

ABUSE RESEARCH

Harise Stein, MD harise@stanford.edu
<http://abuseresearch.info/>

Child Abuse

Friedman LS, Sheppard S, Friedman D.

A retrospective cohort study of suspected child maltreatment cases resulting in hospitalization.

Injury. 2012 Nov;43(11):1881-7. PMID: [22901423](#)

In an extensive review of hospital charts of child maltreatment cases in Illinois during a 9 year period compared to a non-maltreated comparison group, maltreated children were 3 times more likely to die during hospitalization.

Sowrey L, Lawson KA, Garcia-Filion P, et. al.

Duodenal injuries in the very young: child abuse?

J Trauma Acute Care Surg. 2013 Jan;74(1):136-41.

PMID: [23271088](#)

Analyzing reported childhood duodenal injuries (injuries to first part of the small intestine), all of these injuries under age 2 and half over age 2 were due to abuse. The diagnosis was often delayed, 53% required surgery, and 12.5% died.

Bielas H, Jud A, Lips U, Reichenbach J, Landolt MA.

Increased number of activated T cells in lymphocyte subsets of maltreated children

J Psychosom Res. 2012 Oct;73(4):313-8. PMID:

[22980539](#)

Compared to matched controls, 27 healthy but maltreated Swiss children 1-3 years after intervention of CPS showed increased activation of certain immune cells.

Bechtel K.

Sudden unexpected infant death: differentiating natural from abusive causes in the emergency department.

Pediatr Emerg Care. 2012 Oct;28(10):1085-9. PMID:

[23034500](#)

Description for emergency personnel of collecting, evaluating and reporting the history and evidence helpful in differentiating sudden infant death from abusive vs. non-abusive causes.

Adult Manifestations of Child Abuse

Norman RE, Byambaa M, De R, Butchart A, Scott J, Vos T.

The long-term health consequences of child physical abuse, emotional abuse, and neglect: a systematic review and meta-analysis.

PLoS Med. 2012;9(11):e1001349. PMID: [23209385](#)

Analysis of research articles looking at effects of child abuse other than sexual abuse concluded that "All forms of child maltreatment should be considered important risks to health with a sizeable impact on major contributors to the burden of disease in all parts of the world."

Salter M, Richters J.

Organised abuse: a neglected category of sexual abuse with significant lifetime mental healthcare sequelae.

J Ment Health. 2012 Oct;21(5):499-508. PMID: [22978504](#)

"Organized abuse" where multiple adults conspire to sexually abuse multiple children is rare but associated with poor victim adult outcomes – prison, homelessness, chronically disabled by illness, or death.

Jakubczyk A, Klimkiewicz A, Mika K, et.al.

Psychosocial predictors of impulsivity in alcohol-dependent patients.

J Nerv Ment Dis. 2013 Jan;201(1):43-7. PMID: [23274294](#)

In this study of 304 alcohol-dependent Polish adults, childhood physical abuse was associated with increased impulsivity, which was a risk factor in the severity of the course of alcohol dependence.

Häuser W, Bohn D, Kühn-Becker H, et. al.

Is the association of self-reported childhood maltreatments and adult fibromyalgia syndrome attributable to depression? A case control study.

Clin Exp Rheumatol. 2012 Nov-Dec;30(6 Suppl 74):59-64.

PMID: [23137722](#)

For 153 German fibromyalgia patients, the association between various types of child abuse/neglect and fibromyalgia could fully or partially be explained by depression except for childhood sexual abuse, which remained an independent risk factor.

Roe-Sepowitz DE.

Juvenile entry into prostitution: the role of emotional abuse.

Violence Against Women. 2012 May;18(5):562-79. PMID: [22790558](#)

For 72 Arizona adult exiting sex workers, childhood emotional abuse contributed to younger age of entry into juvenile sexual exploitation.

Scott KM, Smith DA, Ellis PM.

A population study of childhood maltreatment and asthma diagnosis: differential associations between child protection database versus retrospective self-report.

Psychosom Med. 2012 Oct;74(8):817-23. PMID: [22879426](#)

Linking a New Zealand population survey to a national child protection database, and controlling for multiple factors, a history of documented child maltreatment was associated with a 2.26 times increased risk of an asthma diagnosis.

