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Child Abuse

Mathews B, Collin-Vézina D.

Child Sexual Abuse: Toward a Conceptual Model and Definition.

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2019 Apr;20(2):131-148. PMID: [29333990](#)

Problems caused by variance in definitions of childhood sexual abuse involve five domains: “research and knowledge formation, legal frameworks and principles, prevention efforts, policy responses, and the establishment of social norms.” Authors suggest a unifying approach to understand and standardize the concepts of “child”, “consent”, “sexual”, and “abuse”.

Alaggia R, Collin-Vézina D, Lateef R.

Facilitators and Barriers to Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) Disclosures: A Research Update (2000-2016).

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2019 Apr;20(2):260-283. PMID: [29333973](#)

Lahtinen HM, Laitila A, Korkman J, Ellonen N.

Children's disclosures of sexual abuse in a population-based sample.

Child Abuse Negl. 2018 Feb;76:84-94. PMID: [29096161](#)

Of 11,364 Finnish sixth and ninth graders, 2.4% experienced childhood sexual abuse. “Most of the children (80%) had disclosed to someone, usually a friend (48%). However, only 26% had disclosed to adults, and even fewer had reported their experiences to authorities (12%).”

Melville JD, Hertz SK, Steiner RD, et. al.

Use of Imaging in Children With Witnessed Physical Abuse.

Pediatr Emerg Care. 2019 Apr;35(4):245-248. PMID: [28291153](#)

Of 2890 children evaluated by a child abuse pediatrician, 3.1% presented with a history of witnessed abuse. Of the 43% of this group who had a normal physician examination, 10% of skeletal surveys and 8% of neuroimaging studies revealed a hidden injury. “Absence of injury on examination should not deter physicians from obtaining otherwise indicated skeletal surveys and neuroimaging in children reported to have experienced witnessed abuse.”

Table 2. Factors Influencing Child Sexual Abuse Disclosures.

| Barriers | Facilitators |
|--|---|
| Age: The younger the child victim, the less likely they will purposefully disclose. | Age: Disclosures increase with age, especially in adulthood. |
| Gender: Males may be less likely to disclose in childhood/adolescence, fear of being seen as homosexual and as a victim, females experience more self-blame and anticipation of being blamed and/or not believed | Gender: Slight trend toward females who are older (adolescent) to disclose before adulthood |
| Relationship to perpetrator: If the perpetrator is a family member or in a family-like role, disclosure is less likely to happen | Relationship to perpetrator: If the perpetrator is not living with the victim, disclosure rates increase |
| Internal: Shame, self-blame, and fear are psychological barriers. In addition, fear of negative consequences on the family and for self-safety inhibits disclosure | Dialogical context: Opportunities to disclose through discussion, therapeutic relationship, information sessions on sexuality, and sexual abuse prevention programs |
| Family relations: Families with a patriarchal structure, rigidly fixed gender roles, dysfunctional communication, other forms of abuse (i.e., domestic violence), and isolation inhibit disclosure | Family relations: Supportive parent-child relationship. |
| Environmental and cultural context: Lack of discussion about sexuality; passive acceptance that unwanted sexual experiences are inevitable; not wanting to bring shame to the family by admitting sexual abuse; lack of involvement from neighbors, school personnel; and stigma perpetuated by societal perceptions | Involvement of others: Eyewitnesses coming forward and reporting; detection through community members, professionals |
| | Environmental and cultural context: Promotion of open discussion of sexuality; community member involvement |

Fitzpatrick S, Leach P.

Neurosurgical aspects of abusive head trauma management in children: a review for the training neurosurgeon.

Br J Neurosurg. 2019 Feb;33(1):47-50. PMID: [30353746](#)

Review for the neurosurgeon of team coordination, and recognition and management of suspected abusive head trauma in children.

Fallon B, Filippelli J, Joh-Carnella N, Miller SP, Denburg A.

Trends in investigations of abuse or neglect referred by hospital personnel in Ontario.

BMJ Paediatr Open. 2019 Feb 4;3(1):e000386. PMID: [30957025](#)

Of 20 years of child abuse referring patterns from Ontario, Canada hospitals, hospitals referred 5% of all referrals to child welfare services. In 1993, children were more likely to be referred from a hospital for a concern of physical abuse, and in 2013 referrals were more likely to involve a concern of neglect, risk of maltreatment, or exposure to IPV. 1/3 of hospital-referred investigations to child welfare were substantiated, and 9% of children were placed during initial investigation.

Rouland B, Vaithianathan R.

Cumulative Prevalence of Maltreatment Among New Zealand Children, 1998-2015.

Am J Public Health. 2018 Apr;108(4):511-513. PMID: [29470112](#)

Following all New Zealand children born in 1998 (55,443 children), almost 1 in 4 had been subject to at least 1 report to CPS. 9.7% of the entire group experienced substantiated abuse or neglect, and 3.1% experienced out of home placement.

Wickramasinghe YM, Raman S, Garg P, Hurwitz R.

Burden of adverse childhood experiences in children attending paediatric clinics in South Western Sydney, Australia: a retrospective audit.

