

MEDICAL SUMMARY FOR SCC DVC MAY 2009

This summary includes selected articles indexed by the National Library of Medicine March 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

Frasier LD.

Abusive head trauma in infants and young children: a unique contributor to developmental disabilities.

Pediatr Clin North Am. 2008 Dec;55(6):1269-85 PMID: 19041457

Children who suffer traumatic brain injury due to abuse may seem normal at hospital discharge, but months or years later may reveal such impairments as: poor motor skills, decreased abilities with learning, intelligence, speech and language; vision impairment including blindness; epilepsy; and small brain size.

Schatz JN, Smith LE, Borkowski JG, Whitman TL, Keogh DA.

Maltreatment risk, self-regulation, and maladjustment in at-risk children.

Child Abuse Negl. 2008 Oct;32(10):972-82. PMID: 19004495

Maltreated children were less able to self regulate (self-soothe, control anger), which significantly predicted school behavior problems and decreased pre-academic skills.

AlJasser M, Al-Khenaizan S.

Cutaneous mimickers of child abuse: a primer for pediatricians.

Eur J Pediatr. 2008 Nov;167(11):1221-30. PMID: 18661148

Review, with many color pictures, of skin conditions which may mimic child abuse.

Thompson R, Wiley TR.

Predictors of re-referral to child protective services: a longitudinal follow-up of an urban cohort maltreated as infants.

Child Maltreat. 2009 Feb;14(1):89-99. PMID: 18923154

When approx. 150 abused children under the age of 18 months in an urban mid-western city were followed prospectively over 11-15 years, the major predictor of re-referral to CPS was not modifiable factors such as caregiver depression or substance use, but whether the initial report was of physical or sexual abuse as opposed to neglect alone.

Adult Manifestations of Child Abuse

Sunnqvist C, Westrin A, Träskman-Bendz L.

Suicide attempters: biological stressmarkers and adverse life events.

Eur Arch Psychiatry Clin Neurosci. 2008 Dec;258(8):456-62. PMID: 18574612

Stress hormones were evaluated in the spinal fluid and urine of 102 Swedish adults who had just attempted suicide. Significant differences (more stress markers) were found in patients who had experienced childhood sexual abuse, or childhood neglect, compared to those without an abuse history.

Hayatbakhsh MR, Najman JM, Jamrozik K, Mamun AA, O'Callaghan MJ, Williams GM.

Childhood sexual abuse and cannabis use in early adulthood: findings from an Australian birth cohort study.

Arch Sex Behav. 2009 Feb;38(1):135-42. PubMed PMID: 17665301

In a prospective study following 3285 Australian children to age 21, male children who had experienced childhood sexual abuse were 2.0 times, and female children 3.9 times, more likely to use marijuana frequently as young adults, despite individual or family modifying factors.

Domestic Violence – Physical Health

Geeraerts B, Van Oudenhove L, Fischler B, Vandenberghe J, Caenepeel P, Janssens J, Tack J.

Influence of abuse history on gastric sensorimotor function in functional dyspepsia.

Neurogastroenterol Motil. 2009 Jan;21(1):33-41. PMID: 18694440

Of 233 consecutive patients being evaluated for stomach indigestion, 42.4% had experienced childhood or adult physical or sexual abuse. Abused patients (compared to non-abused patients) felt significantly more pain during stomach distension tests, and had more problems with stomach muscle function.

Goldstein HB, Safaeian P, Garrod K, Finamore PS, Kellogg-Spadt S, Whitmore KE.

Depression, abuse and its relationship to interstitial cystitis.

Int Urogynecol J Pelvic Floor Dysfunct. 2008 Dec;19(12):1683-6. PMID: 18766291

Of 141 women with interstitial cystitis (bladder pain and frequency), 36% had experienced adult sexual assault (higher than general population).

Spitzer C, Barnow S, Wingenfeld K, Rose M, Löwe B, Grabe HJ.

Complex post-traumatic stress disorder in patients with somatization disorder.

Aust N Z J Psychiatry. 2009 Jan;43(1):80-6. PMID: 19085532

In this small study of 28 Australian patients with vague chronic physical symptoms (somatization), they were 15 times more likely to have complex PTSD from trauma than a matched control group.

Domestic Violence – Mental Health

Eberhard-Gran M, Slinning K, Eskild A.

Fear during labor: the impact of sexual abuse in adult life.

