

# ABUSE RESEARCH

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## Child Abuse

Federal Commission to Eliminate Child Abuse and Neglect Fatalities, Final Report

**Within Our Reach: A National Strategy to Eliminate Child Abuse and Neglect Fatalities**, March 2016

<http://eliminatechildabusefatalities.sites.usa.gov/re-sources/>    [Fact Sheet](#)

Mountjoy M, Rhind DJ, Tiivas A, Leglise M.

**Safeguarding the child athlete in sport: a review, a framework and recommendations for the IOC youth athlete development model.**

Br J Sports Med. 2015 Jul;49(13):883-6. PMID: [26084527](#)

Review of threats to children in sport, identifying who is involved in abuse, the context of where it occurs and the identification of the various forms of abuse that take place in the sporting domain, a way to categorize these threats, identification of research gaps, and recommendations for sport organizations to keep children safe.

Naik-Mathuria B, Akinkuotu A, Wesson D.

**Role of the surgeon in non-accidental trauma.**

Pediatr Surg Int. 2015 Jul;31(7):605-10. PMID: [25772160](#)

Review of child abuse presentations and the evaluation process, for pediatric surgeons.

Hymel KP, Herman BE, Narang SK, et. al.

**Potential Impact of a Validated Screening Tool for Pediatric Abusive Head Trauma.**

J Pediatr. 2015 Dec;167(6):1375-81.e1. PMID: [26477871](#)

Description of a 4 item clinical prediction tool to increase abusive head trauma detection in pediatric intensive care settings.

Pickett TA.

**The challenges of accurately estimating time of long bone injury in children.**

J Forensic Leg Med. 2015 Jul;33:105-10. PMID: [26048508](#)

Description of the multiple challenges and research needs in being able to consistently and accurately identify timing of long bone injury in children.

Stauffer SL, Wood SM, Krasowski MD.

**Diagnostic yield of hair and urine toxicology testing in potential child abuse cases.**

J Forensic Leg Med. 2015 Jul;33:61-7. PMID: [26048499](#)

In a 10 year retrospective, urine drug screen alone never altered the outcome of a suspected child abuse case, but hair analysis did change outcome in 71/106 cases. Leading compounds found in children's hair were cocaine, marijuana and meth.

Van Horne BS, Moffitt KB, Canfield MA, et. al.

**Maltreatment of Children Under Age 2 With Specific Birth Defects: A Population-Based Study.**

Pediatrics. 2015 Dec;136(6):e1504-12. PMID: [26620063](#)

In this linked data study of children <age 2 focusing on specific defects, the risk of maltreatment in children with cleft lip/palate was increased by 40% and spina bifida by 58%, but no increase was found for children with Down syndrome.

Maniglio R.

**Significance, Nature, and Direction of the Association Between Child Sexual Abuse and Conduct Disorder.**

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2015 Jul;16(3):241-57. PMID: [24626460](#)

A research review concluded that conduct disorder in children (antisocial behaviors) was significantly and directly related to child sexual abuse.

Bernard K, Dozier M, Bick J, Gordon MK.

**Intervening to enhance cortisol regulation among children at risk for neglect.**

Dev Psychopathol. 2015 Aug;27(3):829-41. PMID: [25156798](#)

For children involved with CPS, and compared to a control group with usual care, an intervention (Attachment and Biobehavioral Catch-Up) was able to partially improve biological regulation of the stress hormone system.

Thornton CP, Veenema TG.

**Children Seeking Refuge: A Review of the Escalating Humanitarian Crisis of Child Sexual Abuse and HIV/AIDS in Latin America.**

J Assoc Nurses AIDS Care. 2015 Jul-Aug;26(4):432-42. PMID: [25769757](#)

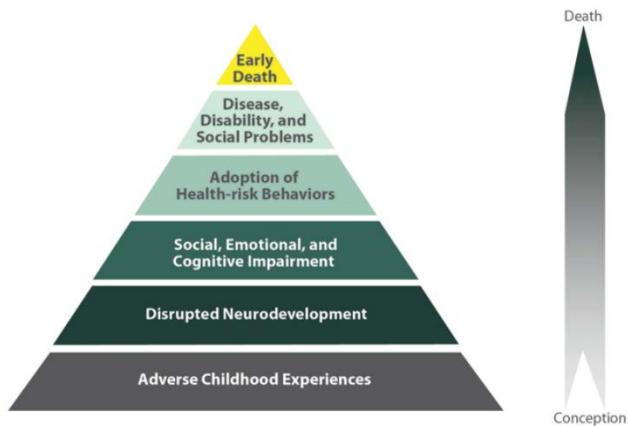
Authors review childhood sexual abuse in Latin America and associated increased risk of HIV infection, with discussion of the recent influx of unaccompanied children into the US.