BMJ Paediatr Open. 2019 Mar 8;3(1):e000330. PMID: [30957023](#)

In New South Wales, Australia, in clinics for children with developmental delay concerns, 5% of children had 4 or more ACEs. 63% had 4 or more ACEs in clinics for vulnerable children (care and protection risks, out of home care, children of parents with substance use or psychopathology, and indigenous and refugee children).

Berg KL, Shiu CS, Feinstein RT, et. al.

Children with developmental disabilities experience higher levels of adversity.

Res Dev Disabil. 2019 Jun;89:105-113. PMID: [30974258](#)

Using national data, children with developmental disabilities were 1.28 more likely to experience 1-2

Adverse Family Experiences, and 1.60 times more likely for 3 or more regardless of income level or residential status.

Hartung B, Schaper J, Fischer K, Ritz-Timme S.

Care for children with dental neglect: identification of problems and approaches to solving them.

Int J Legal Med. 2019 Mar;133(2):641-650. PMID: [30232545](#)

Dental neglect may have serious consequences for children's health, and may be associated with general neglect and abuse. This article details suggestions for guidelines and education.

Hambrick EP, Rubens SL, Brawner TW, Taussig HN.

Do sleep problems mediate the link between adverse childhood experiences and delinquency in preadolescent children in foster care?

J Child Psychol Psychiatry. 2018 Feb;59(2):140-149. PMID: [28862324](#)

For 516 maltreated children in foster care ages 9-11 years, after controlling for many variables, sleep problems partially were responsible for the association between ACEs and delinquent behaviors.

Grogan-Kaylor A, Ma J, Graham-Bermann SA.

The case against physical punishment.

Curr Opin Psychol. 2018 Feb;19:22-27. PMID: [29279217](#)

Review of research on parental physical punishment of children, "laying out the foundations of a case against physical punishment as a form of discipline." Authors consider family and cultural context, the continuum of family violence, and recommend positive parenting policies and practices.

Adult Manifestations of Child Abuse

Jaworska-Andryszewska P, Rybakowski JK.

Childhood trauma in mood disorders: Neurobiological mechanisms and implications for treatment.

Pharmacol Rep. 2019 Feb;71(1):112-120. PMID: [30544098](#)

Review of genetic predisposition, epigenetic regulation, and environmental factors including childhood trauma on the genesis, course and treatment of mood disorders, including effects on the brain, stress hormones and immune system, and the impact on treatment resistance to mood-stabilizing drugs.

Walker HE, Freud JS, Ellis RA, Fraine SM, Wilson LC.

The Prevalence of Sexual Revictimization.

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2019 Jan;20(1):67-80. PMID: [29333937](#)

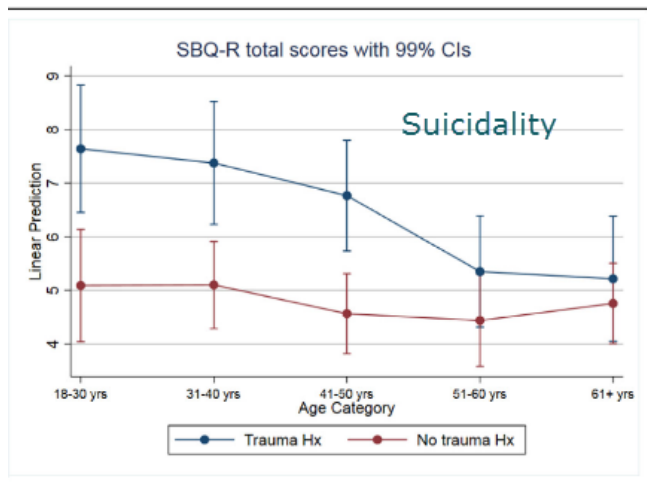
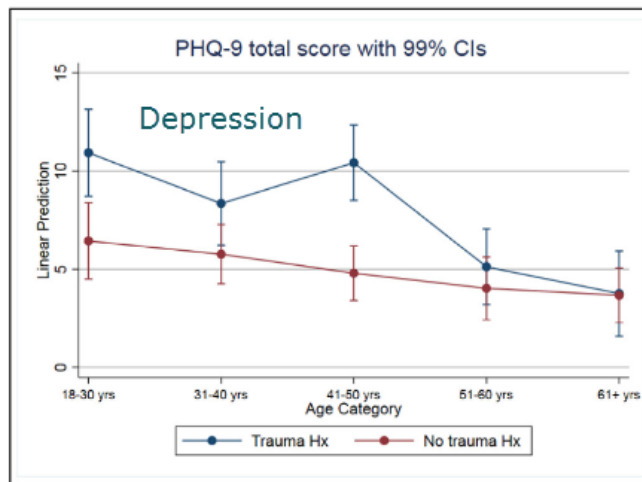
In a research review, “almost half of child sexual abuse survivors are sexually victimized in the future. The present study failed to find support for any of the examined moderators. Potential explanations of and implications for the results are offered, including suggestions for therapists.”

Rice SM, Kealy D, Oliffe JL, Seidler ZE, Ogrodniczuk JS.