J Psychosom Obstet Gynaecol. 2008 Dec;29(4):258-61. PMID: 18608823

414 Norwegian women were asked 6 weeks after delivery how afraid they had been in labor. Those who expressed "extreme fear" were 11.9 times more likely to have been depressed during pregnancy, 7.1 times more likely to have had a difficult delivery, and 4.9 times more likely to have experienced adult sexual abuse (child sexual abuse was not asked about).

Covington SS, Burke C, Keaton S, Norcott C.

Evaluation of a trauma-informed and gender-responsive intervention for women in drug treatment.

J Psychoactive Drugs. 2008 Nov;Suppl 5:387-98. PMID: 19248396

55-99% of women with dual disorders of substance abuse and mental health problems have a history of trauma from abuse. More successful recovery is obtained with a "Women's Integrated Treatment" (WIT) program, with integrated, trauma-informed treatment services for addiction, mental health, and past/present abuse.

Sayers SL, Farrow VA, Ross J, Oslin DW.

Family problems among recently returned military veterans referred for a mental health evaluation.

J Clin Psychiatry. 2009 Feb;70(2):163-70. PMID: 19210950

'Three fourths of the married/cohabiting veterans reported some type of family problem in the past week, such as feeling like a guest in their household (40.7%), reporting their children acting afraid or not being warm toward them (25.0%), or being unsure about their family role (37.2%). Among veterans with current or recently separated partners, 53.7% reported conflicts involving "shouting, pushing, or shoving," and 27.6% reported that this partner was "afraid of them." Depression and posttraumatic stress disorder symptoms were both associated with higher rates of family reintegration problems.'

Cultural Issues

Bonomi AE, Anderson ML, Cannon EA, Slesnick N, Rodriguez MA.

Intimate partner violence in Latina and non-Latina women.

Am J Prev Med. 2009 Jan;36(1):43-48. PMID: 19095164

In a telephone survey of almost 3500 mid-western women with a mean age of 47, lifetime prevalence of IPV was the same for Latina and non-Latina women (44%). Abused Latinas had significantly worse subsequent mental health functioning than abused non-Latinas.

Nasrullah M, Haqqi S, Cummings KJ.

The epidemiological patterns of honour killing of women in Pakistan.

Eur J Public Health. 2009 Mar 13. PMID: 19286837

Honor killings in Pakistan were analyzed through newspaper reports 2004-2007, with a rate of 15.0 per million. 82% of the women were adults, 88% were married, and alleged extramarital relations was the major reason for the killing (92%). Known perpetrators included husbands (43%) and brothers (24%). Methods used were firearms (61%), axe or edged tool (20%), strangulation (9%), and stabbing (4%).

Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse

Lin LP, Yen CF, Kuo FY, Wu JL, Lin JD.

Sexual assault of people with disabilities: Results of a 2002-2007 national report in Taiwan.

Res Dev Disabil. 2009 Mar 6. PMID: 19269777

Review of a national database of sexual assault 2002-2007 in Taiwan revealed sexual abuse rates more than twice as high for disabled people than the general population, especially for persons with intellectual disability, chronic psychosis, and voice and speech impairments.

Peisah C, et al

International Psychogeriatric Association Task Force on Wills and Undue Influence. The wills of older people: risk factors for undue influence.

Int Psychogeriatr. 2009 Feb;21(1):7-15. Epub 2008 Dec 1. PubMed PMID: 19040788

Discussion of internationally acceptable red flags of undue influence in will making, including mental health issues, dependency, isolation, and family conflict.

Perpetrators

Rosen LN, Dragiewicz M, Gibbs JC.

Fathers' Rights Groups: Demographic Correlates and Impact on Custody Policy.

Violence Against Women. 2009 Mar 2. PMID: 19255420

Review of fathers' rights advocacy groups, with their themes of: representing domestic violence allegations as false, promoting presumptive joint custody and decreasing child support, and portraying women as perpetrators of domestic abuse.

Francis KJ, Wolfe DA.

Cognitive and emotional differences between abusive and non-abusive fathers.

Child Abuse Negl. 2008 Dec;32(12):1127-37. PMID: 19036447

24 abusive, as opposed to 25 non-abusive Canadian fathers, experienced and expressed more anger, had more mental health concerns, perceived more stress in parenting, and had significantly less empathy for their children.

De Paul J, Guibert M.

Empathy and child neglect: a theoretical model.

Child Abuse Negl. 2008 Nov;32(11):1063-71. PMID: 19013642

Theoretical model as to why parents may not experience emotions that motivate helping behaviors – either the child's signal of need does not motivate them, or they receive the signal but also have certain thoughts that modify the impulse to help. Different etiologies may need different strategies for improvement.

Foran HM, O'Leary KD.

Alcohol and intimate partner violence: a meta-analytic review.