# Adult Manifestations of Child Abuse

CDC

**ACEs Study** information and resources (including slides for presentations), updated 2016

<http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/acestudy/index.html>



Mechanism by Which Adverse Childhood Experiences Influence Health and Well-being Throughout the Lifespan

Fink DS, Galea S.

## **Life course epidemiology of trauma and related psychopathology in civilian populations.**

Curr Psychiatry Rep. 2015 May;17(5):31. PMID: [25773222](#)

Review of the impact of trauma on mental illness burden on the US and worldwide, including complex accumulation, and social to biological factors over the life span and across generations. The evidence is presented in three categories: genetics and biology, individual exposures, and community experiences.”

Zvara BJ, Mills-Koonce WR, Appleyard Carmody K, et. al.

## **Childhood sexual trauma and subsequent parenting beliefs and behaviors.**

Child Abuse Negl. 2015 Jun;44:87-97. PMID: [25680655](#)

The parenting of women who experienced personal childhood sexual abuse before the age of 14 showed poorer functioning across multiple domains (sensitivity, harshness, boundaries), and was not protected by factors such as higher income, higher education, or stable adult relationships.

Austin A, Herrick H, Proescholdbell S, Simmons J.

## **Disability and Exposure to High Levels of Adverse Childhood Experiences: Effect on Health and Risk Behavior.**

N C Med J. 2016 Jan-Feb;77(1):30-6. PMID: [26763241](#)

From a North Carolina state survey, 36.5% of adults with disabilities vs. 19.6% without disabilities reported high ACE exposure.

Horan JM, Widom CS.

## **Cumulative childhood risk and adult functioning in abused and neglected children grown up.**

Dev Psychopathol. 2015 Aug;27(3):927-41. PMID: [25196178](#)

Following matched groups of children with and without documented childhood abuse into adulthood, “Exposure to a greater number of childhood risk factors was significantly related to fewer years of education, more anxiety and depression symptomatology, and more criminal arrests in adulthood.”

Spidel A, Greaves C, Yuille J, Lecomte T.

## **A comparison of treatment adherence in individuals with a first episode of psychosis and inpatients with psychosis.**

Int J Law Psychiatry. 2015 Mar-Apr;39:90-8. PMID: [25703818](#)

For Canadian individuals with psychosis, a history of childhood maltreatment significantly decreased treatment adherence.

Elton A, Smitherman S, Young J, Kilts CD.

## **Effects of childhood maltreatment on the neural correlates of stress- and drug cue-induced cocaine craving.**

Addict Biol. 2015 Jul;20(4):820-31. PMID: [25214317](#)

“Childhood adversity negatively influences all stages of the addiction process and is associated with persistent alterations in neuroendocrine, autonomic and brain responses to stress.” In this brain study of cocaine-dependent men, childhood maltreatment heightened an anticipatory response to drug cues and diminished engagement of brain regulatory and control processes.

Power C, Pinto Pereira SM, Li L.

## **Childhood maltreatment and BMI trajectories to mid-adult life: follow-up to age 50 y in a British birth cohort.**

PLoS One. 2015 Mar 26;10(3):e0119985. PMID: [25811782](#)

Following a British group of children to age 50, childhood physical abuse and neglect, and in females sexual abuse, was associated with mid-life, but not childhood, elevated body mass index.

Miller S, McTeague LM, Gyurak A, et. al.

## **Cognition-Childhood Maltreatment Interactions in the Prediction of Antidepressant Outcomes in Major Depressive Disorder Patients.**

Depress Anxiety. 2015 Aug;32(8):594-604. PMID: [25917683](#)

98 medication-free patients with major depression underwent behavioral testing and neuroimaging before and after 8 weeks of medication. For patients whose symptoms improved, those with a history of childhood maltreatment displayed different brain scan changes than those without a history of maltreatment.

Infurna MR, Giannone F, Guarnaccia C, et. al.  
**Environmental factors that distinguish between clinical and healthy samples with childhood experiences of abuse and neglect.**

Psychopathology. 2015;48(4):256-63. PMID: [26279282](#)  
 In a study of Italian adults with similar exposure to childhood abuse/neglect, those who developed adult mental health conditions were 28 times less likely to have had positive childhood social support.

## Adolescents

Christoffersen MN, Møhl B, DePanfilis D, Vammen KS.  
**Non-Suicidal Self-Injury--Does social support make a difference?**

Child Abuse Negl. 2015 Jun;44:106-16. PMID: [25435107](#)  
 From a national survey of Danish teens, 2.7% reported non-suicidal self-injury (NSSI). Those with a history of childhood maltreatment or being bullied in school were 6 times more likely to report NSSI. The correlation was somewhat reduced with increased social support.