Childhood maltreatment and age effects on depression and suicide risk among Canadian men.

Psychiatry Res. 2018 Dec;270:887-889. PMID: [30551339](#)

From a national sample of 530 Canadian men, and controlling for history of mental health treatment, disability, and sexual minority status, “The mood-related impact of childhood maltreatment is greatest during men’s younger years...and may be attenuated through the development of emotion regulation skills and reparative relational experiences later in life.”



Talmon A, Ginzburg K.

"Body self" in the shadow of childhood sexual abuse: The long-term implications of sexual abuse for male and female adult survivors.

Child Abuse Negl. 2018 Feb;76:416-425. PMID: [29241116](#)

From a survey of 843 male and female Israeli university students, a history of childhood sexual abuse (CSA) was associated with discomfort when in close proximity to others...CSA “is an intense experience that involves the destruction of both physical and emotional boundaries...experiences of the abuse are often not coded and processed verbally. Instead, the body, which is the focus of the abuse, becomes the space on which the impressions of the abuse are engraved...For the CSA survivor...being in close proximity to others...may echo these early experiences and activate memory traces of invasion and assault.”

Godbout N, Vaillancourt-Morel MP, Bigras N, et. al.

Intimate Partner Violence in Male Survivors of Child Maltreatment: A Meta-Analysis.

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2019 Jan;20(1):99-113. PMID: [29333983](#)

“Overall, most available studies examined men as perpetrators of IPV, whereas studies of victimization in men were relatively scarce. Results reveal an overall significant association between child maltreatment and IPV. The magnitude of this effect did not vary as a function of type (perpetration vs. victimization) or form (sexual, psychological, or physical) of IPV.”

Ridout KK, Levandowski M, Ridout SJ, et. al.

Early life adversity and telomere length: a meta-analysis.

Mol Psychiatry. 2018 Apr;23(4):858-871. PMID: [28322278](#)

Review of the research on childhood maltreatment demonstrated a small to medium effect toward shorter telomere length (a measure of cellular aging). Effects were greater with younger age of adversity, however might also be reversible over time “underscoring the fact that additional life experiences contribute to overall health”.

Mason SM, Santaularia NJ, Berge JM, et. al.

Is the childhood home food environment a confounder of the association between child maltreatment exposure and adult body mass index?

Prev Med. 2018 May;110:86-92. PMID: [29454080](#)

In this study, the home food environment in childhood had minimal to no effect on the association between childhood maltreatment and adult obesity.

Vertommen T, Kampen J, Schipper-van Veldhoven N, et. al.
Severe interpersonal violence against children in sport: Associated mental health problems and quality of life in adulthood.

Child Abuse Negl. 2018 Feb;76:459-468. PMID: [29253798](#)

In a large adult population study of the Netherlands and Belgium, of those who participated as child athletes in organized sports, 9% reported severe psychological violence, 8% severe physical violence, and 6% severe sexual violence in various sport settings. These histories were associated with more adult psychological distress and reduced quality of life, especially for those with polyvictimization.

Maatta J, Martikainen A, Pakarinen M, et. al.

High Level of Childhood Trauma Predicts a Poor Response to Spinal Cord Stimulation in Chronic Neuropathic Pain.

Pain Physician. 2019 Jan;22(1):E37-E44. PMID: [30700077](#)

Of 43 Finnish chronic pain patients treated with spinal cord stimulation, "The chronic pain patients had a high prevalence of childhood trauma, and those who had experienced especially high amounts of childhood trauma did not experience a significant relief in neuropathic pain during 12 months of follow-up treatment."

Adolescents

Thoresen S, Aakvaag HF, Strøm IF, et. al.

Loneliness as a mediator of the relationship between shame and health problems in young people exposed to childhood violence.

Soc Sci Med. 2018 Aug;211:183-189. PMID: [29958130](#)

In this study of 505 Norwegian adolescents and young adults, childhood violence-related shame had a profound effect on anxiety/depression symptoms. Part of this effect was due to loneliness, as shame had the potential to break down social connectedness.

Thomas JL, Lewis JB, Martinez I, et. al.

Associations between intimate partner violence profiles and mental health among low-income, urban pregnant adolescents.

BMC Pregnancy Childbirth. 2019 Apr 26;19(1):120. PMID: [31023259](#)

38% of low income urban adolescents experienced IPV during their third trimester of pregnancy. Of these, "13% were solely victims, 35% were solely perpetrators, and 52% were engaged in bilateral violence. All women with violent IPV profiles had significantly higher odds of having depression and anxiety compared to individuals reporting no IPV."

Domestic Violence – Effects on Children

Sandman CA, Curran MM, Davis EP, et. al.

Cortical Thinning and Neuropsychiatric Outcomes in Children Exposed to Prenatal Adversity: A Role for Placental CRH?

Am J Psychiatry. 2018 May 1;175(5):471-479. PMID: [29495899](#)

Of 97 mother/child pairs, increased prenatal maternal stress was associated with increased corticotrophin releasing hormone (stress hormone) produced by the placenta, which in turn caused thinning of brain areas relating to thinking and emotion (more so for girls than boys), and which correlated with behavioral symptoms at age 6.

