jan 30;15248380211043827. PMID: [35094633](#)

“Current knowledge about types, tactics, and patterns of IPV against men and the health and social consequences of IPV are addressed. Additionally, the conceptual and empirical limitations of current research are discussed, including the tendency to compare only the prevalence rates of abuse among women versus men; the use of IPV measures not designed to capture men's conceptualizations of IPV; and the lack of attention given to sex and gender identity of both the victim and perpetrator. Future research priorities...are identified.”

Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse

Benbow SM, Bhattacharyya S, Kingston P, Peisah C.
Invisible and at-risk: older adults during the COVID-19 pandemic.

J Elder Abuse Negl. 2022 Jan-Feb;34(1):70-76. PMID: [34913852](#)

“During the COVID-19 pandemic the risks to older adults of systemic abuse and neglect have become amplified, alongside increasing abuse and neglect in the community. Novel risks have also evolved involving cybercrime and the use of remote technologies in health and social care related to the pandemic [such as technical support scams and Covid safety-related products at astronomical prices]. This commentary brings together lessons to be learned from these developments and initial ideas for actions to mitigate future risks.”

Obst P, Murray K, Walbank S, Kelly R, Brazel D.
Experiences of abuse in Australian family carers and predictors of mental health and well-being.

Health Soc Care Community. 2022 Feb;30(2):476-487. PMID: [32857450](#)

Of 405 Australian caregivers of elderly or disabled adults, “Over 40% of respondents reported having experienced abuse by the person they cared for, with the most common form of abuse being verbal abuse (35%) and physical abuse (14%). The experience of abuse was related to poorer mental health and a lower reported quality of life. Financial stress, lack of support, and the negative impacts of care-giving were also significantly associated with mental health and well-being outcomes.”

Fisher K, Watson J, Willis JL, et. al.
Collective Perceptions of Aging and Older Persons Held by Students From Eight Healthcare Professions.

J Appl Gerontol. 2022 Mar;41(3):855-866. PMID: [34958243](#)
From surveys and interviews with 864 students from 8 healthcare professions (HCP), “This study provides rich narrative examples of HCP students’ perceptions and understanding of the aging process, as well as myths and misconceptions of aging and older persons that can be used to inform geriatric curricula...Earlier intervention with exposure, mentoring, and modeling via positive educator and preceptor attitudes may be necessary to generate positive attitudes. Geriatric training and education programs are critical avenues to correct misperceptions, quell ageism, and address the current shortage in the geriatrician workforce.”

Johnson MJ, Fertel H.

Elder Abuse.

2022 Feb 22. In: StatPearls [Internet]. Treasure Island (FL): StatPearls Publishing; 2022 Jan. PMID: [32809718](#)

Brief review of physical, emotional and sexual abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation of elders.

Sexual Assault

Krebs C, Lindquist CH, Langton L, et. al.

The Value and Validity of Self-Reported Survey Data on the Rape Experiences of College Students.

Violence Against Women. 2022 Feb

21:10778012221079372. PMID: [35188846](#)

This article compares Campus Climate Survey Validation Study (CCSVS) data to Clery Act data (reported by college campuses) for 9 colleges. Results show a general agreement of Clery Act data – rapes occurring on campus and reported to authorities are about the same for both. However, they also show that reported data is only a small portion of college students’ life experiences of rape.

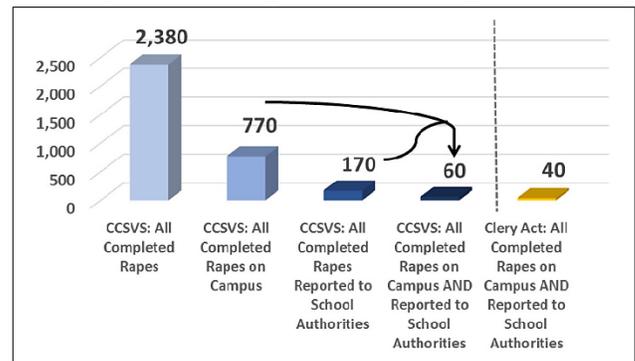


Figure 1. Comparison of the number of rapes identified in the Campus Climate Survey Validation Study (CCSVS) and the Clery Act data.

