

# ABUSE RESEARCH

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## Child Abuse

Mankad K, Sidpra J, Mirsky DM, et al.

### **International Consensus Statement on the Radiological Screening of Contact Children in the Context of Suspected Child Physical Abuse.**

JAMA Pediatr. 2023 May 1;177(5):526-533. PMID: [36877504](#)

“This consensus statement is supported by a systematic review of the literature and the clinical opinion of an internationally recognized group of 26 experts...Contacts are defined as the asymptomatic siblings, cohabiting children, or children under the same care as an index child with suspected child physical abuse. All contact children should undergo a thorough physical examination and a history elicited prior to imaging. Contact children younger than 12 months should have neuroimaging, the preferred modality for which is magnetic resonance imaging, and skeletal survey. Contact children aged 12 to 24 months should undergo skeletal survey. No routine imaging is indicated in asymptomatic children older than 24 months.

Talmon A, Ditzer J, Talmon A, Tsur N.

### **Maltreatment in Daycare Settings: A Review of Empirical Studies in the Field.**

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2023;15248380231155528. PMID: [36869785](#)

“Daycare maltreatment refers to abusive and/or neglectful acts perpetrated by teachers, directors, non-professionals or volunteers, family members of staff, and peers in a daycare setting.” From a research review, “reports of daycare maltreatment are characterized by early age of abused children, referring mainly to sexual, physical, and emotional abuse. The majority of these manuscripts reported caregivers' and teachers' abuse, while peer victimization was reported much less. In addition, the findings demonstrated a higher representation of female perpetrators compared to abuse in other scenarios...a well-validated measure for assessment of daycare maltreatment seems to be lacking.”

Bennett A, Clement A, Walton R, Jackson Y, Gabrielli J.

### **Youth Reported Perpetrators of Victimization Within a Foster Care Sample.**

Child Maltreat. 2023;10775595231163452. PMID: [36907656](#)

“503 youth in foster care (ages 8-21 years) reported on experiences of physical, sexual, and psychological abuse. Biological caregivers were commonly endorsed perpetrators of physical and psychological abuse, though youth also reported high levels of peer victimization. For sexual abuse, non-related adults were commonly reported perpetrators, however, youth reported higher levels of victimization from peers. Older youth and youth residing in residential care reported higher numbers of perpetrators; girls reported more perpetrators of psychological and sexual abuse as compared to boys...number of perpetrators differed across abuse severity levels. Perpetrator count and type may be important features of victimization experiences.”

Langevin R, Marshall C, Wallace A, et al.

### **Disentangling the Associations Between Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder and Child Sexual Abuse: A Systematic Review.**

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2023;24(2):369-89. PMID: [34238078](#)

Authors point out in this research review that while most studies identified a significant association between child sexual abuse and ADHD, due to lack of study quality and design, with many unlooked at factors, the nature of the association is still unclear.

Segal L, Dawe S, Nguyen H, et al.

### **Child protection system involvement in children of incarcerated mothers: A linked data study.**

Child Abuse Negl. 2023;139:106126. PMID: [36889149](#)

For 2637 Australian mothers entering prison and their 6680 children, compared to a control group without maternal incarceration, children with incarcerated mothers were 7.06 times more likely to have a CPS substantiated maltreatment, and 12.89 times more likely to be placed in out-of-home care. “Maternal incarceration is a warning flag for a child at high risk of serious child protection concerns...This population should be a priority for trauma-informed family support services.”

Clark MT, Littlemore J, Taylor J, Debelle G.

**Child abuse linked to faith or belief: working towards recognition in practice.**

Nurs Child Young People. 2023 May 4;35(3):34-42. PMID: [36254528](#)

“Child abuse linked to faith or belief (CALFB) is a worldwide issue that is linked to serious short-term and long-term consequences and even death. Children affected by CALFB may have undergone multiple abuses - such as ritual starvation, beatings, burns, stabbings and drowning - prompting concern in hospitals, schools and communities, including in emergency and primary care settings...This article examines medical evidence and psychosocial indicators of this form of abuse and explains the metaphorical language and thoughts associated with reported beliefs.”

## Adult Manifestations of Child Abuse

Shin SH, Kim YK.

**Early Life Stress, Neuroinflammation, and Psychiatric Illness of Adulthood.**

Advances in experimental medicine and biology. 2023;1411:105-34. PMID: [36949308](#)

In this book chapter, authors “discuss the link between the experience of stress in early life and lifelong alterations in the immune system, which subsequently lead to the development of various psychiatric illnesses.”

Subramanian I, McDaniels B, Farahnik J, Mischley LK.

**Childhood Trauma and Parkinson Disease: Associations of Adverse Childhood Experiences, Disease Severity, and Quality of Life.**

Neurol Clin Pract. 2023;13(2):e200124. PMID: [36891464](#)

From an internet survey of 900 adults with Parkinson’s Disease, with a 79% response, “Individuals with ACE scores 4 or higher reported greater symptom severity for 45% of the variables tested, including apathy, muscle pain, daytime sleepiness, restless leg syndrome, depression, fatigue, comprehension, and anxiety compared with individuals with trauma scores of zero...While the associations were statistically significant, the impact of trauma was less robust than previously described predictors of severity, such as diet, exercise, and social connection.”