Adolescents

Exner-Cortens D, Eckenrode J, Rothman E.

Longitudinal associations between teen dating violence victimization and adverse health outcomes.

Pediatrics. 2013 Jan;131(1):71-8. PMID: [23230075](#)

For 5681 nationally representative middle and high school students followed over time, female teen dating violence victimization was associated with episodic drinking, depressive symptoms, suicidality, smoking, and IPV victimization.

Meltzer-Brody S, Bledsoe-Mansori SE, Johnson N, et.al.

A prospective study of perinatal depression and trauma history in pregnant minority adolescents.

Am J Obstet Gynecol. 2013 Mar;208(3):211.e1-7. PMID: [23246315](#)

Of 212 pregnant minority adolescents, 20% screened positive for antenatal depression and 10% for postpartum depression. Pregnant teens with a trauma history were 5 times more likely to develop depression.

Turner HA, Finkelhor D, Shattuck A, Hamby S.

Recent victimization exposure and suicidal ideation in adolescents.

Arch Pediatr Adolesc Med. 2012 Dec;166(12):1149-54. PMID: [23090641](#)

Using a national data sample from youth aged 10 to 17, the risk of suicidal ideation in the past year was 3.4 times greater after sexual assault, 4.4 times greater among those exposed to maltreatment by a parent/caregiver, and 6 times greater for those with poly-victimization.

Soler L, Paretila C, Kirchner T, Fornis M.

Effects of poly-victimization on self-esteem and post-traumatic stress symptoms in Spanish adolescents.

Eur Child Adolesc Psychiatry. 2012 Nov;21(11):645-53. PMID: [22944907](#)

A survey of 722 adolescents from 7 secondary school in Spain found that 88.4% had been exposed to at least one kind of victimization, girls were twice as likely to report child maltreatment and sexual victimization as boys, and poly-victimization was associated with increased PTSD symptoms.

Huang H, Gundapuneedi T, Rao U.

White matter disruptions in adolescents exposed to childhood maltreatment and vulnerability to psychopathology.

Neuropsychopharmacology. 2012 Nov;37(12):2693-701. PMID: [22850736](#)

Brain scans performed every six months for up to 5 years in a group of 19 healthy adolescents exposed to childhood maltreatment, compared to a control group without maltreatment, showed significant brain changes that subsequently correlated with development of depression or substance abuse.

Domestic Violence – Effects on Children

Nerum H, Halvorsen L, Straume B, Sørli T, Øian P.

Different labour outcomes in primiparous women that have been subjected to childhood sexual abuse or rape in adulthood: a case-control study in a clinical cohort.

BJOG. 2013 Mar;120(4):487-95. PMID: [23157417](#)

In this Norwegian study there were no significant differences in labor in first time mothers with a history of childhood sexual abuse compared to a control group; however women with a history of adult rape had longer labors, were 9.9 times more likely to have a cesarean section, and 12.2 times more likely to have a forceps or vacuum-assisted delivery.

Garoma S, Fantahun M, Worku A.

The effect of intimate partner violence against women on under-five children mortality: a systematic review and meta-analysis.

Ethiop Med J. 2011 Oct;49(4):331-9. PMID: [23409398](#)

In an analysis of research from multiple developing countries, women with a history of IPV were 1.34 times more likely to also experience under age 5 child mortality.

Moraes CL, de Oliveira AS, Reichenheim ME, Lobato G.
Severe physical violence between intimate partners during pregnancy: a risk factor for early cessation of exclusive breast-feeding.

Public Health Nutr. 2011 Dec;14(12):2148-55. PMID: [21729486](#)

For a random sample of 811 new mothers at five large public primary health-care facilities in Rio de Janeiro, severe partner physical violence during pregnancy was associated with early cessation of breast-feeding.

Silva AG, Moraes CL, Reichenheim ME.

[Intimate partner physical violence: an obstacle to initiation of childcare in primary healthcare units in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil?].