## Domestic Violence – Effects on Children

Exley D, Norman A, Hyland M.  
**Adverse childhood experience and asthma onset.**

Eur Respir Rev. 2015 Jun;24(136):299-305. PMID: [26028641](#)  
 “The results of this systematic review indicate that exposure to perinatal or early-life stress significantly increases the risk of asthma onset...the role of perinatal stress programming in asthma susceptibility suggests that an improvement in holistic antenatal support for expectant mothers would help to reduce population rates of asthma prevalence.”

Mandal M, Hindin MJ.  
**Keeping it in the family: intergenerational transmission of violence in Cebu, Philippines.**

Matern Child Health J. 2015 Mar;19(3):598-605. PMID: [25055760](#)  
 For over 2,000 Philippine families followed over 20 years, “Among all young adults, witnessing paternal perpetration of IPV predicted using family intimidation and physical abuse (FIPA), and witnessing maternal perpetration predicted experiencing FIPA.”

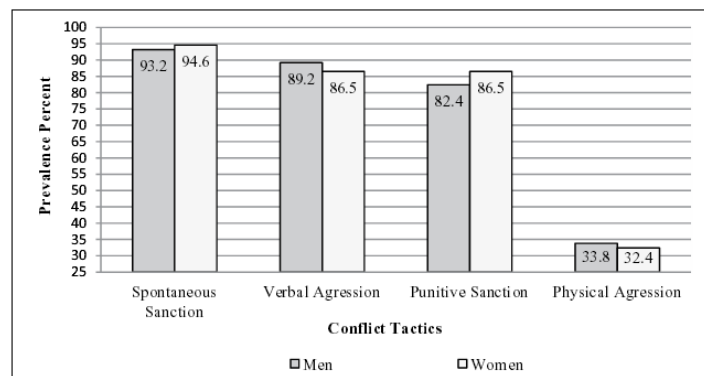
Tucker CJ, Finkelhor D, Turner H, Shattuck AM.  
**Family dynamics and young children's sibling victimization.**

J Fam Psychol. 2014 Oct;28(5):625-33. PMID: [25111955](#)  
 Analysis of the association of mild and more severe sibling victimization in relationship to parental family violence and parenting.

## Domestic Violence – Mental Health

Winstok Z, Smadar-Dror R.  
**Sanctions as a tactic used in partner conflicts: theoretical, operational, and preliminary findings.**

J Interpers Violence. 2015 Jul;30(12):1998-2037. PMID: [25315477](#)  
 Exhaustively detailed analysis of the concept of “sanctions” (not giving or doing something for a partner one would usually give or do, such as a spontaneous sanction of not talking, or a punitive sanction of not preparing food or driving) as an additional and very common tactic involved in escalation to violence.



Simmons CA, Lindsey L, Delaney MJ, Whalley A, Beck JG.  
**Real-World Barriers to Assessing and Treating Mental Health Problems With IPV Survivors.**

J Interpers Violence. 2015 Jul;30(12):2067-86. PMID: [25304669](#)  
 62 IPV helping professionals responded to an online survey on barriers to IPV survivors receiving mental health care: “(a) unsure, (b) limited IPV specific resources, (c) barriers to access, (d) systems-taboos, (e) immediate crisis needs, (f) fear-stigma, (g) offender's control and (h) cultural concerns.”

## Sexual Assault

Carey KB, Durney SE, Shepardson RL, Carey MP.

### **Incapacitated and forcible rape of college women: prevalence across the first year.**

J Adolesc Health. 2015 Jun;56(6):678-80. PMID: [26003585](#)

483 female college freshmen reported 18% incapacitated rape and 15% forced rape before entering college, and by the start of the second year those numbers rose to 26% and 22%.

Cisler JM, Bush K, Scott Steele J, et. al.

### **Brain and behavioral evidence for altered social learning mechanisms among women with assault-related posttraumatic stress disorder.**

J Psychiatr Res. 2015 Apr;63:75-83. PMID: [25769397](#)

Brain changes in women with assault-related PTSD, compared to a control group, showed mechanisms that correlated with deficits in social functioning that heightened risk for re-victimization.

Øktedalen T, Hoffart A, Langkaas TF.

### **Trauma-related shame and guilt as time-varying predictors of posttraumatic stress disorder symptoms.**

Psychother Res. 2015;25(5):518-32. PMID: [24856364](#)

For 65 Norwegian patients, higher levels of trauma-related shame and guilt were associated with higher levels of PTSD symptoms. Over the course of treatment, personal change in shame and guilt feelings also predicted decreased PTSD symptoms.

Shin KM, Chang HY, Cho SM, Kim NH, Kim KA, Chung YK.