Zhou Z, Lo CKM, Chan KL, Chung RSY, Pell JP, Minnis H, et al.  
**Child maltreatment and telomere length in middle and older age: retrospective cohort study of 141 748 UK Biobank participants.**

Br J Psychiatry. 2023;1-5. PMID: [36946056](#)

From a large study, child maltreatment was associated with shorter telomere length in middle- and older-aged adults, independent of sociodemographic and mental health factors. The shortest lengths were in those with 3+ ACEs. Results for those with 1 ACE were the same as for 0 ACEs. Physical and sexual abuse were independently associated with shorter telomere length.

Na PJ, Fischer IC, Shear KM, Pietrzak RH.

**Prevalence, Correlates, and Psychiatric Burden of Prolonged Grief Disorder in U.S. Military Veterans: Results From a Nationally Representative Study.**

Am J Geriatr Psychiatry. 2023 Feb 14;S1064-7481(23)00180-X. PMID: [36878740](#)

Of 2441 US veterans, 7.3% screened positive for prolonged grief disorder (PGD). “The strongest correlates of PGD were adverse childhood experiences, female sex, non-natural causes of death, knowing someone who died from coronavirus disease 2019, and number of close losses. After adjusting for sociodemographic, military, and trauma variables, veterans with PGD were 5-to-9 times more likely to screen positive for post-traumatic stress disorder, major depressive disorder, and generalized anxiety disorder. After additional adjustment for current psychiatric and substance use disorders, they were 2-3 times more likely to endorse suicidal thoughts and behaviors.”

Olgiate P, Fanelli G, Serretti A.

**Clinical correlates and prognostic implications of severe suicidal ideation in major depressive disorder.**

Int Clin Psychopharmacol. 2023 Feb 27:e000461. PMID: [36853754](#)

For 249 outpatients with major depressive disorder (MDD) and suicidal ideation (SI), patients with severe SI (36%) were younger at disease onset, more severely depressed, had more lifetime suicidal behavior and psychiatric comorbidities (panic disorder, PTSD), and a history of childhood maltreatment (neglect, emotional abuse, physical abuse, sexual abuse) than those experiencing low-moderate SI. The occurrence of serious lifetime suicidal behavior was predicted by SI severity (Odds ratio 2.18), bipolar score (1.36), and childhood sexual abuse (2.35). “These results emphasise the importance of assessing childhood maltreatment and bipolar liability in MDD to estimate suicidal behaviour risk.”

Benz ABE, Dimitroff SJ, Jeggle C, et al.  
**Increased empathic distress in adults is associated with higher levels of childhood maltreatment.**

Scientific reports. 2023;13(1):4087. PMID: [36906595](#)  
 Of 228 adults mean age 30.51 years and 83% female, “increased levels of emotional, physical, and sexual abuse, and emotional and physical neglect were positively correlated with personal distress in response to others' suffering. Likewise, higher parental overprotection and lower parental care were related to higher personal distress. While participants with higher levels of early life adversity tended to donate more money on a merely descriptive level, only higher levels of sexual abuse were significantly related to larger donations.”

## Adolescents

Norton EO, Hailemeskel R, Bravo AJ, et al.  
**Childhood Traumatic Experiences and Negative Alcohol-Related Consequences in Adulthood: A Cross-Cultural Examination of Distress Tolerance and Drinking to Cope.**

Subst Use Misuse. 2023;1-8. PMID: [36935590](#)  
 Of 3753 Canadian college students from seven countries, “higher endorsement of ACEs was associated with lower distress tolerance, which in turn was associated with higher drinking to cope, which in turn was associated with more negative alcohol-related consequences. These effects were invariant across countries and gender groups...intervening on distress tolerance and drinking motives could mitigate downstream alcohol-related consequences.”

Baiden P, Cavazos-Reh P, Szlyk HS, et al.  
**Association between Sexual Violence Victimization and Electronic Vaping Product Use among Adolescents.**

Subst Use Misuse. 2023;58(5):637-48. PMID: [36803403](#)  
 From a large adolescent national survey, 10.8% reported sexual violence within the last month, which was associated with a 1.52 times higher odds of electronic vaping product use. Other risk factors for vaping included cyberbullying victimization and symptoms of depression.

Nagata JM, Trompeter N, Singh G, et al.  
**Adverse childhood experiences and early adolescent cyberbullying in the United States.**

J Adolesc. 2023 Apr;95(3):609-616. PMID: [36443937](#)  
 From a large early adolescent national study, 81.3% reported at least one ACE, and 9.6% reported cyberbullying victimization. In general, there was a dose-response relationship between the number of

ACEs and cyberbullying victimization, with 2 (adjusted odds ratio [AOR]: 1.45), three (2.08), and four or more (2.37) ACEs associated with cyberbullying victimization. Sexual abuse (2.27), physical neglect (1.61), and household mental health problems (1.39) had the strongest associations with cyberbullying victimization.