Cad Saude Publica. 2012 Jul;28(7):1359-70. Portuguese. PMID: [22729266](#)

Of 927 mother-infant pairs in Rio de Janeiro, women experiencing postpartum IPV were 3.1 times more likely to be late in seeking well baby care (later than 60 days for first visit).

Domestic Violence – Physical Health

Fantasia HC, Sutherland MA, Fontenot HB, Lee-St John TJ.
Chronicity of partner violence, contraceptive patterns and pregnancy risk.

Contraception. 2012 Nov;86(5):530-5. PMID: [22520646](#)

From four northeastern family planning clinics, 28.5% of 2000 patients experienced partner violence. Women experiencing partner violence were over 10 times less likely to be currently using a method of contraception, and 6.5 times more likely to change birth control methods and use emergency contraception.

Möller AS, Bäckström T, Söndergaard HP, Helström L.
Patterns of injury and reported violence depending on relationship to assailant in female Swedish sexual assault victims.

J Interpers Violence. 2012 Nov;27(16):3131-48. PMID: [22585117](#)

For over 500 sexually assaulted Swedish women, compared to acquaintances, intimate partners were 4 times more likely, and strangers 2 times more likely, to inflict physical violence.

Domestic Violence – Mental Health

McLaughlin J, O'Carroll RE, O'Connor RC.

Intimate partner abuse and suicidality: a systematic review.
Clin Psychol Rev. 2012 Dec;32(8):677-89. PMID: [23017498](#)

This thorough review of the research literature found a strong and consistent association between intimate partner abuse and suicidality irrespective of study design, sample and measurement parameters.

Golder S, Connell CM, Sullivan TP.

Psychological distress and substance use among community-recruited women currently victimized by intimate partners: a latent class analysis and examination of between-class differences.

Violence Against Women. 2012 Aug;18(8):934-57. PMID: [23008429](#)

The addition of child abuse history to a history of present IPV was associated with different levels of mental health and substance abuse issues, which may require different/more intense treatment and support.

Cultural Issues

Cummings AM, Gonzalez-Guarda RM, Sandoval MF.

Intimate Partner Violence Among Hispanics: A Review of the Literature.

J Fam Violence. 2013 Feb 1;28(2):153-171. PMID: [23606787](#)

Review of articles relating to IPV in the Hispanic population notes that the majority of research looks at risk factors rather than prevention strategies, such as taking advantage of the cultural strengths of strong family ties and respect for mothers.

Zakar R, Zakar MZ, Krämer A.

Voices of strength and struggle: women's coping strategies against spousal violence in Pakistan.

J Interpers Violence. 2012 Nov;27(16):3268-98. PMID: [22585115](#)

From 21 in-depth interviews with Pakistani women subject to spousal abuse, the majority coped by use of religion and placating the husband instead of seeking support from formal institutions, which might have led to confrontation and divorce.

Dalal K, Lee MS, Gifford M.

Male adolescents' attitudes toward wife beating: a multi-country study in South Asia.

J Adolesc Health. 2012 May;50(5):437-42. PMID: [22525105](#)
In this international study of over 14,000 adolescent males, the percentages who justified wife beating: Bangladesh 42%, India 51%, and Nepal 28%.

Dean E.

When love turns violent.

Nurs Stand. 2013 Feb 6-12;27(23):22-3. PMID: [23513654](#)
Brief description from UK for healthcare professionals on domestic violence in LGBT relationships.

Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse

Bond MC, Butler KH.

Elder abuse and neglect: definitions, epidemiology, and approaches to emergency department screening.

Clin Geriatr Med. 2013 Feb;29(1):257-73. PMID: [23177610](#)
Review of demographics, epidemiology, risk factors and screening for elder abuse, which has an annual estimated cost of tens of billions of dollars yet is under-recognized.

Palmer M, Brodell RT, Mostow EN.

Elder abuse: dermatologic clues and critical solutions.

J Am Acad Dermatol. 2013 Feb;68(2):e37-42. PMID: [23058735](#)
Review of clinical skin signs of elder abuse/neglect.

Lazenbatt A, Devaney J, Gildea A.

Older women living and coping with domestic violence.

Community Pract. 2013 Feb;86(2):28-32. PMID: [23469739](#)
British women older than 50 and experiencing IPV described extremely negative effects on wellbeing leading to severe anxiety and depression, and use of cigarettes and other substances to cope.