### **Avoidance symptoms and delayed verbal memory are associated with post-traumatic stress symptoms in female victims of sexual violence.**

J Affect Disord. 2015 Sep 15;184:145-8. PMID: [26093033](#)

From a study of 34 Korean sexual assault victims one and five months after assault, initial avoidance symptoms and delayed verbal memory predicted the severity of later PTSD symptoms.

Patterson D, Tringali B.

### **Understanding how advocates can affect sexual assault victim engagement in the criminal justice process.**

J Interpers Violence. 2015 Jul;30(12):1987-97. PMID: [25287406](#)

Sexual assault nurse examiners and sexual assault advocates did not feel that the primary goal of advocacy was to persuade victims to participate in the criminal justice process. However, they believed the non-blaming, empowering care they offered possibly mitigated negative interactions with law enforcement, and increased confidence in future interactions with the criminal justice system.

## Human Trafficking

National Human Trafficking Resource Center

### **Human Trafficking Assessment for Medical Professionals,** updated resources Feb 2016

<https://traffickingresourcecenter.org/resources/human-trafficking-assessment-medical-professionals>

➡ Including [one-page flow chart](#)

European Commission and UNESCO

### **Study of Gender Dimension of Trafficking in Human Beings,** March 2016

[https://ec.europa.eu/anti-trafficking/eu-policy/study-gender-dimension-trafficking-human-beings\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/anti-trafficking/eu-policy/study-gender-dimension-trafficking-human-beings_en)

Varma S, Gillespie S, McCracken C, Greenbaum VJ.

### **Characteristics of child commercial sexual exploitation and sex trafficking victims presenting for medical care in the United States.**

Child Abuse Negl. 2015 Jun;44:98-105. PMID: [25896617](#)

Comparing groups of children aged 12-18 who presented as victims of sex trafficking vs. child sexual abuse, those experiencing sex trafficking were very different with regard to reproductive history, high risk behaviors including drug use, involvement with authorities, and history of violence.

## Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse

Pickering CE, Ridenour K, Salaysay Z.

### **Best Practices for the Identification of Elder Abuse and Neglect in Home Health.**

Home Healthc Now. 2016 Apr;34(4):182-8. PMID: [27023293](#)

"This article provides practical guidance on elder abuse/neglect risk factors, assessment tools, and reporting responsibilities that can easily be implemented in practice."

Sirey JA, Berman J, Salamone A, et. al.

### **Feasibility of integrating mental health screening and services into routine elder abuse practice to improve client outcomes.**

J Elder Abuse Negl. 2015;27(3):254-69. PMID: [25611116](#)

Staff at an elder abuse service were able to integrate mental health screening and brief treatment into practice flow. 34% of clients scored positive for depression or anxiety.

# Cultural Issues

Ali PA, Naylor PB, Croot E, O'Cathain A.

## **Intimate Partner Violence in Pakistan: A Systematic Review.**

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2015 Jul;16(3):299-315. PMID: [24626459](#)

Review of research studies on IPV in Pakistan, including perceived reasons for and attitude towards IPV.

Lodhia S.

## **"Stop importing weapons of family destruction!": cyberdiscourses, patriarchal anxieties, and the men's backlash movement in India.**

Violence Against Women. 2014 Aug;20(8):905-36. PMID: [25238869](#)

Description of the backlash against women's anti-violence advocacy via the rise of Indian men's rights organizations formed to lobby for changes to, and in some cases, the complete abolition of vital legal protections for women. Through cyber forums, public protests, and print media, these groups disseminate narratives of women wreaking "destruction on the Indian family".

Xiao H, Smith-Prince J.

## **Disclosure of Child Sexual Abuse: The Case of Pacific Islanders.**

J Child Sex Abus. 2015;24(4):369-84. PMID: [26061022](#)

From interviews with Pacific Islander women who were sexually abused in childhood and who delayed revealing their victimization, cultural-based concerns for the family and self-blame were the most common reasons for delay.

Linton KF.

## **Interpersonal violence and traumatic brain injuries among Native Americans and women.**

Brain Inj. 2015;29(5):639-43. PMID: [25517042](#)

In a review of an Arizona database of traumatic brain injuries (TBI) 2008-2010, Native Americans and females had higher odds of experiencing TBI as a result of IPV vs. other TBI etiologies.

Dion J, Cantinotti M, Ross A, Collin-Vézina D.

## **Sexual abuse, residential schooling and probable pathological gambling among Indigenous Peoples.**

Child Abuse Negl. 2015 Jun;44:56-65. PMID: [25816756](#)

Among 358 Canadian Indigenous peoples, 8.7% reported pathological gambling (general population 1.46%). Pathological gambling was significantly associated with a history of childhood sexual abuse and forced residential schooling (with reported very high rates of emotional, physical and sexual abuse).