Cary KM, Reid TA, PettyJohn ME, Maas MK, McCauley HL.
"They are Assuming That We are Going to Accuse Them of Rape, and We are Assuming That They are Going to Rape us": A Developmental Perspective on Emerging Adults' Consent Conversations Post #MeToo.

J Interpers Violence. 2022 Feb 10:8862605211072181. PMID: [35143737](#)

From interviews with 34 midwestern college students, “Consent is introduced in childhood, outside the context of sexuality, but is generally not revisited within the context of sexual consent by parents or educators during adolescence, leaving media messaging and socialized sexual scripts to serve as guides for sexual consent. This lack of sexual consent education in adolescence then leaves emerging adults unprepared for nuanced sexual experiences in the college context.”

Claydon EA, Davidov DM, DeFazio C, et. al.

The Relationship Between Sexual Assault, Intimate Partner Violence, and Eating Disorder Symptomatology Among College Students.

Violence Vict. 2022 Feb 1;37(1):63-76. PMID: [35165160](#)

For 1580 college students, those reporting a history of sexual assault were 2.5 times more likely to have a positive eating disorder assessment, and a history of IPV also increased odds of eating disorder. Results did not differ based on gender.

Champion AR, Oswald F, Khera D, Pedersen CL.

Examining the Gendered Impacts of Technology-Facilitated Sexual Violence: A Mixed Methods Approach.

Arch Sex Behav. 2022 Apr;51(3):1607-1624. PMID: [35182285](#)

“Technology-facilitated sexual violence (TFSV) is defined broadly as unwanted or unwelcome sexual behavior involving the use of technology, including online sexual/gender/sexuality-based harassment, online image-based abuse (known as “revenge porn”), and online sexual aggression/coercion (known as “sextortion”). From an online survey of 333 adults mean age 33.91 years, 63% women, “We found that victims of TFSV experienced anxiety, stress, depression, loss of control, mistrust, multiple victimizations, poor academic/occupation functioning, problematic alcohol consumption, embarrassment, and online behavior changes (e.g., limiting personal information online) due to TFSV victimization” for both men and women.

Dardis CM, Richards EC.

Nonconsensual Distribution of Sexually Explicit Images Within a Context of Coercive Control: Frequency, Characteristics, and Associations with Other Forms of Victimization.

Violence Against Women. 2022 Feb 10;10778012221077126. PMID: [35139710](#)

Of 496 undergraduates, 17.34% reported nonconsensual distribution of sexually explicit images (NCD); 90.70% were women. Women who reported NCD from current/former partners reported more additional interpersonal violence from the same perpetrator. “NCD appears to occur within a pattern of elevated violence; prevention and intervention efforts are needed.”

Human Trafficking

Nichols AJ, Gerassi LB, Gilbert K, Taylor E.

Provider challenges in responding to re-trafficking of juvenile justice-involved domestic minor sex trafficking survivors.

Child Abuse Negl. 2022 Feb 1;126:105521. PMID: [35121439](#)

From interviews with 35 social service and justice system practitioners working with domestic minor sex trafficking survivors in the Midwest, “their ability to provide care to minors returning to trafficking situations was limited because of their informal authority in the juvenile justice system, inaccessibility of residential therapeutic care and drug treatment, and punitive measures directed toward parents seeking assistance from Children's Division...without effective interventions, minors typically exit a re-trafficking situation only after experiencing emotional distress, extreme violence, pregnancy or birth, or contracting a sexually-transmitted infection.”

LGBTQ Concerns

Edwards KM, Scheer JR, Littleton H, Mullet N.

Preventing adverse childhood experiences among sexual and gender minority youth: A call to action.

J Gay Lesbian Ment Health. 2021;25(4):355-357. PMID: [35173826](#)

“Over half of SGMY [sexual and gender minority youth] report familial emotional neglect and nearly one in four SGMY report physical abuse by a caregiver. Some forms of ACEs are specific to SGMY, such as family rejection of youth’s sexual orientation and/or gender identity, as well as caregiver-initiated sexual orientation change efforts. There is an urgent need to develop evidence-based programs to prevent family-based ACEs in SGMY.”

Race/Cultural Concerns

Hulley J, Bailey L, Kirkman G, et. al.

Intimate Partner Violence and Barriers to Help-Seeking Among Black, Asian, Minority Ethnic and Immigrant Women: A Qualitative Metasynthesis of Global Research.