Zhang Z, Page C, Conner T, Post LA.

Family members' reports of non-staff abuse in Michigan nursing homes.

J Elder Abuse Negl. 2012 Oct;24(4):357-69. PMID: [23016730](#)
From a random digit Michigan telephone survey, family members report 10% of nursing home residents during the past year were abused by non-staff (other residents and visitors).

Castle NG.

Resident-to-resident abuse in nursing homes as reported by nurse aides.

J Elder Abuse Negl. 2012 Oct;24(4):340-56. PMID: [23016729](#)
4451 nurses' aides from nursing homes in 10 states reported significant levels of resident-to-resident abuse, including pushing, pinching, aggressive behavior and intimidation, and taking possessions.

Perpetrators

Vivolo-Kantor AM, DeGue S, DiLillo D, Cuadra LE.

The mediating effect of hostility toward women on the relationship between childhood emotional abuse and sexual violence perpetration.

Violence Vict. 2013;28(1):178-91. PMID: [23520839](#)
For 360 court-involved males, 1 in 5 were classified as sexually violent. Hostility toward women predicted those who were sexually violent, and hostility toward women was significantly associated with a history of childhood emotional abuse.

Myers WC, Vo EJ.

Adolescent parricide and psychopathy.

Int J Offender Ther Comp Criminol. 2012 Aug;56(5):715-29. PMID: [21628342](#)
Of 10 adolescents who killed their fathers, psychiatric evaluation revealed PTSD and chronic, severe child abuse, but not psychopathology. Killings usually occurred in the family home through a surprise attack with a parent-owned firearm. Bodies were commonly covered and moved.

Febres J, Shorey RC, Brasfield H, et. al.

Adulthood animal abuse among women court-referred to batterer intervention programs.

J Interpers Violence. 2012 Oct;27(15):3115-26. PMID: [22550142](#)
In a sample of 87 women arrested for IPV, 17% reported animal abuse since age of 18, compared to 0.28% in the general population.

Police and Court System

Block SD, Shestowsky D, Segovia DA, et. al.

"That never happened": adults' discernment of children's true and false memory reports.

Law Hum Behav. 2012 Oct;36(5):365-74. PMID: [23030818](#)
127 undergrads and community adults were shown clips of 3-5 year olds providing reports of incidents. Adults were generally able to correctly judge accurate reports, accurate denials, and false reports, but less likely to detect false denials.

Providers

Davidov DM, Jack SM, Frost SS, Coben JH.

Mandatory reporting in the context of home visitation programs: intimate partner violence and children's exposure to intimate partner violence.

Violence Against Women. 2012 May;18(5):595-610. PMID: [22914425](#)

Discussion of data collected from community stakeholders, clients and home visiting nurses about mandatory reporting of children's exposure to IPV.

Asati DP, Singh S, Sharma VK, Tiwari S.

Dermatoses misdiagnosed as deliberate injuries.

Med Sci Law. 2012 Oct;52(4):198-204. PMID: [22623714](#)

Review of skin diseases which may mimic deliberate injuries.

Roller CG.

Moving beyond the pain: women's responses to the perinatal period after childhood sexual abuse.

J Midwifery Womens Health. 2011 Sep-Oct;56(5):488-93. PMID: [23181647](#)

12 recently delivered women with a history of childhood sexual abuse discuss the impact the abuse had on their experience of pregnancy and delivery, and methods they used to cope.

Everett RJ, Kingsley K, Demopoulos CA, et. al.

Awareness and beliefs regarding intimate partner violence among first-year dental students.

J Dent Educ. 2013 Mar;77(3):316-22. PMID: [23486895](#)

Prior to an educational intervention about IPV for first year dental students, more than 2/3s had not had prior education about this subject, and half did not think IPV was a health care issue.

Babcock RL, DePrince AP.

Childhood betrayal trauma and self-blame appraisals among survivors of intimate partner abuse.