Domestic Violence – Physical Health

Lewis NV, Moore THM, Feder GS, Macleod J, Whiting P.

Use of emergency contraception among women with experience of domestic violence and abuse.

BMC Womens Health. 2018 Sep 25;18(1):156. PMID: [30253777](#)

In a research review, the majority of articles showed an association between domestic violence and abuse (DVA) and use of emergency contraception (EC). "Each consultation for EC could be an appropriate context for clinical enquiry about DVA."

Domestic Violence – Mental Health

Miltz AR, Lampe FC, Bacchus LJ, et. al.

Intimate partner violence, depression, and sexual behaviour among gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men in the PROUD trial.

BMC Public Health. 2019 Apr 25;19(1):431. PMID: [31023281](#)

For 544 HIV negative male participants in a British study, after one year "44.9% of men reported ever being a victim of IPV, 15.6% in the last year, and 19.5% reported ever perpetrating IPV, 7.8% in the last year...Lifetime and last year experience of IPV victimization and perpetration were strongly associated with depressive symptoms."

Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse

Keller E, Santos C, Cusack D, et. al.

European council of legal medicine (ECLM) guidelines for the examination of suspected elder abuse.

Int J Legal Med. 2019 Jan;133(1):317-322. PMID: [29951880](#)

Excellent, concise review of examination findings in suspected elder abuse, mimics due to medical conditions, and screening questions and instruments.

Rosen T, Stern ME, Elman A, Mulcare MR.

Identifying and Initiating Intervention for Elder Abuse and Neglect in the Emergency Department.

Clin Geriatr Med. 2018 Aug;34(3):435-451. PMID: [30031426](#)

Excellent overall review of identification and management of elder abuse in the ED.

Yunus RM, Hairi NN, Choo WY.

Consequences of Elder Abuse and Neglect: A Systematic Review of Observational Studies.

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2019 Apr;20(2):197-213. PMID: [29333999](#)

“Summary of results reveals a wide range of EAN [elder abuse/neglect] outcomes, from premature mortality to increased health-care consumption and various forms of physical and psychological symptoms.”

Fang B, Yan E, Chan KL, Ip P.

Elder abuse and its medical outcomes in older Chinese people with cognitive and physical impairments.

Int J Geriatr Psychiatry. 2018 Aug;33(8):1038-1047. PMID: [29726621](#)

For 429 Chinese elders with cognitive and physical disabilities, 42.8% had experienced physical or psychological abuse over the past 12 months. After adjusting for various factors, “abused older persons were more susceptible to cardiovascular disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, peptic ulcer, digestive disorder, metabolic disease, acute inflammation, tumor, and injuries.”

Serra L, Contador I, Fernández-Calvo B, et. al.

Resilience and social support as protective factors against abuse of patients with dementia: A study on family caregivers.

Int J Geriatr Psychiatry. 2018 Aug;33(8):1132-1138. PMID: [29797350](#)

For 326 Spanish family caregivers of people with dementia, “the severity of cognitive impairment and

behavior disorders, a greater number of caregiving hours, a worse previous relationship with the caregiver, and perceived burden are positively related with abuse.” Caregiver resilience and social support had a protective effect.

Smith D, Bugeja L, Cunningham N, Ibrahim JE.

A Systematic Review of Sexual Assaults in Nursing Homes.

Gerontologist. 2018 Nov 3;58(6):e369-e383. PMID: [28402419](#)

From a research review, “Sexual assault was the least reported type of assault in NH [nursing homes]. Victims of sexual assault were likely to be females with cognitive or physical impairments. Perpetrators were likely to be male residents, although staff members were also substantiated. Forensic characteristics and investigative data were limited.”

Boddington P, Featherstone K.

The canary in the coal mine: Continence care for people with dementia in acute hospital wards as a crisis of dehumanization.

Bioethics. 2018 May;32(4):251-260. PMID: [29676501](#)

“The challenge of continence care for people living with dementia can be seen as the ‘canary in the coal mine’ for the unravelling of dignity within the acute setting.” Observational fieldwork in multiple UK acute hospitals over 154 days provided “an in-depth ethnographic analysis examining the ways in which treatment as a person is negotiated, achieved or threatened” for continence care.

Sexual Assault

Holland KJ, Cortina LM, Freyd JJ.

Compelled disclosure of college sexual assault.

Am Psychol. 2018 Apr;73(3):256-268. PMID: [29355356](#)

Review of federal law and guidance around compelled disclosure – mandating certain employees to report any student disclosure of sexual assault to university officials or police with or without the survivor’s consent – followed by an analysis of a random sample of 150 university policies. A literature review then suggests that these policies have been implemented “despite limited evidence to support assumptions regarding their benefits and effectiveness. In fact, some findings suggest negative consequences for survivors, employees, and institutions.”

Mancini C, Pickett JT, Call C, et. al.

Sexual Assault in the Ivory Tower: Public Opinion on University Accountability and Mandatory Reporting.