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2022 Feb 2;15248380211050590. PMID: [35107333](#)

Of Black, Asian, minority ethnic and immigrant women with experience of intimate partner violence, “these women faced additional barriers as a result of institutional racism, immigration laws, culture and religion, issues of cultural competence, and lack of diversity within frontline services. Such barriers...exacerbate feelings of fear, threat, isolation and powerlessness. The barriers were also further weaponised by perpetrators.” Facilitators to help-seeking are discussed.

Harlow SD, Burnett-Bowie SM, Greendale GA, et. al.
Disparities in Reproductive Aging and Midlife Health between Black and White women: The Study of Women's Health Across the Nation (SWAN).

Womens Midlife Health. 2022 Feb 8;8(1):3. PMID: [35130984](#)
 "This paper reviews differences in the experience of the menopause transition and midlife health outcomes between Black and White women who participated in the Study of Women's Health Across the Nation (SWAN), a 25-year, longitudinal, multi-racial/ethnic cohort study...and elucidates the contextual factors that are likely influencing these disparities. We review the strengths and weaknesses of SWAN's design and approach to analysis of racial disparities and...offer recommendations for future cohort studies."

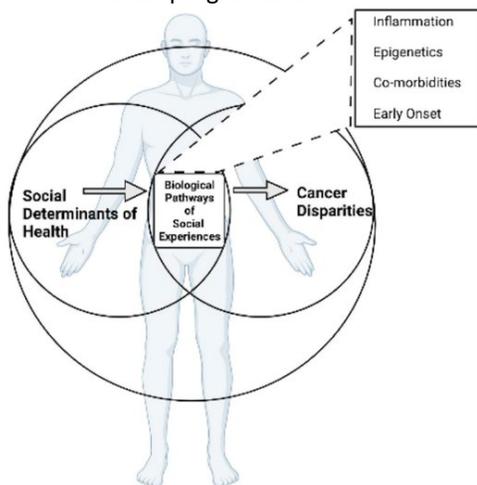
Table 3 Health Burden of Black and White Women at Cohort Enrollment: Study of Women's Health Across the Nation, 1996–1997

	Black Women	White Women
Poor self-reported health ^a	16.2%	6.6%
Obese (>= 30 kg/m ²) ^a	51.3%	31.0%
Diabetes Mellitus ^b	10.7%	4.0%
Metabolic Syndrome ^b	26.2%	18.4%
Hypertension ^b	36.9%	16.2%
Allostatic Load (mean) ^c	3.7	2.3

Valencia CI, Gachupin FC, Molina Y, Batai K.
Interrogating Patterns of Cancer Disparities by Expanding the Social Determinants of Health Framework to Include Biological Pathways of Social Experiences.

Int J Environ Res Public Health. 2022 Feb 21;19(4):2455. PMID: [35206642](#)

"Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) populations experience more negative outcomes across the cancer Continuum." Authors discuss a combined model of social determinants of health with disparities throughout the lifespan that "may contribute to disproportionate tumorigenesis and tumor progression."



Peddireddy SR, Austin AE, Gottfredson NC.
Factors contributing to level and type of child welfare involvement following prenatal substance exposure.

Child Abuse Negl. 2022 Mar;125:105484. PMID: [35032823](#)

In a research review of how CPS agencies handle prenatal substance exposure (PSE), "factors such as socioeconomic status, race, and substance type were associated with outcomes...Child welfare agencies use an unsystematic approach in addressing PSE, contributing to a variation in child welfare outcomes and potentially allowing for bias." Authors highlight a need for increased guidance.

Collins JW Jr, David RJ.

Black Babies Matter.

Clin Perinatol. 2022 Mar;49(1):93-101. PMID: [35210011](#)

"Despite dramatic advancements in neonatal intensive care since the 1960s, African-American infants still have more than a two-fold higher first-year mortality rate than non-Latinx White infants." Authors discuss the impact of racism and social class in the United States on the "African-American women's birth outcome disadvantage".

Sjöberg M, Sarwar F.

Two Sides of the Same Coin: The Relationship Between Modern Racism and Rape Blaming Attitudes among Swedish Students and Community Members.

Psychol Rep. 2022 Feb;125(1):545-564. PMID: [33308009](#)

Of 211 Swedish community participants as well as 200 college students who were surveyed after reading a rape vignette, there was significant positive correlation between modern racism and rape victim blame. Modern racism also had a significant negative relationship with perpetrator blame and rape perception. Authors discuss implications for the criminal justice system.

