

MEDICAL SUMMARY FOR SCC DVC JULY 2009

This summary includes selected articles indexed by the National Library of Medicine May 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 Santa Clara Domestic Violence Council 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

Section on Radiology; American Academy of Pediatrics.

Diagnostic imaging of child abuse.

Pediatrics. 2009 May;123(5):1430-5. PMID: 19403511

Updated policy statement from the American Academy of Pediatrics on appropriate radiological imaging studies in suspected child abuse.

Hulette AC, Fisher PA, Kim HK, Ganger W, Landsverk JL.

Dissociation in foster preschoolers: a replication and assessment study.

J Trauma Dissociation. 2008;9(2):173-90. PMID: 19042773

Dissociation levels were much higher in foster preschoolers who had experienced all three: physical abuse, sexual abuse and neglect, than any combination of those three.

Cooney C.

The nature of parental supervisory neglect.

Child Welfare. 2008;87(4):55-77. PMID: 19391467

Article analyzes the characteristics of parents who neglect to properly supervise their children in the instances of : leaving a child alone, not watching closely, leaving with an inadequate caregiver, or mixed. One third of children left with an inadequate caregiver were physically or sexually assaulted.

Martinez-Torteya C, Anne Bogat G, von Eye A, Levendosky AA.

Resilience among children exposed to domestic violence: the role of risk and protective factors.

Child Dev. 2009 Mar-Apr;80(2):562-77. PMID: 19467011

Of 190 mother child pairs, where the 2-4 year old child was exposed to DV, 54% demonstrated resilience, with one of the most important protective factors being a mother who was not depressed.

Villamor E, Chavarro JE, Caro LE.

Growing up under generalized violence: An ecological study of homicide rates and secular trends in age at menarche in Colombia, 1940s-1980s.

Econ Hum Biol. 2009 Mar 31. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 19395326

In this study of 5577 Colombian women born between 1941 and 1989 by the Epidemiology Dept. of the Harvard school of Public Health, a pattern emerged of a relative delay in onset of menses that correlated with the fluctuating nation-wide homicide rate. "These results could suggest a potential impact on maturation from psychosocial stress in childhood due to exposure to a generalized atmosphere of violence and fear."

Adult Manifestations of Child Abuse

Masho SW, Anderson L.

Sexual assault in men: a population-based study of Virginia.

Violence Vict. 2009;24(1):98-110. PMID: 19297888

Of 705 adult Virginian men, 12.9% had experienced sexual assault, 94% before the age of 18. Sexually assaulted men were 3.4 times more likely to be depressed and 2.4 times more likely to have considered suicide. Only 15.4% sought counseling.

Greenfield EA, Marks NF.

Violence from parents in childhood and obesity in adulthood: using food in response to stress as a mediator of risk.

Soc Sci Med. 2009 Mar;68(5):791-8. PMID: 19185965

Using data from the National Survey of Midlife in the US 1995-2005, this article associates childhood psychological or physical violence with adult obesity, with respondents using food as a stress mediator.

Gerra G, Leonardi C, Cortese E, Zaimovic A, Dell'agnello G, Manfredini M, Somaini L, Petracca F, Caretti V, Raggi MA, Donnini C.

Childhood neglect and parental care perception in cocaine addicts: relation with psychiatric symptoms and biological correlates.

Neurosci Biobehav Rev. 2009 Apr;33(4):601-10. PMID: 17904221

Abstinent cocaine addicted adults, compared to matched controls, showed significant dysregulation of the stress hormone systems relating to cortisol and dopamine, more markedly so in addicted individuals with a history of childhood neglect.

Sansone RA, Whitecar P, Wiederman MW.

The prevalence of childhood trauma among those seeking buprenorphine treatment.

J Addict Dis. 2009;28(1):64-7. PMID: 19197597

In a consecutive sample of 113 patients being treated for opioid addiction, only 20% had NOT experienced childhood abuse or trauma.

Domestic Violence – Mental Health

DeJonghe ES, Bogat GA, Levendosky AA, von Eye A.