Russotti J, Font SA, Toth SL, Noll JG.  
**Developmental pathways from child maltreatment to adolescent pregnancy: A multiple mediational model.**

Dev Psychopathol. 2023;35(1):142-56. PMID: [35074030](#)  
 “Adolescents who experience pregnancy following child maltreatment are not a homogenous group and a diversity of explanatory pathways may exist. In the current study, two pre-pregnancy constructs – substance use and pregnancy desires/lower perceived difficulties – emerged as statistically significant and unique pathways to subsequent adolescent pregnancy...Notably, maltreated adolescents may be especially vulnerable to experiencing enhanced pregnancy desire or distorted pregnancy expectations, as pregnancy/parenthood may be viewed by the adolescent as a potential healing opportunity to cope with emotional deprivation or interpersonal dysfunction present in their abusive settings.”

## Domestic Violence – Effects on Children

Vass A, Haj-Yahia MM.  
**"I Have to Make Sure She Is Not Sad": Children's Perceptions of Their Mothers' Experiences in Shelters for Battered Women.**

Violence Against Women. 2023;10778012231159416. PMID: [36913742](#)

32 children aged 7-12 years who were staying with their mothers in a women’s shelter after IPV were interviewed about their insights and feelings about their mothers’ experiences there.

**Table 1.** Core Themes and Sub-Themes: Children's Perceptions and Feelings About Their Mothers' Experiences.

Core themes	Sub-themes
Children's perceptions about their mother's vulnerable experiences at the SBW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mother's vulnerable experiences as a result of IPV against her</li> <li>- Mother's vulnerable experiences as a result of conflicts with other mothers</li> <li>- Perception of their mother as "normal" in comparison to other mothers</li> </ul>
Children's feelings about their mother's vulnerable experiences in the SBW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Frustration, due to the SBW's obligations and demands from the mother</li> <li>- Compassion toward the mother</li> <li>- Concern for the mother during their time in school</li> </ul>

Nakanishi K, Saijo Y, Yoshioka E, et al.

**Association between maternal multimorbidity and preterm birth, low birth weight and small for gestational age: a prospective birth cohort study from the Japan Environment and Children's Study.**

BMJ Open. 2023;13(3):e069281. PMID: [36921942](#)

In a large population study of Japanese women with singleton pregnancies, multimorbidity, defined as the coexistence of two or more chronic physical or psychological conditions within an individual, was associated with preterm birth, low birth weight, and small for gestation age babies. The second most common maternal multimorbidity at 13.0% was experience of domestic violence.

Sakowicz A, Allen E, Alvarado-Goldberg M, et al.

**Association Between Antenatal Depression Symptom Trajectories and Preterm Birth.**

Obstet Gynecol. 2023 Apr 1;141(4):810-817. PMID: [36897146](#)

Of 732 pregnant people referred to a mental health care program, 71.4% had initial mild or more severe depressive symptoms. Of the 35.0% whose symptoms improved during the course of pregnancy, the preterm birth (PTB) rate was 12.5%. (General population PTB rate is 10.5%.) Of those women whose symptoms stayed the same, the PTB rate was 14.0%. However, for the 5.3% of women whose symptoms worsened, the PTB rate was 30.8%.

Biggs LJ, Jephcott B, Vanderwiel K, et al.

**Pathways, Contexts, and Voices of Shame and Compassion: A Grounded Theory of the Evolution of Perinatal Suicidality.**

Qual Health Res. 2023:10497323231164278. PMID: [36952603](#)

"Perinatal suicidality is a complex multidimensional phenomenon, influenced by socio-cultural expectations of motherhood and interpersonal, systemic, and intergenerational experiences of trauma...including experiences of gender-based violence, adverse childhood experiences, and a history of mental health difficulties. When women feel that they are defective, are unworthy of love and belonging, and do not possess what it takes to be a good mother, they can conclude that their family is better off without them. Pathways beyond shame were facilitated by compassionate and rehumanising care from family, friends, and care providers."

## Domestic Violence – Physical Health

Davidov DM, Gurka KK, Long DL, Burrell CN.

**Comparison of Intimate Partner Violence and Correlates at Urgent Care Clinics and an Emergency Department in a Rural Population.**

Int J Environ Res Public Health. 2023;20(5). PMID: [36901564](#)

Of 236 Appalachian women seeking care at an ED and urgent care clinics, almost 1/3 reported lifetime physical IPV and 4% reported physical or sexual abuse in the past year. However, the medical record showed that 20% were not screened for IPV during their visit, and no positive responses were recorded from any of the women. In addition, patients reporting limitations in their daily activities due to health, depression and anxiety diagnoses, and tobacco and drug use, had significantly higher odds of experiencing lifetime physical or sexual IPV.

Callahan CE, Beisecker L, Zeller S, Donnelly KZ.

**LoveYourBrain Mindset: Feasibility, Acceptability, Usability, and Effectiveness of an Online Yoga, Mindfulness, and Psychoeducation Intervention for People with Traumatic Brain Injury.**

Brain injury : [BI]. 2023;37(5):373-82. PMID: [36692090](#)

LoveYourBrain Mindset is a six-week online yoga, mindfulness, and psychoeducation program for those with traumatic brain injury. Of 1539 individuals who signed up for the program with 71% participating in 1 or more classes, 62.66% used the mindfulness tools each week. After controlling for age, TBI severity and gender, outcomes showed significant improvements in quality of life, resilience, emotional/behavioral dysregulation, cognition, and positive affect/well-being.