Treder K, White KO, Woodhams E, et. al.

Racism and the Reproductive Health Experiences of U.S.-Born Black Women.

Obstet Gynecol. 2022 Mar 1;139(3):407-416. PMID: [35115434](#)

"Participants (N=21) were 21-45 years old and from Boston, Chicago, and Atlanta...Anti-Black racism in the reproductive health care system included absence of shared decision making; stereotyping, invalidation, and dismissal by reproductive health professionals; and medical mistrust. Participants guarded themselves against racism within health care with a variety of self-protective actions including seeking a health care professional of color, overpreparing for their appointments, enlisting advocates, seeking care only when desperate, and heightening symptoms to be heard."

Sperlich M, Gabriel C.

"I got to catch my own baby": a qualitative study of out of hospital birth.

Reprod Health. 2022 Feb 14;19(1):43. PMID: [35164785](#)

18 women who chose out-of-home birth or unattended birth were interviewed. "Previous trauma and experiences of discrimination were influential factors for women in the study sample in their choice of birthplace setting and choice of provider...and because it affords more control during the process of giving birth...Learning from mothers who have rejected the healthcare system as a safe system in which to give birth can help all of us reflect on and improve care."

Scarlett W.

The Hippocratic Oath Does Not Cover Racism: How Do We React When Ethical and Moral Issues Arise with Our Physician Colleagues?

J Am Coll Surg. 2022 Mar 1;234(3):395-397. PMID: [35213504](#)

Author brings up dilemmas occurring when a physician with extensive racist/homophobic media posts applies for hospital credentialing – most hospitals do not check social media, and do not have procedural guidelines covering this scenario.

Perpetrators

Ganson KT, Jackson DB, Testa A, Nagata JM.

Performance-Enhancing Substance Use and Intimate Partner Violence: A Prospective Cohort Study.

J Interpers Violence. 2022 Feb 4;8862605211073097. PMID: [35119318](#)

Using data from a large national adolescent to adult health study, the use of anabolic-androgenic steroids was associated with significantly increased risk of IPV victimization as well as IPV physical and sexual perpetration.

Police and Court Systems

Neufeld MY, Poulson M, Sanchez SE, Siegel MB.

State firearm laws and nonfatal firearm injury-related inpatient hospitalizations: A nationwide panel study.

J Trauma Acute Care Surg. 2022 Mar 1;92(3):581-587. PMID: [34711793](#)

From a data analysis of all 50 states over 17 years, state laws related to preventing violent offenders from possessing firearms were associated with firearm injury-related hospitalization rate reductions – 19.9% reduction for removal of

firearms for violent misdemeanors, and 17.0% reduction for removal of firearms of DV offenders.

Maple E, Kebbell M.

Responding to Domestic and Family Violence: A Qualitative Study on the Changing Perceptions of Frontline Police Officers.

Violence Against Women. 2021 Oct;27(12-13):2377-2398. PMID: [33357013](#)

From interviews with 16 Australian police officers as first responders to domestic and family violence, "Officers expressed a desire to help people and reported personal growth through increased interpersonal skills and open-mindedness, but many also became disillusioned. Officers highlighted futility, paperwork, and scrutiny of their actions as factors that inhibited their ability to cope. The findings imply that although officers' competence may increase, their well-being and capacity to do their job effectively and compassionately may become impaired."

Providers

Shonkoff JP, Boyce WT, Levitt P, Martinez FD, McEwen B.

Leveraging the Biology of Adversity and Resilience to Transform Pediatric Practice.

Pediatrics. 2021 Feb;147(2):e20193845. PMID: [33495367](#)

"Building on growing public awareness of the impact of early experiences on the developing brain, pediatricians are well positioned to drive an expanded understanding of how the interactive influences of genetic predispositions, physical and social environments, and developmental timing affect the foundations of both school readiness and lifelong health." Recommendations are made at both the practice and population level.

Steen M, Raynor J, Baldwin CD, Jee SH.

Child Adversity and Trauma-Informed Care Teaching Interventions: A Systematic Review.