Women survivors of intimate partner violence and post-traumatic stress disorder: prediction and prevention.

J Postgrad Med. 2008 Oct-Dec;54(4):294-300. PMID: 18953149

Review article on the risk factors, protective factors, and consequences of PTSD in battered women; prevalence of PTSD among battered women in this article is placed at 45-84%.

Messman-Moore TL, Ward RM, Brown AL.

Substance use and PTSD symptoms impact the likelihood of rape and revictimization in college women.

J Interpers Violence. 2009 Mar;24(3):499-521. PMID: 18487522

In an 8-month prospective study of 276 college women, 9.9% were raped during the time period. A strong risk factor for rape was substance abuse (88%), especially alcohol, and a large risk factor for substance abuse was PTSD from prior abuse during childhood or young adulthood.

Gold SN.

Benefits of a contextual approach to understanding and treating complex trauma.

J Trauma Dissociation. 2008;9(2):269-92. PMID: 19042778

For survivors of prolonged child abuse, besides the abuse trauma, survivors may have experienced gaps in appropriate psychological development due to dysfunctional family environment. Addressing these gaps may help better equip their social and occupational functioning.

Cultural Issues

Nash ST, Hesterberg L.

Biblical framings of and responses to spousal violence in the narratives of abused Christian women.

Violence Against Women. 2009 Mar;15(3):340-61. PMID: 19129544

Detailed interviews with 3 abused women who used religious context to help them cope, revealed difficulties with certain religious strategies, which displaced their spouses' accountabilities and prolonged these women's time spent in abusive relationships, placing them at further risk.

Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse

Abbey L.

Elder abuse and neglect: when home is not safe.

Clin Geriatr Med. 2009 Feb;25(1):47-60, vi. PMID: 19217492

Review of elder abuse and neglect from the standpoint of home visitation.

Selwood A, Cooper C, Owens C, Blanchard M, Livingston G.

What would help me stop abusing? The family carer's perspective.

Int Psychogeriatr. 2009 Apr;21(2):309-13. PMID: 19250560

113 caregivers who reported past abusive behavior toward a family member with dementia were asked what they needed to help them stop being abusive. The top three interventions they recommended were: medication to help the care recipient's memory, written advice on understanding memory problems and what to do, and more information from professionals caring for the person with dementia.

Perpetrators

Jespersen AF, Lalumière ML, Seto MC.

Sexual abuse history among adult sex offenders and non-sex offenders: a meta-analysis.

Child Abuse Negl. 2009Mar;33(3):179-92. PMID: 19327831

A meta-analysis (review of many research papers) showed that adult sex offenders, as opposed to other types of offenders, were 3.36 times more likely to have experienced childhood sexual abuse, but not more likely to have experienced childhood physical abuse.

Rhodes KV, Houry D, Cerulli C, Straus H, Kaslow NJ, McNutt LA.

Intimate partner violence and comorbid mental health conditions among urban male patients.

Ann Fam Med. 2009 Jan-Feb;7(1):47-55. PMID: 19139449

Of urban men who were involved with a partner in the prior year and were seen in an ED for a non-urgent problem, approximately 1/3 disclosed IPV (20% victimization, 6% perpetration, and 11% bidirectional abuse). Men disclosing any form of IPV had significantly increased rates of smoking, substance abuse, and mental health problems.

Coulter M, VandeWeerd C.

Reducing domestic violence and other criminal recidivism: effectiveness of a multilevel batterers intervention program.

Violence Vict. 2009;24(2):139-52. PMID: 19459395

Article describes a multilevel system of batterer intervention that showed significantly decreased recidivism rates for 18,000 batterers.

Police and Court System

Liem M, Hengeveld M, Koenraadt F.

Domestic Homicide Followed by Parasuicide: A Comparison With Homicide and Parasuicide.

