

MEDICAL SUMMARY FOR SCC DVC JUNE 2009

This summary includes selected articles indexed by the National Library of Medicine April 2008.
To obtain a copy of the abstracts, go to pubmed.gov, and place the Pubmed ID numbers (PMID) in the search box, separated by commas.

Purpose: to provide members of the DVC with up-to-date information on effects of abuse and neglect on health and well being throughout the life cycle. This information can be a motivator for individual change as well as policy change.

Child Abuse

Legano L, McHugh MT, Palusci VJ.

Child abuse and neglect.

Curr Probl Pediatr Adolesc Health Care. 2009 Feb;39(2):31.e1-26. PMID: 19138647
Detailed review article.

Dubowitz H.

Tackling Child Neglect: A Role for Pediatricians.

Pediatr Clin North Am. 2009 Apr;56(2):363-378. PMID: 19358921

Review of child neglect, responsible for 64% of CPS calls in 2006.

Wells K.

Substance abuse and child maltreatment.

Pediatr Clin North Am. 2009 Apr;56(2):345-62. PMID: 19358920

Review of the impact of parental legal and illegal substance abuse on children, including prenatally, child exposure and ingestion, parental neglect, and presentation of the drug exposed child.

Suglia SF, Enlow MB, Kullowatz A, Wright RJ.

Maternal intimate partner violence and increased asthma incidence in children: buffering effects of supportive caregiving.

Arch Pediatr Adolesc Med. 2009 Mar;163(3):244-50. PMID: 19255392

Of over 3,000 children enrolled in a child well-being study in Boston, 19% had asthma. Children of mothers who experienced IPV were twice as likely to have asthma, but this number was decreased if the children had a positive and supportive relationship with their mothers.

Kouyoumdjian H, Perry AR, Hansen DJ.

Nonoffending parent expectations of sexually abused children: predictive factors and influence on children's recovery.

J Child Sex Abus. 2009 Jan-Feb;18(1):40-60. PMID: 19197614

The childhood sexual abuse label significantly influenced 63 non-offending primary caregivers' expectations of their children's future functioning.

Chiesa A, Duhaime AC.

Abusive head trauma.

Pediatr Clin North Am. 2009 Apr;56(2):317-31. PMID: 19358918.

Review of mechanisms, diagnosis, management and prognosis of pediatric abusive head trauma.

Levin AV.

Retinal hemorrhages: advances in understanding.

Pediatr Clin North Am. 2009 Apr;56(2):333-44. PMID: 19358919.

Review of impact of abusive head trauma on bleeding in the retina of the eye. [Pediatric Ophthalmologist at Stanford usually has "a waiting room full of children" with impaired vision due to abuse. – ed.]

Koumellis P, McConachie NS, Jaspán T.

Spinal subdural haematomas in children with non-accidental head injury.

Arch Dis Child. 2009 Mar;94(3):216-9. PMID: 18713794

Of 18 infants with non-accidental head trauma, 44% were found to have hidden blood collections around the spinal cord also.

Bruce J, Fisher PA, Pears KC, Levine S.

Morning cortisol Levels in preschool-aged foster children: differential effects of maltreatment type.

Dev Psychobiol. 2009 Jan;51(1):14-23. PMID: 18720365

Maltreated foster preschool children, as opposed to low income non-maltreated children, showed significant alterations in cortisol (stress hormone) levels, especially children with severe physical neglect.

Adult Manifestations of Child Abuse

Andersen SL, Tomada A, Vincow ES, Valente E, Polcari A, Teicher MH.

Preliminary evidence for sensitive periods in the effect of childhood sexual abuse on regional brain development.

J Neuropsychiatry Clin Neurosci. 2008 Summer;20(3):292-301. PMID: 18806232

Brain scans from 26 women with a history of repeated childhood sexual abuse compared to a non-abused control group revealed decrease in size in different brain areas depending on the age of abuse (hippocampus – long term memory; amygdala – emotional memory; frontal cortex – emotion, memory, choosing actions and understanding consequences; and corpus callosum – connects left and right brain function) .

Logan JE, Leeb RT, Barker LE.

Gender-specific mental and behavioral outcomes among physically abused high-risk seventh-grade youths.