## Domestic Violence – Mental Health

Goldstein LA, Jakubowski KP, Huang AJ, et al.

**Lifetime history of interpersonal partner violence is associated with insomnia among midlife women veterans.**

Menopause. 2023 Apr 1;30(4):370-375. PMID: [36753121](#)

For 232 female veterans aged 45-64 years, "lifetime history of intimate partner violence was associated with twofold to fourfold odds of current clinical insomnia, including overall intimate partner violence (odds ratio, 3.24), physical intimate partner violence (2.01), psychological intimate partner violence (3.98), and sexual intimate partner violence (2.09)...Findings highlight the importance of screening midlife women for intimate partner violence and recognizing the potential role of this traumatic exposure on women's health."

Stanley AR, Aguilar T, Holland KM, Orpinas P.  
**Precipitating Circumstances Associated With Intimate Partner Problem-Related Suicides.**  
Am J Prev Med. 2023 Mar 16:S0749-3797(23)00135-6. PMID: [36933753](#)

For 402,391 suicides 2003-2020, 20% were known to be intimate-partner-related, such as divorce, separation, romantic break-ups, arguments, conflicts, and violence. "Circumstances that significantly increased the odds of IPP-related suicides included a history of suicidal thoughts and attempts and mental health problems (depressed mood, alcohol problem, mental health diagnosis), life stressors (interpersonal violence perpetration and victimization, arguments, financial problems, job problems, family problems), and recent legal problems. Non-IPP-related suicides were more likely to occur among older individuals and to be precipitated by a physical health problem or crime."

## Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse

Zhang T, Morris NP, McNiel DE, Binder R.  
**Elder Financial Exploitation in the Digital Age.**  
J Am Acad Psychiatry Law. 2023 Mar 16:JAAPL.220047-21. PMID: [36928135](#)

"Reports of elder financial exploitation climbed during the COVID-19 pandemic, as many older adults were targeted by perpetrators seeking to take advantage of their worries about health and finances, increased isolation, and relative lack of familiarity with the digital technologies prevalent in their everyday lives." In 2020, reports of online fraud exceeded telephone fraud for the first time, with an (underreported) loss of \$600 million dollars, an increase of 36% from 2019. "This article examines trends in usage of electronic financial technologies by older adults and describes new technology-based mechanisms of elder financial exploitation."

## Sexual Assault

Vogt EL, Jiang C, Jenkins Q, et al.  
**Trends in US Emergency Department Use After Sexual Assault, 2006-2019.**  
JAMA Netw Open. 2022 Oct 3;5(10):e2236273. PMID: [36264580](#)

Using multiple databases, "Sexual assault-related ED visits increased more than 1533.0% from 3,607 in 2006 to 55,296 in 2019. Concurrently, admission rates for these visits declined from 12.6% to 4.3%. Female, younger, and lower-income individuals were more likely to present to the ED after SA. Older and Medicaid-insured patients were more likely to be admitted. Overall, the rate of ED visits for SA outpaced law enforcement reporting."

Lersch KM, Hart TC.  
**Does routine activity theory still matter during COVID-19 restrictions? The geography of sexual assaults before, during, and after COVID-19 restrictions.**  
Journal of criminal justice. 2023;86:102050. PMID: [36911596](#)  
Pandemic "restrictions dramatically impacted the mobility of offenders and victims through space and time...Using data from the City of Detroit, Michigan, hot spot areas for sexual assaults were more concentrated during the COVID timeframe, compared to the Pre-COVID timeframe. While blight complaints, public transit stops, points of sale for liquor, and the locations of drug arrests were consistent risk factors for sexual assaults before and after COVID restrictions, other factors, such as casinos and demolitions, were only influential in the COVID period."

## Human Trafficking

Brennan EF, Markopoulos A, Rodriguez J, Sheth NK, Shah N.  
**Addressing a Gap in Medical School Training: Identifying and Caring for Human Trafficking Survivors Using Trauma-Informed Care.**  
MedEdPORTAL : the journal of teaching and learning resources. 2023;19:11304. PMID: [36926052](#)  
"This training significantly improved medical students' comfort in identifying and caring for HT survivors, addressing an especially important gap in medical school education. This training can be implemented at other institutions to further improve awareness and efforts in identifying and caring for HT survivors while avoiding retraumatization." [Full text and links to training materials](#)

## LGBTQ Concerns

Hahn HA, Blosnich JR.

### **Adverse Childhood Experiences Among Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Queer Veterans.**

Am J Prev Med. 2023 Apr 8;S0749-3797(23)00167-8. PMID: [37037327](#)

Of 14,461 U.S. military veterans, “While accounting for sociodemographic factors, lesbian, gay, bisexual, and queer veterans were more likely to report as a child living with someone who experienced mental illness (AOR=2.17), emotional abuse (AOR=1.58), and sexual abuse (AOR=2.21) than non-lesbian, gay, bisexual, and queer veterans...With past work indicating that childhood abuse experiences are especially predictive of adverse health in adulthood, our findings suggest that a higher prevalence of ACEs among lesbian, gay, bisexual, and queer veterans may contribute to health disparities among this population.”

## Race/Cultural Concerns

Yi Y, Edwards F, Emanuel N, et al.