Lucero NM, Bussey M.

## **Practice-Informed Approaches to Addressing Substance Abuse and Trauma Exposure in Urban Native Families Involved with Child Welfare.**

Child Welfare. 2015;94(4):97-117. PMID: [26827478](#)

A trauma-informed and culturally responsive model that took into account parents with untreated trauma exposure and the link with historical and ongoing discrimination, reduced out-of-home placements and re-referrals in urban Native families with substance abuse and child welfare concerns.

# Perpetrators

Grønnerød C, Grønnerød JS, Grøndahl P.

## **Psychological Treatment of Sexual Offenders Against Children: A Meta-Analytic Review of Treatment Outcome Studies.**

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2015 Jul;16(3):280-90. PMID: [24626457](#)

Authors of this research review conclude that "available research cannot establish any effect of treatment on sexual offenders against children."

Phillips EA, Rajender A, Douglas T, Brandon AF, Munarriz R.

## **Sex Offenders Seeking Treatment for Sexual Dysfunction--Ethics, Medicine, and the Law.**

J Sex Med. 2015 Jul;12(7):1591-600. PMID: [26060942](#)

Over 20% of sex offenders experience sexual dysfunction, and they are not required by law to disclose to medical providers their offender status; discussion of ethical issues for physicians in treating sexual dysfunction in registered sex offenders.

Black PJ, Wollis M, Woodworth M, Hancock JT.

## **A linguistic analysis of grooming strategies of online child sex offenders: Implications for our understanding of predatory sexual behavior in an increasingly computer-mediated world.**

Child Abuse Negl. 2015 Jun;44:140-9. PMID: [25613089](#)

Analysis of the content, pattern, order and timing of online grooming strategies to facilitate child sex victimization, which differ from in-person grooming.

Quayle E, Newman E.

## **The Role of Sexual Images in Online and Offline Sexual Behaviour With Minors.**

Curr Psychiatry Rep. 2015 Jun;17(6):43. PMID: [25894354](#)

Discussion of the use of sexual images and "their role in motivation, sexual interest and deviance...and how they might be used in online solicitation and grooming with children and adolescents."

Laufersweiler-Dwyer D, Mackinem M.

**A Case Study of the Perversion Files: An Application of Lanning and Dietz "Commonly Misunderstood Phenomena".**

Curr Psychiatry Rep. 2015 Oct;17(10):82. PMID: [26307034](#)

Authors discuss case files released by court order from the Boy Scouts of America, showing how individuals might have gone unnoticed or their actions unreported by the BSA, including the phenomena of "(1) the diversity of sexual activity, (2) 'nice-guy' offenders, (3) compliant child victims, and (4) the grooming/ seduction process." They also list conditions important for any organization, including "(1) proper screening of applicants; (2) managing and supervising volunteers and/or employees; (3) implementing response plans for suspicions, complaints, and allegations; and, for some organizations, (4) establishing prevention and awareness programs."

Steel CM.

**Web-based child pornography: The global impact of deterrence efforts and its consumption on mobile platforms.**

Child Abuse Negl. 2015 Jun;44:150-8. PMID: [25605590](#)

32% of child sexual exploitation material is viewed with tablets and smartphones. Blocking efforts by Google and Bing have decreased these web-based searches by 67%, however non-US search engines are available in the US with little fear of detection or referral to US law enforcement.

## Police and Court Systems

VERA Institute of Justice, grant from US Dept. of Justice  
**Partnering with Community Sexual Response Teams: A Guide for Local Community Confinement and Juvenile Detention Facilities, 2015**

<http://www.preaguide.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/Partnering-Community-SART-Guide.pdf>

Stokes ML, McCoy KP, Abram KM, Byck GR, Teplin LA.  
**Suicidal Ideation and Behavior in Youth in the Juvenile Justice System: A Review of the Literature.**

J Correct Health Care. 2015 Jul;21(3):222-42. PMID: [26084946](#)

Youth in the juvenile justice system, especially females, non-Hispanic whites, and those with a history of depression, sexual abuse or trauma, have higher rates of suicidal ideation and attempts than the general youth population. Rates are higher the more involved they become with the justice system.

Vance C, Worthy K and Joyful Heart Foundation  
**Navigating Notification: A Guide to Re-engaging Sexual Assault Survivors Affected by the Untested Rape Kit Backlog**

<https://assets.documentcloud.org/documents/2792986/JHF-Report-34-Pages.pdf>

## Providers

Center for Health Care Strategies and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

**Issue Brief: Key Ingredients for Successful Trauma-Informed Care Implementation, 2016**

[http://www.chcs.org/media/ATC\\_whitepaper\\_040616.pdf](http://www.chcs.org/media/ATC_whitepaper_040616.pdf)

Futures Without Violence

**Building Promising Futures: Guidelines for Enhancing Response of Domestic Violence Programs to Children & Youth, 2016**

<https://www.futureswithoutviolence.org/building-promising-futures/>

**Developing Outcome Measures for Domestic Violence Programs' Work with Children and Youth, 2016**

<https://www.futureswithoutviolence.org/developing-outcome-measures/>

Park CM, Welbury R, Herbison J, Cairns A.