Pediatrics. 2022 Feb 15:e2021051174. PMID: [35165742](#)

This review "described curricula on ACEs, TIC, and child maltreatment taught to health care professionals and trainees. The curricula varied widely in breadth, duration, and quality...pediatric providers need to learn to exercise caution in screening children for ACEs, to avoid creating a self-fulfilling 'expectancy effect' that labels a high-risk child as likely to have poor outcomes. Good teaching will give the next generation of health care professionals foundational knowledge to address ACEs proactively and implement effective TIC to improve the lives of children."

Loveday S, Hall T, Constable L, et. al.

Screening for Adverse Childhood Experiences in Children: A Systematic Review.

Pediatrics. 2022 Feb 1;149(2):e2021051884. PMID: [35104358](#)

From a review of ACEs screening studies, authors conclude that “Screening for ACEs increases identification of adversity and may increase referrals to services. There are limited data about whether this leads to an increase in referral uptake by families. There are no reported data addressing mental health outcomes.”

Wamser-Nanney R, Campbell CL.

Correlates of caregiver's help seeking behavior among young maltreated children.

Child Abuse Negl. 2022 Apr;126:105520. PMID: [35091133](#)

For 448 six-year-old maltreated children, the child's level of behavioral challenges, caregiver's level of education, and caregiver's depression significantly contributed to decisions regarding seeking mental health consultation for the child. Cumulative maltreatment and individual types of maltreatment were not tied to help-seeking behavior.

Mudrick NR, Blackwell J, Watts C, et. al.

How do States Inform Nurses of Their Policies for Mandatory Reporting of Child Maltreatment?

Policy Polit Nurs Pract. 2022 Feb 16:15271544211072843.

PMID: [35171056](#)

From a state-by-state analysis of websites on appropriately identifying and reporting suspected child abuse or neglect, authors found that states provide little guidance or education about their child maltreatment laws, and few have resources targeted for nurses. “States should consider adding mandatory reporting training as a requirement for nursing licensure and for continuing education.”

Loza-Avalos SE, Thompson E, Beulah B, Murray A.

What Are We Missing?: Evaluating an Intimate Partner Violence Screening Program in a Pediatric Emergency Department.

Pediatr Emerg Care. 2022 Feb 1;38(2):e462-e467. PMID:

[35100751](#)

“Our study sought to explore and assess pediatric emergency department (ED) health care providers' knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors surrounding an existing intimate partner violence (IPV) screening program 4 years after initial implementation...more research must be done to assess root causes of provider barriers to IPV screening in pediatric ED settings because trainings and a long-standing program do not seem to be changing screening practices.”

Smid MC, Terplan M.

What Obstetrician-Gynecologists Should Know About Substance Use Disorders in the Perinatal Period.

Obstet Gynecol. 2022 Feb 1;139(2):317-337. PMID:

[34991147](#)

“Substance use in pregnancy is common; nearly one of five of pregnant individuals have past-month nicotine, alcohol, or illicit substance use, and more than one in 10 meet criteria for a substance use disorder (SUD). Substance use disorders are among the most stigmatized and poorly understood medical conditions, particularly in the perinatal period...We provide a review of maternal, fetal, and child effects of the most common substances and their respective treatment recommendations, so that ob-gyns can incorporate basic addiction management into their daily practice.”

Shrim E, Baum N.

Treating Sex Offenders: Effects on Male and Female Therapists.

J Interpers Violence. 2022 Feb;37(3-4):NP1733-NP1758.

PMID: [32552171](#)

From interviews with 18 Israeli social workers acting as probation officers who diagnose and treat sex offenders, “male and female probation officers working with sex offenders experienced anxiety, suspicion, and concern for their children's safety...In addition to not receiving support from their colleagues and partners, they experienced loneliness and attacks ‘from the inside and from the outside,’ expressed in criticism, loathing, and disgust in relation to their work.” Authors make recommendations for support.

Fávero M, Moreira D, Abreu B, et. al.

Psychological intervention with adult victims of sexual abuse: A comprehensive review.

Clin Psychol Psychother. 2022 Jan;29(1):62-80. PMID:

[33844370](#)

From a research review, authors note the efficacy of 12 different types of treatments for adult victims of childhood sexual abuse, and the need for further research on effective interventions. “Most child sexual abuse victims at some point in their lives have symptoms ranging from moderate to severe. When the aggressor is intrafamilial and/or penetration is present, the consequences are more severe and chronic. Psychological interventions are generally effective in reducing symptoms caused by child sexual abuse.”