Public Health Rep. 2009Mar-Apr;124(2):234-45. PMID: 19320365

In a survey of 1484 high risk 7th graders (83% participation), a history of childhood physical abuse was significantly correlated with suicidality, illegal drug use, victimization, criminal behavior (higher for females) and peer violence perpetration (higher for males).

Martsof DS, Draucker CB.

The legacy of childhood sexual abuse and family adversity.

J Nurs Scholarsh. 2008;40(4):333-40. PMID: 19094148

Detailed interviews with 48 female and 40 male survivors of childhood sexual abuse show the impact on their lives; how some felt “stuck” with a family legacy, and others challenged its influence.

Domestic Violence – Physical Health

Arosarena OA, Fritsch TA, Hsueh Y, Aynehchi B, Haug R.

Maxillofacial injuries and violence against women.

Arch Facial Plast Surg. 2009 Jan-Feb;11(1):48-52. PMID: 19153293

In a review of 326 female facial trauma patients, victims of IPV were more likely to have complex fractures of the eye or soft tissue injury inside the brain, vs. jaw fracture if injured by a stranger.

Domestic Violence – Mental Health

Romito P, Turan JM, Neilands T, Lucchetta C, Pomicino L, Scrimin F.

Violence and women's psychological distress after birth: an exploratory study in Italy.

Health Care Women Int. 2009;30(1-2):160-80. PMID: 19116827

At 8 months postpartum, of almost 300 Italian women, 10% were currently experiencing violence from a partner or another family member. Women who experienced violence were almost 14 times more likely to experience depressive symptoms.

Shercliffe RJ, Colotla V.

MMPI-2 profiles in civilian PTSD: an examination of differential responses between victims of crime and industrial accidents.

J Interpers Violence. 2009 Feb;24(2):349-60. PMID:18381973

PTSD victims of crime were more distressed, depressed, fearful and suspicious than PTSD victims of industrial accidents.

Belik SL, Stein MB, Asmundson GJ, Sareen J.

Relation between traumatic events and suicide attempts in Canadian military personnel.

Can J Psychiatry. 2009 Feb;54(2):93-104. PMID: 19254440

In a survey of 8441 Canadian military personnel (response rate 81%), lifetime suicide attempt rates were men 2.2% and women 5.6%. Soldiers who had experienced past interpersonal trauma (such as sexual assault, spousal abuse, child abuse), after controlling for socioeconomic and mental health issues, were 2-4 times more likely to have attempted suicide; rates increased with increasing number of prior events.

Cultural Issues

Kelly UA.

"I'm a mother first": The influence of mothering in the decision-making processes of battered immigrant Latino women.

Res Nurs Health. 2009 Apr 6;32(3):286-297. PMID: 19350663

Detailed interviews with 17 Latino battered women revealed that their first motivation was to protect their children. Their reasoning processes on how to do so is described, showing why their conclusions might appear confusing to community service providers.

Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse

Choi NG, Kim J, Asseff J.

Self-neglect and neglect of vulnerable older adults: reexamination of etiology.

J Gerontol Soc Work. 2009 Feb-Mar;52(2):171-87.PMID: 19197638

Assessment of APS cases in Texas showed that the majority of elder self-neglect and neglect was due to lack of economic resources and social service programs, rather than individual or intrafamily risk factors.

Perpetrators

Voller EK, Long PJ, Aosved AC.

Attraction to sexual violence towards women, sexual abuse of children, and non-sexual criminal behavior: testing the specialist vs. generalist models in male college students.

Arch Sex Behav. 2009 Apr;38(2):235-43. PMID: 18415012

In a written screening assessment of almost 500 male college students enrolled in a psychology course, attraction to criminality was strongly correlated to attraction to sexual assault.

Day A, Howells K, Casey S, Ward T, Chambers JC, Birgden A.

Assessing treatment readiness in violent offenders.

J Interpers Violence. 2009 Apr;24(4):618-35. PMID: 18463308

Preliminary results of an easily administered 20 question survey to determine batterer treatment readiness showed positive correlation with treatment engagement. Some of the statements were: "I hate being told what to do", "I feel ashamed about my violence", "Treatment programs are for wimps", "I want to change".

Police and Court System

Durfee M, Parra JM, Alexander R.

Child fatality review teams.

Pediatr Clin North Am. 2009 Apr;56(2):379-87. PMID: 19358922

Review of the history, structure and function of child death review teams (begun in 1860, now in many countries in the world, and since 2008 required in all boroughs in the UK).