Int J Offender Ther Comp Criminol. 2009 Apr 20. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 19380454

As compared to separate homicides, and separate parasuicides, analysis of 77 homicide-parasuicide cases showed a predominant pattern of perpetrators being mentally ill (31% depressed, 29% psychotic, 62% personality disorder), dependent on the victim, and killed when faced with separation from the victim. Behavioral warning signs were: 1/3 had threatened suicide earlier, 63% premeditated planning of the event.

Finlay-Morreale HE, Tsuei BJ, Fisher BS, Davis K, Johannigman JA.

Close is dead: determinants of firearm injury lethality in women.

J Trauma. 2009 Apr;66(4):1207-11. PMID: 19359939.

Databases in Cincinnati 1998-2006 were reviewed for firearm injury to women. Analysis showed that firearm assaults by intimate partners were highly lethal (fatalities 71% by IP, 50% by acquaintance, and 20% by stranger), occurred at home (IP 79%, acquaintance 63%, stranger 29%), and involved head injury (IP 68%, acquaintance 33%, stranger 16%).

Cramer RJ, Adams DD, Brodsky SL.

Jury selection in child sex abuse trials: a case analysis.

J Child Sex Abus. 2009 Mar-Apr;18(2):190-205. PMID:19306206

Discussion of general and case-specific jury selection variables, including questionnaire items, from a defense perspective.

Providers

Burke JG, Mahoney P, Gielen A, McDonnell KA, O'Campo P.

Defining appropriate stages of change for intimate partner violence survivors.

Violence Vict. 2009;24(1):36-51. PMID: 19297884

In depth interviews with 96 women in DV relationships around the themes of “safety” and “leaving”, demonstrated complex issues that did not correlate well with the standard stages of change behavior model.

Tufts KA, Clements PT, Karlowicz KA.

Integrating intimate partner violence content across curricula: Developing a new generation of nurse educators.

Nurse Educ Today. 2009 Jan;29(1):40-7. PMID: 18692280

Article suggests targeting academic nurse educators' knowledge and skills relating to IPV, to encourage this training in formal nursing education, which presently has no requirements for coverage of this topic.

Jacquelyn C. Campbell, Daniel W. Webster, and Nancy Glass

The Danger Assessment: Validation of a Lethality Risk Assessment Instrument for Intimate Partner Femicide

J Interpers Violence 2009 24: 653-674.

The “Danger Assessment” tool was revised based on research of femicides in 11 cities (attached). See <http://www.dangerassessment.org/WebApplication1/pages/da/> for English and Spanish versions (note, there is a fee to get the scoring system, but even without scoring it is a helpful tool).

Prinz RJ, Sanders MR, Shapiro CJ, Whitaker DJ, Lutzker JR.

Population-based prevention of child maltreatment: the U.S. Triple p system population trial.

Prev Sci. 2009 Mar;10(1):1-12. PMID: 19160053

Randomized, controlled trial of a community Positive Parenting Program of community media and communication to normalize and acknowledge the difficulties of parenting experiences, to break down parental sense of social isolation regarding parenting, to de-stigmatize getting help, to impart parenting information directly to parents, and to alter the community context for parenting, showed over two years a significant decrease in substantiated child maltreatment, child out-of-home placements, and child maltreatment injuries.

Turell SC, Herrmann MM.

"Family" support for family violence: exploring community support systems for lesbian and bisexual women who have experienced abuse.

J Lesbian Stud. 2008;12(2-3):211-24. PMID: 19042733

Interviews with 11 lesbian and bisexual women revealed why they rarely used services in the general community, and what were their unmet needs.

Other of Interest

Thompson AK, Bertocci G, Pierce MC.

Assessment of head injury risk associated with feet-first free falls in 12-month-old children using an anthropomorphic test device.

J Trauma. 2009 Apr;66(4):1019-29. PMID: 19359909

Short distance falls are a common false history provided in cases of child abuse. The department of mechanical engineering at the Univ. of Kentucky created an anthropomorphic testing device to simulate a child falling from three different heights onto 5 different surfaces, to determine the impact forces for head trauma.