Sex Abuse. 2019 Apr;31(3):344-365. PMID: [28482741](#)

“Public opinion can directly and indirectly shape crime policy.” This 2015 poll of Virginia residents indicated that 2/3 feel universities can effectively respond to sex crimes and a large majority favored mandatory reporting.

Allen A.

Rape Messaging.

Fordham Law Rev. 2018 Dec;87(3):1033-83. PMID: [30840414](#)

In this legal review, “Sexual violence has reached epidemic proportions in this country. To reduce the incidence of sexual violence, the conversation needs to shift from a gendered conversation about how to reform criminal law to increase the rate of rape convictions to a gender-neutral discussion about how to change cultural norms.”

Budd KM, Rocque M, Bierie DM.

Deconstructing Incidents of Campus Sexual Assault: Comparing Male and Female Victimization.

Sex Abuse. 2019 Apr;31(3):296-317. PMID: [28471287](#)

Using data from 5,000 campus sexual assaults reported to police nationally, “Although both male and female victims were approximately 19 years old on average, perpetrators who assaulted females tended to be 23 years old while those assaulting males were on average 29. While 1% of perpetrators offending against female victims were themselves female, 17% of perpetrators offending against male victims were female.” Incidents with male victims were less likely to result in injuries than incidents with female victims.”

Brennan CL, Swartout KM, Goodnight BL, et. al.

Evidence for Multiple Classes of Sexually-Violent College Men.

Psychol Violence. 2019 Jan;9(1):48-55. PMID: [31011472](#)

From surveys of 1982 college men across five US universities, three groups were identifiable: 88.6% unlikely to perpetrate any sexual violence (SV), 9.8% likely to perpetrate SV using coercive tactics but not physical force, and 1.5% likely to perpetrate the full range of SV.

Human Trafficking

Ijadi-Maghsoodi R, Bath E, Cook M, Textor L, Barnert E.

Commercially sexually exploited youths' health care experiences, barriers, and recommendations: A qualitative analysis.

Child Abuse Negl. 2018 Feb;76:334-341. PMID: [29195171](#)

“Youth described facilitators to care, including availability of services such as screening for sexually transmitted infections, knowledge about sexual health, and a strong motivation to stay healthy. Barriers included feeling judged, concerns about confidentiality, fear, perceived low quality of services, and self-reliance. Overall, youth emphasized self-reliance and “street smarts” for survival and de-emphasized “victimhood,” which shaped their interactions with health care, and recommended that health providers develop increased understanding.”

LGBTQ Concerns

Charlton BM, Roberts AL, Rosario M, et. al.

Teen Pregnancy Risk Factors Among Young Women of Diverse Sexual Orientations.

Pediatrics. 2018 Apr;141(4). pii: e20172278. PMID: [29531127](#)

Sexual minority teens are approximately twice as likely as those who are heterosexual to have a teen pregnancy. In this large ongoing study of 7120 young women, childhood maltreatment and bullying were significant teen pregnancy risk factors among all participants, “which may, in part, stem from sexual orientation-related discrimination” explaining the increased pregnancy rates.

Cultural Concerns

Sabri B, Simonet M, Campbell JC.

Risk and protective factors of intimate partner violence among South Asian immigrant women and perceived need for services.

Cultur Divers Ethnic Minor Psychol. 2018 Jul;24(3):442-452. PMID: [29792481](#)

South Asian immigrant IPV survivors face multiple factors regarding IPV, including “cultural normalization of abuse, gender role expectations, need to protect family honor, arranged marriage system, abusive partner characteristics, and women's fear of losing children and being on own. Protective factors included supportive family and friends, religion, safety strategies, education, and empowerment. Women highlighted the need for community education and empowerment efforts and culturally responsive services for addressing IPV in South Asian communities.”

Ragavan MI, Fikre T, Millner U, Bair-Merritt M.
The impact of domestic violence exposure on South Asian children in the United States: Perspectives of domestic violence agency staff.

Child Abuse Negl. 2018 Feb;76:250-260. PMID: [29161645](#)
South Asian children exposed to DV may require “careful attention paid to how potential culture clashes between parents and children may impact the way children process trauma...including the role of the extended family, identifying with two cultures, fear about what the South Asian community will think, gender differences, and the importance of projecting an image of perfection.”

O'Connor M.
Dowry-related domestic violence and complex posttraumatic stress disorder: a case report.
Australas Psychiatry. 2017 Aug;25(4):351-353. PMID: [28347151](#)
Case report and discussion of the concept of immigrant women’s stress due to coercive dowry demands/dissatisfaction and ensuing emotional and physical IPV.

Mersky JP, Janczewski CE.
Racial and ethnic differences in the prevalence of adverse childhood experiences: Findings from a low-income sample of U.S. women.
Child Abuse Negl. 2018 Feb;76:480-487. PMID: [29272816](#)
In an expanded ACE survey (original 10 plus food insecurity, homelessness, prolonged parental absence, peer victimization, and violent crime victimization) of 1423 low-income women in Wisconsin receiving home visiting services, the highest ACE scores were found in American Indians, followed by non-Hispanic Whites, Blacks, and Hispanics.”