### **State-Level Variation in the Cumulative Prevalence of Child Welfare System Contact, 2015-2019.**

Children and youth services review. 2023;147. PMID: [36874408](#)

“Using 2015-2019 data from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System and Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System, state-level investigation risks ranged from 14% to 63%, confirmed maltreatment risks from 3% to 27%, foster care placement risks from 2% to 18%, and risks of parental rights termination from 0% to 8%. Racial/ethnic disparities in these risks varied greatly across states, with larger disparities at higher levels of involvement. Whereas Black children had higher risks of all events than white children in nearly all states, Asian children had consistently lower risks.”

Breslin MA, Bacharach A, Ho D, et al.

### **Social Determinants of Health and Patients With Traumatic Injuries: Is There a Relationship Between Social Health and Orthopaedic Trauma?**

Clin Orthop Relat Res. 2023 May 1;481(5):901-908. PMID: [36455101](#)

287 adult patients were seen in a Cleveland ED for traumatic musculoskeletal injury and interacted with trauma recovery services. 123 injuries were considered accidents and 164 were intentional (physical assault, sexual assault, gunshot wound, or stabbing). Black race (compared with White race, odds ratio OR 2.71), Hispanic ethnicity (compared with White race, OR 5.32), and at-risk status for

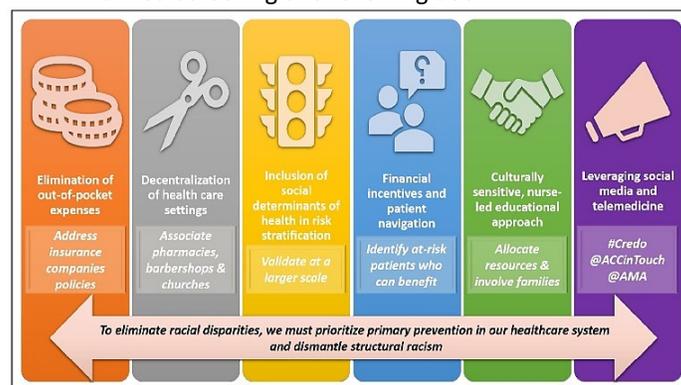
food insecurity (OR 4.27) were independently associated with intentional mechanisms of injury.

Velarde G, Bravo-Jaimes K, Brandt EJ, et al.

### **Locking the Revolving Door: Racial Disparities in Cardiovascular Disease.**

Journal of the American Heart Association. 2023:e025271. PMID: [36942617](#)

“In this article...we explore potential factors that connote a revolving door phenomenon for those whose adverse outpatient environment puts them at risk for hospital readmissions. Additionally, we review promising strategies, as well as actionable items at the policy, clinical, and educational levels aimed at locking this revolving door.”



Ryan JE, McCabe SE, DiDonato S, et al.

### **Racial/Ethnic Disparities in Mental Healthcare in Youth With Incarcerated Parents.**

Am J Prev Med. 2023 Mar 12;S0749-3797(23)00133-2. PMID: [36918134](#)

“Youth with incarcerated parents experience more adverse childhood experiences than other youth, placing them at higher risk for mental health and substance use disorders.” In this adolescent study, 51% of youth with incarcerated parents reported 4+ACEs. And while in general this group was more likely to have received mental health services (25% vs. 15% without incarcerated parents), Black and Latinx youth were less likely than White youth to report receiving mental health services.

Emani S, Rodriguez JA, Bates DW.

### **Racism and Electronic Health Records (EHRs): Perspectives for research and practice.**

J Am Med Inform Assoc. 2023 Mar 3;ocad023. PMID: [36869772](#)

“This perspective provides a classification of racism at 3 levels -- individual, organizational, and structural -- and offers recommendations for future research, practice, and policy related to the implementation and use of electronic health records.”

Vo H, Campelia GD, Olszewski AE.

### **Addressing Racism in Ethics Consultation: An Expansion of the Four-Box Method.**

J Clin Ethics. 2023;34(1):11-26. PMID: [36940357](#)

Authors propose an expanded version of the four-box method for clinical ethics consultation, which includes additional questions and changes to existing questions to ensure that racism is addressed within each box. The four boxes cover the topics of medical indications, patient and caregiver preferences, quality of life, and contextual features.

Wang SXY, Chi K, Shankar M, et al.

### **Teaching Anti-Racism in the Clinical Environment: The Five-Minute Moment for Racial Justice in Healthcare.**

Am J Med. 2023;136(4):345-9. PMID: [36566895](#)

Authors describe a structured framework on how to teach about racism in the clinical learning environment, which “can be an effective way to engage learners in real time as they encounter teachable moments with patients.” The five steps include context, current standard, historical narrative, disparities, and steps to equity. They provide an example of a student presenting a pigmented lesion on a person of color, discussing the present standard of care for skin lesions, the story of Bob Marley who died of an aggressive melanoma that was not originally recognized, how skin lesions may need to be evaluated differently with different skin pigments, and resources for inclusive dermatology atlases.

## Perpetrators

Doehring MC, Curtice H, Hunter BR, et al.