Draughon Moret J, Todd A, Rose L, Pollitt E, Anderson J.
Mobile Phone Apps for Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Prevention and Response: Systematic Search on App Stores.

JMIR Form Res. 2022 Feb 8;6(2):e28959. PMID: [35133285](#)

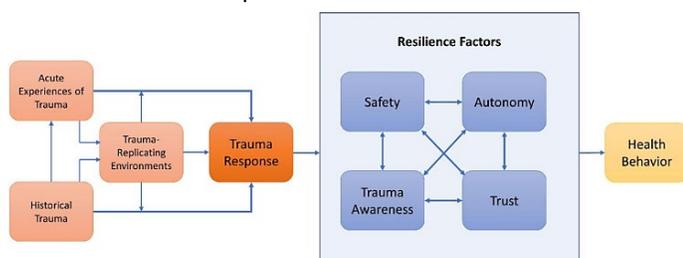
“Although there are a variety of mobile apps available designed to provide information or other services related to SV and IPV, they range greatly in quality. They are also challenging to find...It is important for providers to be aware of these resources and be knowledgeable about how to review and recommend mobile phone apps to patients, when appropriate.”

Prevention

Marks C, Pearson JL, Zúñiga ML, Martin N, Werb D, Smith LR.
Articulating the Trauma-Informed Theory of Individual Health Behavior.

Stress Health. 2022 Feb;38(1):154-162. PMID: [34009751](#)

“The Trauma-Informed Theory of Individual Health Behavior (TTB) posits that individual capacity to undertake intentional health-promoting behaviour change is dependent on three factors: (1) the forms and severity of trauma they have been and are exposed to, (2) how this trauma physiologically manifests (i.e., the trauma response) and (3) resilience to undertake behaviour change despite this trauma response. We define each of these factors and their relationships to one another...TTB holds the potential to help researchers and policymakers better understand and intervene on the harms of trauma, and to ultimately support the development of interventions to reduce health behaviour disparities.”



Boyce WT, Levitt P, Martinez FD, McEwen BS, Shonkoff JP.
Genes, Environments, and Time: The Biology of Adversity and Resilience.

Pediatrics. 2021 Feb;147(2):e20201651. PMID: [33495368](#)

“We identify 4 core concepts that provide a powerful catalyst for fresh thinking about primary health care for young children: (1) all biological systems are inextricably integrated, continuously ‘reading’ and adapting to the environment and

‘talking back’ to the brain and each other through highly regulated channels of cross-system communication; (2) adverse environmental exposures induce alterations in developmental trajectories that can lead to persistent disruptions of organ function and structure; (3) children vary in their sensitivity to context, and this variation is influenced by interactions among genetic factors, family and community environments, and developmental timing; and (4) critical or sensitive periods provide unmatched windows of opportunity for both positive and negative influences on multiple biological systems. These rapidly moving frontiers of investigation provide a powerful framework for new, science-informed thinking about health promotion and disease prevention in the early childhood period.”

Qu G, Ma S, Liu H, et. al.

Positive childhood experiences can moderate the impact of adverse childhood experiences on adolescent depression and anxiety: Results from a cross-sectional survey.

Child Abuse Negl. 2022 Mar;125:105511. PMID: [35078091](#)

For 6363 Chinese elementary and middle school children, “there was a significant positive dose-response relationship between cumulative ACEs exposure and risk of depression and anxiety. There was an inverse dose-response relationship between cumulative PCEs (positive childhood experiences) exposure and risk of depression. Adolescents with low ACEs (<4 counts) and high PCEs (6-7 counts) exposure showed significant lower risk of depression.”

Martin Romero MY, Gonzalez LM, Stein GL, et. al.

Coping (together) with hate: Strategies used by Mexican-origin families in response to racial-ethnic discrimination.

J Fam Psychol. 2022 Feb;36(1):3-12. PMID: [33661688](#)

From a focus group of 17 Mexican-origin adolescents and their parents, “strategies to deal with racial-ethnic discrimination included (a) reframing (with pride) and ignoring an encounter, (b) standing up for oneself, (c) talking issues out, (d) problem-solving together, and (e) protection tactics. These findings provide evidence for the ways in which Mexican-origin families help adolescents cope with racial-ethnic discrimination and offer a glimpse as to how adolescents may help their families cope as well.”