Perpetrators

Priester MA, Kulkarni S, Mennicke A, Bell BA.
Factors Associated With Batterer Intervention Program Attrition.
Violence Vict. 2019 Apr 1;34(2):296-311. PMID: [31019013](#)
Of 268 men enrolled in a county-operated Batterer Intervention Program (BIP), participants who experienced ACEs had decreased odds of BIP attrition compared to participants with no ACEs.

Mokhber N, Azarpazhooh MR, Prakash A, et. al.
The medical-legal aspect of sexual deviant behaviors due to brain lesions: A case report and narrative review of the literature.

Int J Law Psychiatry. 2018 May -Jun;58:117-121. PMID: [29853002](#)
Case report and review of the medico-legal aspects of hypersexuality and sexual deviant behaviors due to brain disorders.

Police and Court Systems

Zeoli AM, Frattaroli S, Roskam K, Herrera AK.
Removing Firearms From Those Prohibited From Possession by Domestic Violence Restraining Orders: A Survey and Analysis of State Laws.
Trauma Violence Abuse. 2019 Jan;20(1):114-125. PMID: [29334003](#)
Comprehensive list of state laws pertaining to relinquishment or removal of firearms from persons prohibited from possession by DV restraining orders, including a legal analysis of the provisions of each law.

Providers

Evans M, Malpass A, Agnew-Davies R, Feder G.
Women’s experiences of a randomised controlled trial of a specialist psychological advocacy intervention following domestic violence: A nested qualitative study.
PLoS One. 2018 Nov 27;13(11):e0193077. PMID: [30481185](#)
In this randomized controlled trial of a psychological intervention for women at UK DV agencies, women valued the educational, psychological and emotional elements of the intervention, and “experienced a reduction in self-blame, improved sense of identity and greater self-esteem. They also incorporated new skills and self-help techniques to enable sustainable change...Adherence was affected by women's 'psychological readiness' to engage, and the competing demands of practical issues such as housing insecurity and legal proceedings.”

Levy RM.
Doctors and Uxoricide: What Can We Learn From Tragedy?
Neuromodulation. 2017 Apr;20(3):201-205. PMID: [28402081](#)
First person narrative of a physician leader of a conference who received a polite “unable to come” from a colleague who was at the time killing his wife who had recently asked for a divorce. The author subsequently reviews the history of physicians who killed their wives and then a detailed review of this topic in general.