### **Exploring verbal and physical workplace violence in a large, urban emergency department.**

Am J Emerg Med. 2023 May;67:1-4. PMID: [36758267](#)

From a single institution with an annual ED census of 100,000, “Over the 5-month survey period, 130 reports of workplace violence were recorded, on average 0.85 per day. Perpetrators were mostly male, and most victims were nurses. Hospital security was involved in 26% of cases. At least 37% of incidents involved patients who were intoxicated and/or had a history of psychiatric illness. Type I events (swearing provocatively, shouting, and legal threats) were the most common at 44% of encounters while 22% involved physical violence. Racist, sexist, and homophobic comments were involved in 8 (6%), 18 (14%), and 3 (2%) incidents respectively.”

## Police and Court Systems

Karavias Y, Bandyopadhyay S, Christie C, et al.

### **Impact evaluation and economic benefit analysis of a domestic violence and abuse UK police intervention.**

Frontiers in psychology. 2023;14:1063701. PMID: [36874872](#)

Cautioning and Relationship Abuse (CARA), an intervention which aims to reduce re-offending of first-time low-level domestic violence and abuse perpetrators, is an awareness-raising program that promotes behavior change for male and female individuals, and comprises two five-hour workshops. In a study with matched controls covering two UK police jurisdictions, “there was a significant impact on the amount of recidivism but no significant reduction in the severity of the crimes...for each pound (£) invested in CARA, there is an economic benefit of 2.75–11.1 pounds, annually.”

Liu Y, Xu MM, Zhang Y, Liu SQ, Yuan MQ, Jia ZJ.

### **Application Value and Research Progress of Human Microbiome in Sexual Assault Cases.**

Fa yi xue za zhi. 2022;38(6):774-82. PMID: [36914394](#)

“DNA evidence has become the key evidence to prove the facts in sexual assault cases, but lack of DNA evidence or only DNA evidence in some sexual assault cases leads to unclear facts and insufficient evidence...Researchers have begun to use human microbiome for difficult sexual assault cases identification. This paper reviews the characteristics of human microbiome, and its application value in the inferences of the body fluid stain origin, the sexual assault method, the crime time, etc.”

Wen A, Gubner NR, Garrison MM, Walker SC.

### **Racial disparities in youth pretrial detention: a retrospective cohort study grounded in critical race theory.**

Health & justice. 2023;11(1):14. PMID: [36882535](#)

“Pretrial detention makes up 75% of juvenile detention admissions and contributes to the disproportionate contact of minoritized youth in the juvenile carceral system...With a sample of over 44,000 juvenile cases in a northwest state...After factoring in gender, age, crime severity, previous offenses, and variation between counties, our analyses show that Black, Hispanic/Latinx, and American Indian/Alaskan Native youth are more likely to experience pretrial detention than white youth. The likelihood of pretrial detention for Asian youth and for youth identified as “Other” or “Unknown” was not significantly different from white youth.”

Said I, McNealey RL.

### **Nonconsensual Distribution of Intimate Images.**

J Interpers Violence. 2023;38(7-8):5430-51. PMID: [36086859](#)

“In the last 10 years, following widespread outcry among legal scholars and activists, 48 states passed legislation explicitly criminalizing the nonconsensual distribution of intimate images (NCDII) or what is colloquially known as “revenge porn...our findings challenge the efficacy of existing criminal statutes, and identify new challenges in effectively legislating against NCDII.”

Tobin-Tyler E.

### **Courts' Disregard for Women's Health and Safety - Intimate Partner Violence, Firearms, and "History and Tradition".**

N Engl J Med. 2023 Apr 13;388(15):1345-1347. PMID: [36947455](#)

Author discusses the legal reasoning and difficulties of recent court rulings that “held in United States v. Perez-Gallan that the VAWA’s restriction on firearm possession by people subject to restraining orders is unconstitutional. Applying Bruen’s (different case regarding firearms) new “history and tradition” analysis, which requires that the government demonstrate that there is a “historical analogue” to its current-day firearm regulation, the court explained: “Government intervention — much less removing an individual’s firearms — because of domestic violence practically did not exist” in early U.S. legal history,” (meaning even colonial times! and is thus unconstitutional) and erases the experiences of victims and survivors of IPV throughout U.S. history...the Bruen decision has given federal courts free rein to ignore the robust evidence that preventing IPV perpetrators from possessing firearms can reduce the risk of injury and death.” This ruling applies only to Texas, Louisiana, and Mississippi.

## Providers

King J, Taylor J.

### **Integration of Case-Based Dialogue to Enhance Medical Students' Understanding of Using Health Communication to Address Social Determinants of Health.**

Adv Med Educ Pract. 2023;14:237-44. PMID: [36945676](#)

“Medical students must have the knowledge and self-efficacy to understand how social determinants of health can impact health and healthcare within a family medicine clinical setting. As a result of integrating more active learning strategies such as the case-base and debrief experience, students may develop...the confidence and intent to work with

and care for individuals of diverse cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds.”

Ross WT, Snyder B, Stuckey H, et al.

### **Gynaecological care of women with chronic pelvic pain: Patient perspectives and care preferences.**

Bjog. 2023;130(5):476-84. PMID: [36457127](#)

From focus groups of women aged 18-55 years with chronic pelvic pain, “Participants with chronic pelvic pain, with or without a history of sexual trauma, experienced delay in diagnosis and repetitive dismissals by clinicians. Participants' experiences of dismissals included: clinicians not listening, insufficient allocation of time for appointments and perceived redundant medical testing (i.e. sexually transmitted infection testing, urine cultures, ultrasounds). Participants identified clinician interactions as pivotal in coping with both pelvic pain and sexual abuse. Participants also provided feedback regarding trauma-informed practices.”