**Establishing comprehensive oral assessments for children with safeguarding concerns.**

Br Dent J. 2015 Sep 11;219(5):231-6. PMID: [26361125](#)

Recommendation from British dentists on a protocol and standardized paperwork for comprehensive oral assessments that could be used to share information/provide access to appropriate care for children at risk for maltreatment.

Nabors L, Baker-Phibbs C, Woodson K.

**Community-based counselors' interventions for elementary school-age children coping with trauma.**

J Prev Interv Community. 2016 Apr-Jun;44(2):79-91. PMID: [26939838](#)

A focus group of counselors discuss ways to interact with children with PTSD who have experienced maltreatment or witnessed domestic violence.

Springer CI, Colorado G, Misurell JR.

**Structured Therapeutic Games for Nonoffending Caregivers of Children Who Have Experienced Sexual Abuse.**

J Child Sex Abus. 2015;24(4):412-28. PMID: [26061025](#)

Structured therapeutic games for non-offending caregivers of children who had experienced sexual abuse, to teach parenting and coping skills, provide psychoeducation, and process trauma.

Bethell C, Gombojav N, Solloway M, Wissow L.  
**Adverse Childhood Experiences, Resilience and Mindfulness-Based Approaches: Common Denominator Issues for Children with Emotional, Mental, or Behavioral Problems.**

Child Adolesc Psychiatr Clin N Am. 2016 Apr;25(2):139-56.  
PMID: [26980120](#)

“Using mindfulness-based, mind-body approaches (MBMB) may strengthen families and promote child resilience and success.”

McGovern AP, Woodman J, Allister J, et. al.

**A simple clinical coding strategy to improve recording of child maltreatment concerns: an audit study.**

J Innov Health Inform. 2015 Jan 14;22(1):227-34. PMID: [25924555](#)

In 11 British family practices, changing coding strategy to a single “child is cause for concern” significantly improved recording of any maltreatment-related code and also child protection procedures. “Clinicians cited the simplicity of the coding strategy as the most important factor assisting implementation.”

Rossiter A, Byrne F, Wota AP, et. al.

**Childhood trauma levels in individuals attending adult mental health services: An evaluation of clinical records and structured measurement of childhood trauma.**

Child Abuse Negl. 2015 Jun;44:36-45. PMID: [25636522](#)

For 129 Irish adults attending a general adult mental health service, 77% reported on a standardized screening instrument various forms of childhood maltreatment but only 38% were noted to have experienced maltreatment in chart notes. Emotional or physical neglect and childhood sexual abuse were less likely to have been chart recorded.

Neger EN, Prinz RJ.

**Interventions to address parenting and parental substance abuse: conceptual and methodological considerations.**

Clin Psychol Rev. 2015 Jul;39:71-82. PMID: [25939033](#)

Review of interventions that address both parental substance abuse and parenting behaviors.

Easton SD, Leone-Sheehan DM, Sophis EJ, Willis DG.

**"From that moment on my life changed": turning points in the healing process for men recovering from child sexual abuse.**

J Child Sex Abus. 2015;24(2):152-73. PMID: [25747418](#)

250 male survivors of childhood sexual abuse discuss “turning points” for positive change, including influential relationships, insights, and action-oriented communications.

Matthew L, Barron IG.

**Participatory Action Research on Help-Seeking Behaviors of Self-Defined Ritual Abuse Survivors: A Brief Report.**

J Child Sex Abus. 2015;24(4):429-43. PMID: [26061026](#)

68 survivors of ritual abuse reported experiencing disbelief and lack of ritual abuse awareness and help from support services.

Lorenz TK, Harte CB, Meston CM.

**Changes in Autonomic Nervous System Activity are Associated with Changes in Sexual Function in Women with a History of Childhood Sexual Abuse.**

J Sex Med. 2015 Jul;12(7):1545-54. PMID: [25963394](#)

Compared to a control group, for 136 women who had experienced childhood sexual abuse and participated in an expressive writing treatment program, those who showed improvement in heart rate variability (a measure of stress/nervous system function) also showed improvement in sexual arousal and orgasm function.

Kelly A, Garland EL.