Clin Psychol Rev. 2008 Oct;28(7):1222-34. PMID: 18550239

Some of the results of an exhaustive analysis of studies looking at IPV and alcohol abuse revealed that the odds of aggression were 8-11 times higher on days of drinking, and the rate of IPV by alcoholic males in the year prior to alcohol treatment was 50-60% compared to national sample at 12%.

Police and Court System

Berrick JD, Choi Y, D'Andrade A, Frame L.

Reasonable efforts? Implementation of the reunification bypass provision of ASFA.

Child Welfare. 2008;87(3):163-82. PMID: 19189809

Article examines 1055 cases and characteristics of parents relating to reunification bypass.

Sayfan L, Mitchell EB, Goodman GS, Eisen ML, Qin J.

Children's expressed emotions when disclosing maltreatment.

Child Abuse Negl. 2008 Nov;32(11):1026-36. PMID: 19090025

Analysis of 124 forensic interviews of abused children showed that contrary to (juror) expectation, 75% related their abuse with neutral affect (no obvious emotion), and 98% did not cry.

Lippert T, Cross TP, Jones L, Walsh W.

Telling interviewers about sexual abuse: predictors of child disclosure at forensic interviews.

Child Maltreat. 2009 Feb;14(1):100-13. PMID: 18832489

Children were more likely to fully disclose sexual abuse if they were female, older, had a supportive primary caregiver, and if their disclosure had initiated the investigation.

Quas JA, Wallin AR, Horwitz B, Davis E, Lyon TD.

Maltreated children's understanding of and emotional reactions to dependency court involvement.

Behav Sci Law. 2009;27(1):97-117. PubMed PMID: 19156680

Pre and post interviews were conducted with almost 100 children ages 4-17 in Los Angeles Dependency Court. The majority lacked full or accurate understanding of what had happened during the hearings. Distress was more related to time in the system than age. Article stresses need for more research in this area (research funded by government grant from Office of Child Abuse and Neglect, U.S. Dept of HHS).

Providers

Wiseman M.

The role of the dentist in recognizing elder abuse.

J Can Dent Assoc. 2008 Oct;74(8):715-20. PMID: 18845061

Although the management part reflects Canadian law, excellent review of elder abuse from a dental perspective – our aging population has significant issues with oral health, and may see a dentist twice a year.

Schneider A, Kanagarajan N, Anjelly D, Reynolds JC, Ahmad A.

Importance of gender, socioeconomic status, and history of abuse on patient preference for endoscopist.

Am J Gastroenterol. 2009 Feb;104(2):340-8. PMID: 19174794

Of 500 patients having elective upper or lower endoscopy (i.e. colonoscopy), both male and female patients who had a past history of abuse significantly preferred to have a female endoscopist.

Macy RJ, Ferron J, Crosby C.

Partner violence and survivors' chronic health problems: informing social work practice.

Soc Work. 2009 Jan;54(1):29-43. PMID: 19205255

Review of mental and physical health problems in survivors of IPV with regards to social services needs.

Dubowitz H, Feigelman S, Lane W, Kim J.

Pediatric primary care to help prevent child maltreatment: the Safe Environment for Every Kid (SEEK) Model.

Pediatrics. 2009 Mar;123(3):858-64. PMID: 19255014

A randomized trial in an academic pediatric primary care clinic showed a significant decrease in child maltreatment with a coordinated program of a parent risk questionnaire, and specially trained residents in conjunction with a clinic SW to address identified risks.

Cattaneo LB, DeLoveh HL.

The role of socioeconomic status in helpseeking from hotlines, shelters, and police among a national sample of women experiencing intimate partner violence.

Am J Orthopsychiatry. 2008 Oct;78(4):413-22. PMID: 19123762

In a national sample of over 1,000 women who had experienced IPV, women with higher income were less likely to contact a hotline, and were more likely to call police only if the IPV was severe.

Russell BS, Trudeau J, Britner PA.

Intervention type matters in primary prevention of abusive head injury: event history analysis results.

Child Abuse Negl. 2008 Oct;32(10):949-57. PMID: 18990448

Parental awareness of prevention of abusive head injury was most increased by a video showing alternative behaviors to crying, less so for a video with testimonials, and even less so for a pamphlet. [Another article recommended showing a video of this to parents before discharge of baby.]

Other of Interest

Roush K.

No one asked what happened.

Am J Nurs. 2009 Apr;109(4):11 PMID: 19325282

First hand report by RN about lack of sensitivity in asking about DV in an Emergency Room setting – “just wanting to check off a box”.