TABLE 3 Lessons learned about providing trauma-informed care to patients with chronic pelvic pain

Create a clinical space that fosters psychological safety
Train staff answering phones, at the welcome desk, and rooming patients to be trauma-informed and welcoming
Choose artwork and reading material that are sensitive to the struggles of infertility that many women face
Screen patients on a regular basis for sexual trauma. Recognise that, depending on their phase of recovery, women may choose not to disclose sexual trauma
If women disclose a history of sexual trauma, document it in a standardised way in the health record. Allow the patient to guide level of detail of documentation
Avoid asking the patient to repetitively disclose and re-live sexual trauma
Provide clear explanations of how and why a pelvic examination is being recommended
Provide a female chaperone during pelvic examinations. Instruct the chaperone to ask the patient where they would like the chaperone to stand and to offer the patient emotional support
Emphasise that the patient is in control of the examination at all times
Use caution in the terminology and words used to minimise use of trauma cues. This is especially important during pelvic and breast examinations
When safe and feasible, allow patients to choose the gender of their clinician
Have a staff member obtain patient consent for trainee involvement. Requests by the treating clinician create a power differential that may feel coercive to patients

Kim B, Royle M.

### **Domestic Violence in the Context of the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Synthesis of Systematic Reviews.**

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2023:15248380231155530. PMID: [36847221](#)

“The findings of this review provide clear insight into current knowledge of prevalence, incidence, and contributing factors, which could help to develop evidence-informed DV prevention and intervention strategies during COVID-19 and future extreme events.”

Renkiewicz GK, Hubble MW.

**Secondary trauma response in emergency services systems (STRESS) project: quantifying and predicting vicarious trauma in emergency medical services personnel.**

Br Paramed J. 2023;7(4):23-34. PMID: [36875827](#)

In a study of 691 US emergency medical services (EMS) personnel, with 44.4% female and 12.3% minorities, “Overall, 40.9% had VT [vicarious trauma]...Compared to those without VT, more than four times as many EMS professionals with VT self-reported as currently in counselling (9.2% v. 2.2%). Approximately one in four EMS professionals (24.0%) had considered suicide, while nearly half (45.0%) knew an EMS provider who had died by suicide. There were multiple predictors of VT, including female sex (odds ratio [OR] 1.55) and childhood exposure to emotional neglect (OR 2.28) or domestic violence (OR 1.91). Those with other stress syndromes, such as burnout or compassion fatigue, were 2.1 and 4.3 times more likely to have VT, respectively.”

## Prevention

Piolanti A, Jouriles EN, Foran HM.

**Assessment of Psychosocial Programs to Prevent Sexual Violence During Adolescence: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis.**

JAMA Netw Open. 2022 Nov 1;5(11):e2240895. PMID: [36346627](#)

“Data were analyzed from 20 trials involving 37,294 adolescents. Compared with control conditions, prevention programs were associated with a significant reduction in the perpetration (OR, 0.83) and experience (OR, 0.87) of sexual violence, as well as a 13% significant reduction of any sexual violence (OR, 0.87)...programs that were delivered in school settings and targeted at adolescents aged 15 to 19 years yielded significantly larger effect sizes compared with programs that were either delivered outside of a school setting or targeted younger adolescents.”

Creech SK, Benzer JK, Bruce L, Taft CT.

**Evaluation of the Strength at Home Group Intervention for Intimate Partner Violence in the Veterans Affairs Health System.**

JAMA network open. 2023;6(3):e232997. PMID: [36917105](#)

“Strength at Home [SAH] is a 12-week trauma-informed and cognitive behavioral group intervention to address and prevent the use of IPV in relationships.” The study included 1754 participants (mean age 44.3 years; 81% men), of

whom 62% were involved with the criminal legal system for IPV charges. SAH was associated with reductions in use of physical IPV (odds ratio 3.28), psychological IPV (OR 2.73), coercive control behaviors (OR 3.19), PTSD symptoms, and alcohol misuse.

Darwiche SM, Scribano PV.

**Anti-Poverty Interventions and Their Importance in Childhood Abuse Prevention.**

Pediatrics. 2023;151(3). PMID: [36748237](#)

In this editorial, “Borrowing from the oncologic Knudson hypothesis, also known as the 2-hit hypothesis, poverty can be thought of as the first hit placing children at risk for poor physical, mental, and economic well-being, with abuse providing the second hit that cinches the transgenerational nature of these poor outcomes...The emerging evidence of the prevention benefits of the expanded child tax credit should serve as a call to action for pediatricians to double-down on advocacy efforts for antipoverty programs, such as childcare subsidies, tax credits, cash transfer programs, low-income housing infrastructure, and expanded Medicaid assistance, which will bolster the economic resources of families and reduce the risk of maltreatment across the life course.”

Orchowski LM, Oesterle DW, Zong ZY, et al.