**Trauma-Informed Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction for Female Survivors of Interpersonal Violence: Results From a Stage I RCT.**

J Clin Psychol. 2016 Apr;72(4):311-28. PMID: [27002222](#)

Relative to a waitlist control group, 23 female survivors of IPV experienced significant decreases in PTSD and depressive symptoms after participating in an 8 week trauma-informed mindfulness class. Minutes of mindfulness practice/week significantly predicted reduction in symptoms.

Goba J.

**Critical partners in domestic violence advocacy- a unique collaboration.**

J Healthc Prot Manage. 2016;32(1):34-40. PMID: [26978955](#)

Article describes a hospital security team effort to protect and empower abused employees. The author relates how the team was formed, how it operates, and the results it has achieved.

Nelsen AJ, Johnson RS, Ostermeyer B, Sikes KA, Coverdale JH.

**The Prevalence of Physicians Who Have Been Stalked: A Systematic Review.**

J Am Acad Psychiatry Law. 2015 Jun;43(2):177-82. PMID: [26071507](#)

There remains a lack of information about stalking in physicians, reasons why, and physical and psychological consequences.

## Prevention

Scholer SJ, Hudnut-Beumler J, Mukherjee A, Dietrich MS.  
**A Brief Intervention Facilitates Discussions About Discipline in Pediatric Primary Care.**

Clin Pediatr (Phila). 2015 Jul;54(8):732-7. PMID: [25979135](#)  
Parents of 1-5 year old children viewed a 5-10 minute video teaching appropriate discipline strategies. Parents reported that the intervention helped by providing information as well as by facilitating communication about discipline in the subsequent visit with their physician.

Rivera M, Sullivan R.

**Rethinking Child Welfare to Keep Families Safe and Together: Effective Housing-Based Supports to Reduce Child Trauma, Maltreatment Recidivism, and Re-Entry to Foster Care.**

Child Welfare. 2015;94(4):185-204. PMID: [26827482](#)  
From Oregon, a collaborative model of a continuum of housing-based clinical and support services for the whole at-risk family that has safely reduced foster care placement.

Hurtado A, Katz CL, Ciro D, Gutfreund D, Nosike D.

**Children's knowledge of sexual abuse prevention in El Salvador.**

Ann Glob Health. 2014 Mar-Apr;80(2):103-7. PMID: [24976547](#)  
El Salvador elementary school children significantly increased their knowledge about childhood sexual abuse prevention after visiting a prevention exhibit at a children's museum. This may be helpful for communities with limited resources.

## Researchers

Bagwell-Gray ME, Messing JT, Baldwin-White A.

**Intimate Partner Sexual Violence: A Review of Terms, Definitions, and Prevalence.**

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2015 Jul;16(3):316-35. PMID: [25561088](#)  
Review of terms, definitions and measurements associated with intimate partner sexual violence (IPSV), which includes aspects of coercion, sexual abuse and forced sexual activity. Measurements generally used to assess IPV do not adequately measure IPSV.

Paavilainen E, Lepistö S, Flinck A.

**Ethical issues in family violence research in healthcare settings.**

Nurs Ethics. 2014 Feb;21(1):43-52. PMID: [23793068](#)  
Authors discuss ethical issues in family violence research in design, approvals, recruitment, safety, and data collection and processing.

de Tyche C, Laurent M, Lighezzolo-Alnot J, et. al.

**Prevalence of Sexual Abuse in Childhood: Some Critical Methodological Reflections.**

J Child Sex Abus. 2015;24(4):401-11. PMID: [26061024](#)  
Discussion of methodological biases that have led to disparities in reported prevalence rates of childhood sexual abuse.

Wolford-Clevenger C, Zapor H, Brasfield H, et. al.

**An Examination of the Partner Cyber Abuse Questionnaire in a College Student Sample.**

Psychol Violence. 2016 Jan 1;6(1):156-162. PMID: [27014498](#)  
From surveys of 502 college students, cyber abuse victimization was 40% (male and female) and correlated with other forms of partner abuse and depressive symptoms. Authors reinforce the importance of researchers including assessment of cyber abuse (such as sending Facebook posts, changing passwords, checking emails without permission, sending friends insulting or embarrassing messages about student, etc.).