J Trauma Dissociation. 2012;13(5):526-38. PMID: [22989241](#)

For 230 adult women with a police-reported incident of IPV, a history of childhood abuse perpetrated by a close other, such as a parent, was associated with increased risk of self-blame for the target IPV incident. Targeting self-blame in child abuse survivors may prevent re-victimization as adults.

Prevention

Stover CS.

Fathers for change: a new approach to working with fathers who perpetrate intimate partner violence.

J Am Acad Psychiatry Law. 2013;41(1):65-71. PMID: [23503178](#)

Description of an intervention to address the comorbidity of substance abuse, domestic violence, and poor parenting in fathers of young children, with a unique focus on the paternal role throughout treatment.

McCroskey J, Pecora PJ, Franke T, Christie CA, Lorthridge J.

Strengthening families and communities to prevent child abuse and neglect: lessons from the Los Angeles Prevention Initiative Demonstration Project.

Child Welfare. 2012;91(2):39-60. PMID: [23362613](#)

Description of a promising "full spectrum of community-based prevention" for Los Angeles children at risk for abuse, provided by DCFS.

Researchers

Finkelhor D, Shattuck A, Turner H, Hamby S.

Improving the adverse childhood experiences study scale.

JAMA Pediatr. 2013 Jan;167(1):70-5. PMID: [23403625](#)

Based on a nationally representative sample of 2030 youth, authors suggest modifications of the original ACE scale to include issues such as peer victimization and community violence exposure.

Sundborg E, Törnkvist L, Wändell P, Saleh-Statinn N.

Cross-cultural adaptation of an intimate partner violence questionnaire.

Clin Nurs Res. 2012 Nov;21(4):450-66. PMID: [22473275](#)

A five step process is described to create a culturally appropriate translation of an IPV questionnaire.

Baker A, Schneiderman M, Brassard MR, Donnelly LJ.

Do evidence-based group parenting programs for high-risk or maltreating parents include content about psychological maltreatment?: a program review.

Child Welfare. 2012;91(2):7-37. PMID: [23362612](#)

In this analysis of nine evidence-based group parenting programs, comprehensive information on different types of emotional maltreatment by parents was lacking from almost all manuals.

Straus MA.

Blaming the messenger for the bad news about partner violence by women: the methodological, theoretical, and value basis of the purported invalidity of the conflict tactics scales.

Behav Sci Law. 2012 Sep-Oct;30(5):538-56. PMID: [22865343](#)

Analysis of arguments regarding the validity or not of the Conflicts Tactics Scales.

Other of Interest

Collinge W, Kahn J, Soltysik R.

Promoting reintegration of National Guard veterans and their partners using a self-directed program of integrative therapies: a pilot study.

Mil Med. 2012 Dec;177(12):1477-85. PMID: [23397692](#)

43 returning national guard personnel and their partners were provided with a multimedia package of guided meditative, contemplative, and relaxation exercises and DVD instruction in simple massage techniques. Participants reported significant improvements in PTSD symptoms, depression, stress, physical pain, irritability, anxiety/worry, and greater self-compassion.

Brossoie N, Roberto KA, Barrow KM.

Making sense of intimate partner violence in late life: comments from online news readers.

Gerontologist. 2012 Dec;52(6):792-801. PMID: [22547086](#)

In online comments posted by readers to news items relating to 24 incidents of IPV in late life, few posters noted this was IPV and instead “attempted to remove guilt from the perpetrator by assigning blame elsewhere”. Policymakers can enhance public recognition and understanding of IPV in late life by engaging interactive news media.

Valtolina GG, Colombo C.

Psychological well-being, family relations, and developmental issues of children left behind.

Psychol Rep. 2012 Dec;111(3):905-28. PMID: [23402056](#)

“Children left behind”, minors left in their home country while one or both parents emigrate for work, may experience emotional neglect and lack of affection and physical intimacy. Distress patterns include low school performance, peer and teacher conflict, anxiety, depression, apathy, suicidal behavior and substance abuse.

Freshwater MF.

Denis F. Keegan: forgotten pioneer of plastic surgery.

J Plast Reconstr Aesthet Surg. 2012 Aug;65(8):1131-6. PMID: [22421543](#)

Pioneering compassionate Irish surgeon in India in 1890s helped women who had been mutilated by their husbands.