**Implementing school-wide sexual assault prevention in middle schools: A qualitative analysis of school stakeholder perspectives.**

Journal of community psychology. 2023;51(3):1314-34. PMID: [36468237](#)

From interviews with middle school stakeholders (i.e., principals, guidance counselors, teachers), “Whereas schools recognized the importance of implementing violence prevention programming, stakeholders reported several other competing demands (i.e., time, resources) that make it difficult to implement rigorous programming without support from an outside agency/team...school-specific factors—such as school culture, availability of a school champion—can also guide implementation. Schools having engaged in prior efforts to prevent sexual violence, along with the existence of policies and procedures to address sexual violence were facilitators of program implementation. The low relative priority of addressing sexual violence, harassment, and bullying served as a barrier to program implementation. These data can help schools and public health agencies to successfully implement sexual violence prevention programs for middle school students.”

Guastaferrero K, Font SA, Miyamoto S, et al.

**Provider Attitudes and Self-Efficacy When Delivering a Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Module: An Exploratory Study.**

Health education & behavior. 2023;50(2):172-80. PMID: [33660554](#)

“Provider self-efficacy is an important element of implementation fidelity. This exploratory study demonstrated that, though providers may approach CSA [child sexual abuse] content with wariness and trepidation, adequate skills-oriented training can reduce negative attitudes and increase perceived efficacy in the actual delivery of CSA prevention content to parents.”

Schneiderman JU, Mennen FE, Palmer Molina AC, et al.

**Adults with a child maltreatment history: Narratives describing individual strengths that promote positive wellbeing.**

Child Abuse Negl. 2023;139:106133. PMID: [36921502](#)

From interviews with 21 adults (mean age 27.8 years) who had experienced child abuse, identifying strengths included: The first theme was seeing oneself in a good light, highlighting self-worth and helper roles. The second theme, moving forward, included letting go of their past and a future orientation. Coping with life, the third theme, included boundaries for people around them, routines, and self-sufficiency. Meaning making, the fourth theme, included insights on the effect of their maltreatment and foster care, and reflections on appreciating life and adapting to changing circumstances...Study themes highlight how these strengths allow adults to make meaning of their experiences and move forward successfully in life.”

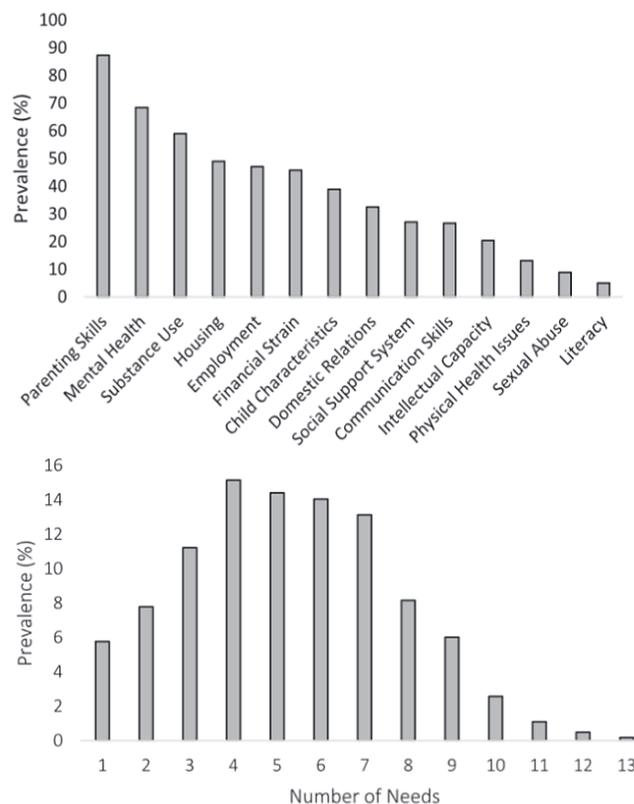
## Researchers

Sokol RL, Victor BG, Yoon M, Ryan JP, Perron BE.

**Complex, Co-occurring Needs Patterns and Evidence-Based Service Planning for Families Involved in Foster Care: A Map for Research and Practice.**

Child Maltreat. 2023;28(2):359-71. PMID: [35624538](#)

“This study described the complexity of service needs among foster care-involved families and identified prevalent patterns of needs to inform future evidence-based service planning research. We utilized state administrative child maltreatment records, and restricted data to cases where the child entered foster care in 2019 and the caseworker indicated the presence of at least one need from the Family Assessment of Needs and Strengths.”



## Other of Interest

Nesterko Y, Schöenberg KH, Glaesmer H.

**Mental health of recently arrived male refugees in Germany reporting sexual violence.**

Med Confl Surviv. 2023;39(1):4-27. PMID: [36475329](#)

“The recognition of men and boys as targets of sexual violence is a rather recent development. In the present study data on experiences of sexual violence as well as mental health outcomes were analysed in recently arrived male refugees (N = 392) in Germany. More than one third of the men interviewed (36.6%) reported having experienced sexual violence. Compared to male refugees without experiences of sexual violence, male refugee survivors showed higher prevalence rates of PTSD. Moreover, some differences were found on the single symptoms level, indicating higher severity in those affected by sexual violence, including negative alterations in cognition/mood, suicidal ideation, and nervousness or shakiness inside...This provides clear implications for health care professionals that could aid them in better identifying those affected.”