## Other of Interest

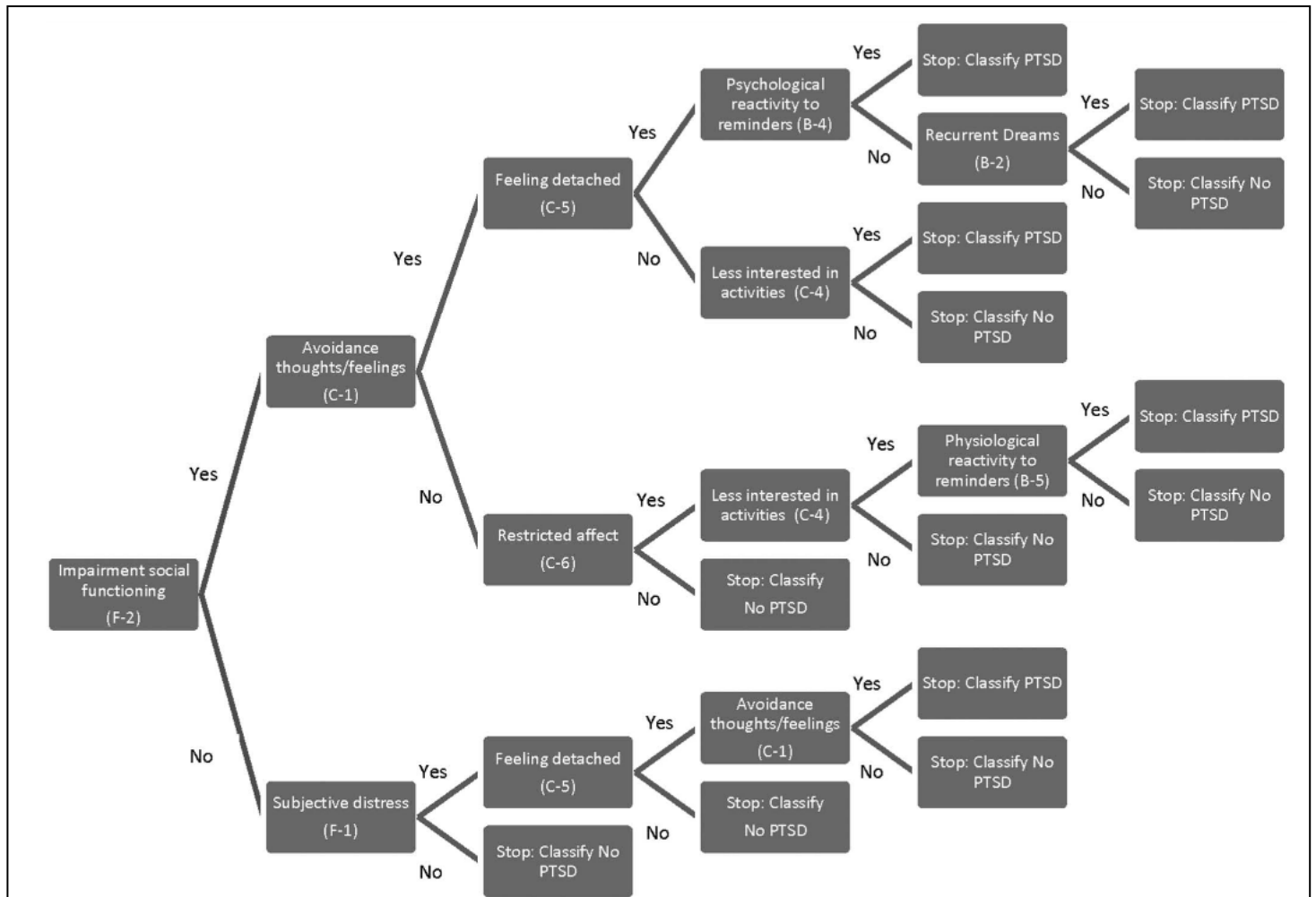
Independent Forensic Expert Group.

**Statement on virginity testing.**

J Forensic Leg Med. 2015 Jul;33:121-4. PMID: [26048511](#)  
The Independent Forensic Expert Group (IFEG) - thirty-five preeminent independent forensic experts from eighteen countries issued a statement on the practice of virginity testing. "The IFEG concludes that virginity examinations are medically unreliable and have no clinical or scientific value. These examinations are inherently discriminatory and, in almost all instances, when conducted forcibly, result in significant physical and mental pain and suffering, thereby constituting cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or torture. When virginity examinations are forcibly conducted and involve vaginal penetration, the examination should be considered as sexual assault and rape. Involvement of health professionals in these examinations violates the basic standards and ethics of the professions."



Stewart RW, Tuerk PW, Metzger IW, Davidson TM, Young J.  
**A decision-tree approach to the assessment of posttraumatic stress disorder: Engineering empirically rigorous and ecologically valid assessment measures.**  
 Psychol Serv. 2016 Feb;13(1):1-9. PMID: [26654473](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/26654473/)



*Figure 1.* Decision-tree model reducing the 20 Clinician-Administered Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Scale (CAPS) items required to make a categorization, down to 2 to 5 items depending on response. Letter-number pairs denote the CAPS item to be queried. “Yes” and “No” denote whether symptom criteria are met (i.e., frequency score of at least 1 and intensity score of at least 2) for each item. Consistent with the full-length CAPS, both frequency and intensity components must be asked for each item in order to determine whether symptom criteria are met.