Providers

Trotter JL, Allen NE.

The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly: Domestic Violence Survivors' Experiences with Their Informal Social Networks.

Am J Community Psychol. 2009 Mar 31. PMID: 19333750

Of 48 Chicago area women who had recently experienced DV, 22% had received positive support from their social networks (family and friends), 78% had received mixed reactions, and none all negative. Importance of agencies further supporting clients by education of clients' social networks.

Nelms AP, Gutmann ME, Solomon ES, Dewald JP, Campbell PR.

What victims of domestic violence need from the dental profession.

J Dent Educ. 2009 Apr;73(4):490-8. PMID: 19339436

Of 112 women in shelters, over half had seen a dentist when signs of abuse were present. 89% were not asked about the injuries; 70% of the women would have liked to have been asked.

Dichter ME, Rhodes KV.

Reports of police calls for service as a risk indicator for intimate partner violence.

Acad Emerg Med. 2009 Jan;16(1):83-6. PMID: 19007347

Adding a question about police-related DV calls within the previous year to a routine emergency dept. DV screening question picked up 30% more possible cases of IPV.

Kendall J, Pelucio MT, Casaletto J, Thompson KP, Barnes S, Pettit E, Aldrich M.

Impact of emergency department intimate partner violence intervention.

J Interpers Violence. 2009 Feb;24(2):280-306. PMID:18378805

ED patients with a positive DV screen were offered consultation with trained IPV advocacy counselors who completed safety assessments, provided resource referrals, and helped patients develop safety plans. In follow-up, 50% had completed a portion of their safety plan. Legal assistance and/or law enforcement were considered the most beneficial resource referrals.

Yoffe-Sharp BL, Loar LM.

The veterinarian's responsibility to recognize and report animal abuse.

J Am Vet Med Assoc. 2009 Mar 15;234(6):732-7. PMID:19284333.

Review of suspicious history and findings for vets re: animal abuse, and the implications for possible family abuse. For example, abusers may give gifts of puppies or kittens as a method of control, and a history of multiple sequential young pets that die or disappear is a red flag.

Donelan-McCall N, Eckenrode J, Olds DL.

Home visiting for the prevention of child maltreatment: lessons learned during the past 20 years.

Pediatr Clin North Am. 2009 Apr;56(2):389-403. PMID: 19358923.

Evidence-based review of twenty year history of home visitation programs.

Shipman K, Taussig H.

Mental health treatment of child abuse and neglect: the promise of evidence-based practice.

Pediatr Clin North Am. 2009 Apr;56(2):417-28. PMID: 19358925.

Review of evidence-based practices to help children who have experienced maltreatment – in the US in 2006 there were 3.6 million children who received a CPS investigation, and 905,000 cases were substantiated.

Wurtele SK.

Preventing sexual abuse of children in the twenty-first century: preparing for challenges and opportunities.

J Child Sex Abus. 2009 Jan-Feb;18(1):1-18. PMID: 19197612

Review of a comprehensive approach to prevention of childhood sexual abuse, targeted to children/youth, parents, professionals (including schools), and the public.

Other of Interest

Logan TK, Walker R, Hunt G.

Understanding human trafficking in the United States.

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2009 Jan;10(1):3-30. PMID: 19056686.

Review article discussing the problem of human trafficking the US, including contributing factors, legal issues, and recommendations.

Riddell T, Ford-Gilboe M, Leipert B.

Strategies used by rural women to stop, avoid, or escape from intimate partner violence.

Health Care Women Int. 2009;30(1-2):134-59. PMID: 19116826

In depth interviews with 43 rural Canadian women who had left abusive relationships. Strategies that were used the most, placating and resistance, were deemed the least helpful. Rural area isolation figured prominently in women deciding to use placation (“I thought I was never going to leave except in a pine box.”)

Zink T, KLesges L, Stevens S, Decker P.

The developments of a sexual abuse severity score: characteristics of childhood sexual abuse associated with symptomatology, somatization, and alcohol abuse

J Interpers Violence 2009 24:537-546 PMID: 18451098

Preliminary study of development of a childhood sexual abuse severity score, using weighted scoring (correlated with clinical outcomes) for age of first sexual abuse, number of perpetrators, degree of coercion, severity of abuse, and number of occurrences. Such a scoring system could help predict future behavioral and health risks as well as inform treatment.