Researchers

Lombard PK, Cronholm PF, Forke CM.

Practical Guidance for Using Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Data: Merging States and Scoring Adverse Childhood Experiences.

Am J Prev Med. 2022 Feb 1;S0749-3797(22)00002-2. PMID: [35120769](#)

“The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System is a national health-related survey with an optional adverse childhood experience (ACE) module. States use varying methodologies, question formats, and sampling frames, and little guidance exists for conducting multistate explorations of adverse childhood experiences. In this study, 6 adverse childhood experience scoring approaches are compared, and practical recommendations are offered for when and how each approach can be utilized most effectively.”

Zurca AD, Suttle ML, October TW.

An Antiracism Approach to Conducting, Reporting, and Evaluating Pediatric Critical Care Research.

Pediatr Crit Care Med. 2022 Feb 1;23(2):129-132. PMID: [35119430](#)

“In this Special Article for Pediatric Critical Care Medicine, we introduce an antiracism approach to conducting, reporting, and evaluating pediatric critical care research. We propose four recommendations: 1) race and ethnicity are social constructs that should be evaluated as such, with researchers considering the context and relevance of related social determinants of health; 2) race and ethnicity data should be collected with sufficient detail to allow detection of meaningful results and minimize the risk of overgeneralizing findings; 3) as health equity research evolves, the pediatric critical care research field must adapt and proactively strive for inclusivity; and 4) the research community, including investigators, authors, research ethics committees, funding organizations, professional organizations, and journal editorial boards, are all accountable for rigorously conducting and reporting race/ethnicity in research.”

Rozier MD, Patel KK, Cross DA.

Electronic Health Records as Biased Tools or Tools Against Bias: A Conceptual Model.

Milbank Q. 2022 Mar;100(1):134-150. PMID: [34812541b](#)

“Electronic health records (EHRs) are subject to the implicit bias of their designers, which risks perpetuating and amplifying that bias over time and across users. If left unchecked, the bias in the design of EHRs and the subsequent bias in EHR information will lead to disparities in clinical, organizational, and policy outcomes.” Authors explain “how elements of the EHR design (structure), use (process), and the

ends for which it is used (outcome) can first be used to evaluate where bias may become embedded in the system itself, but then also identify opportunities to resist and actively challenge bias.”

Other of Interest

Fonzo GA, Goodkind MS, Oathes DJ, et. al.

Amygdala and Insula Connectivity Changes Following Psychotherapy for Posttraumatic Stress Disorder: A Randomized Clinical Trial.

Biol Psychiatry. 2021 May 1;89(9):857-867. PMID: [33516458](#)

For 36 traumatized patients with PTSD receiving trauma-focused psychotherapy (prolonged exposure therapy), brain scans showed that treatment decreased the functional connectivity (traffic) between the areas of the brain relating to emotions and to logic/thinking, with a greater decrease in connectivity relating to a greater decrease in clinical symptoms.

Bremner JD, Wittbrodt MT, Gurel NZ, et. al.

Transcutaneous Cervical Vagal Nerve Stimulation in Patients with Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD): A Pilot Study of Effects on PTSD Symptoms and Interleukin-6 Response to Stress.

J Affect Disord Rep. 2021 Dec;6:100190. PMID: 34778863

The left and right Vagus nerves are the longest nerves of the autonomic nervous system, starting in the brain, going down through the neck near the carotid arteries, through the chest cavity and diaphragm and into the abdominal cavity. They modify, in a calming way, such activities as speaking, heart rate, respiratory rate, blood pressure, and bowel motility. Basically, Vagus nerve stimulation (VNS) increases parasympathetic nervous system activity, counterbalancing fight-or-flight stress responses. In this small pilot study, self-applied non-invasive nerve stimulation in the neck area resulted in a 31% greater reduction in PTSD symptoms (including arousal symptoms and anxiety) compared to sham treatment. The treatment also blocked an increase in IL-6 (inflammatory marker) when patients read personalized traumatic scripts. The FDA has recently fast-tracked two non-invasive VNS devices (on the neck and on the ear) for PTSD, but they have not yet been approved. These types of therapies may offer an addition to or an alternative for people who have various barriers or unwillingness to pursue medication or psychotherapy for PTSD. (Vagal-nerve stimulation can also be achieved by slow, deep breathing.)