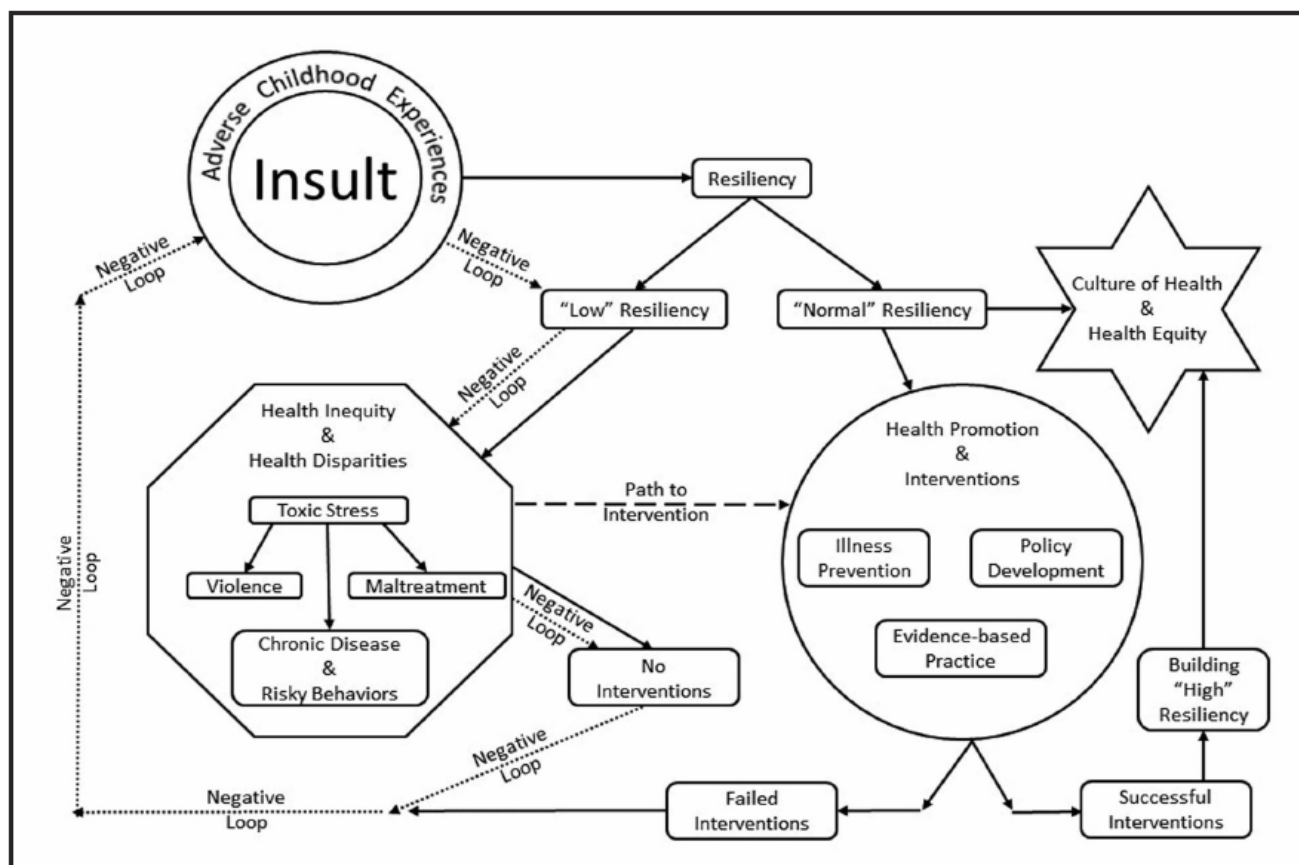


Figure 1. Adverse childhood experiences curricular concept map.

Po-Yan Leung T, Phillips L, Bryant C, Hegarty K.
How family doctors perceived their 'readiness' and 'preparedness' to identify and respond to intimate partner abuse: a qualitative study.

Fam Pract. 2018 Jul 23;35(4):517-523. PMID: [29300886](#)
 In this Australian study, primary care doctors "revealed four themes of doctors' perceived 'readiness' to identify and respond to IPA: self-efficacy, emotional readiness, motivational readiness and attitudinal readiness, whereas doctors' perceived 'preparedness' comprise two themes: IPA knowledge and communication skills." Besides enhancing doctors' preparedness with knowledge and communication skills, emotional readiness needs to be addressed.

King E, Steenson C, Shannon C, Mulholland C.
Prevalence rates of childhood trauma in medical students: a systematic review.

BMC Med Educ. 2017 Sep 12;17(1):159. PMID: [28899378](#)
 In a research review, studies of prevalence of ACEs in medical students were limited and difficult to generalize. Medical students may be more

reluctant than the general population to disclose. These experiences may make a medical student more vulnerable to academic stress and may be associated with alcohol or other substance use; however they may also make a person more comfortable asking patients about abuse. Authors advocate well-organized, large-scale prospective studies.

Prevention

Ngo QM, Eisman AB, Walton MA, et. al.
Emergency Department Alcohol Intervention: Effects on Dating Violence and Depression.

Pediatrics. 2018 Jul;142(1). pii: e20173525. PMID: [29871891](#)
 A single-session ED brief intervention, previously show to have promise in reducing underage drinking, also demonstrated promise in preventing dating violence perpetration and depression symptoms. This was felt to be due to the association between drinking, IPV and depression.

Krahé B.

Violence against women.

Curr Opin Psychol. 2018 Feb;19:6-10. PMID: [29279224](#)

“Violence against women is based on a societal consensus about the roles and rights of men and women. Explanations of why men engage in aggressive behavior toward women address different levels, including the macro level of society, the micro level of dyadic interactions, and the individual level of perpetrator characteristics. Prevention efforts are needed that address each of these levels.”

Kettrey HH, Marx RA.

The Effects of Bystander Programs on the Prevention of Sexual Assault across the College Years: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis.

J Youth Adolesc. 2019 Feb;48(2):212-227. PMID: [30264210](#)

In this research review, bystander programs were shown to have a significant, desirable effect on bystander efficacy, intentions, and intervention, with effects significantly stronger among college students in their first two years.

van der Put CE, Assink M, Gubbels J, et. al.

Identifying Effective Components of Child Maltreatment Interventions: A Meta-analysis.

Clin Child Fam Psychol Rev. 2018 Jun;21(2):171-202. PMID: [29204796](#)

Research review of interventions for preventing or reducing child maltreatment. “Cognitive behavioral therapy, home visitation, parent training, family-based/multisystemic, substance abuse, and combined interventions were effective in preventing and/or reducing child maltreatment.”

Swenson CC, Schaeffer CM.

A Multisystemic Approach to the Prevention and Treatment of Child Abuse and Neglect.

Int J Child Maltreat. 2018 Nov;1(1):97-120. PMID: [30984913](#)

MST-CAN is a program in which research-supported mental health services are delivered in the home by one clinical team to families who have serious clinical needs. MST-CAN has been shown effective for reducing out-of-home placement, abusive or neglectful parent behavior, and parent and child mental health difficulties.

Researchers

McMahon S, Wood L, Cusano J, Macri LM.

Campus Sexual Assault: Future Directions for Research.

Sex Abuse. 2019 Apr;31(3):270-295. PMID: [29320942](#)

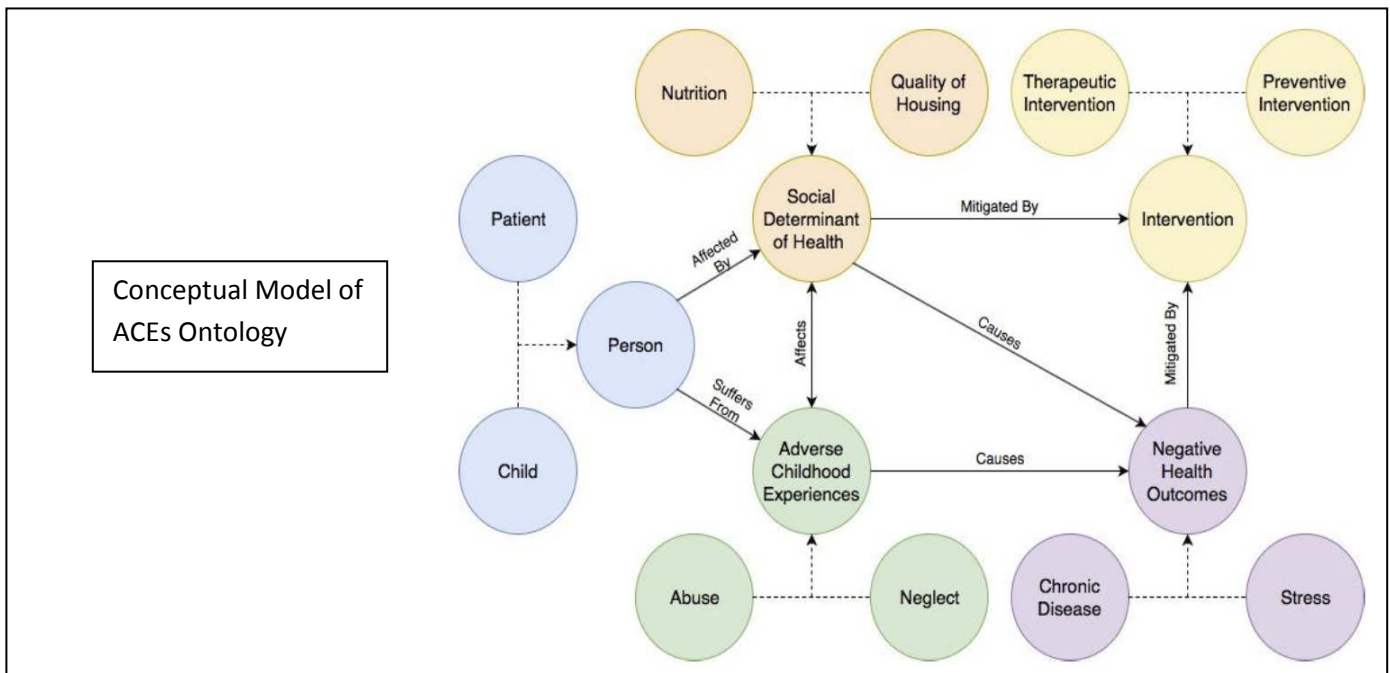
Review summarizes the empirical research gained from the past two decades, and identifies areas in which further work is needed for this problem.

Brenas JH, Shin EK, Shaban-Nejad A.

An Ontological Framework to Improve Surveillance of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs).

Stud Health Technol Inform. 2019;258:31-35. PMID: [30942708](#)

“To better understand the relationship between ACEs and the associated health outcomes and eventually to plan and implement preventive interventions, access to an integrated coherent actionable data set is crucial...we introduce a formal reusable ontological framework to capture knowledge in the domain of ACEs.”



Other of Interest

Boykin DM, Himmerich SJ, Pinciotti CM, et. al.

Barriers to self-compassion for female survivors of childhood maltreatment: The roles of fear of self-compassion and psychological inflexibility.

Child Abuse Negl. 2018 Feb;76:216-224. PMID: [29144981](#)

"Rejection and abuse from early attachment figures, such as parents, conditions children to respond to themselves in a harsh, rejecting manner rather than with warmth and reassurance. They can develop a self-directed hostility that permeates self-criticism and facilitates self-deprecating beliefs, such as that self-compassion is not deserved, is a sign of weakness, or that desiring love and kindness will only be met with rejection. Thus, individuals reared in families characterized by abuse and low affection may not only be unfamiliar with compassion (from others and themselves), but may also find it aversive...Specifically, childhood maltreatment victims often exhibit a marked fear and active resistance of self-kindness and warmth (i.e., fear of self-compassion)."

Doyle JJ Jr, Aizer A.

Economics of Child Protection: Maltreatment, Foster Care, and Intimate Partner Violence.

Annu Rev Econom. 2018 Aug;10:87-108. PMID: [31007830](#)

"700,000 children are found to be victims of abuse or neglect in the United States each year; over the course of childhood, 6% of children are placed in foster care, and 18% witness intimate partner violence. These children are at much higher risks of homelessness, criminal justice involvement, unemployment, and chronic health conditions compared to their neighbors...linked administrative data that are increasingly available will usher in a wave of research on this wider range of costs and benefits. These data include productivity measures from education, employment, and welfare agencies; externality measures from criminal justice; and health measures from state Medicaid programs or providers...finally, economists should team with child welfare practitioners and researchers from other fields to implement RCTs [randomized controlled trials] when new interventions are being considered."

