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Child Abuse

Naito H, Nitta K, Kakiuchi Y.

Risk factors of self-reported physical child abuse during the COVID-19 pandemic in Japan: work-related changes in men and fear of COVID-19 in women.

PeerJ. 2023;11:e15346. PMID: [37180587](#)

From a national representative internet survey of child caregivers conducted in Japan during 2021 asking about effects of the pandemic, male offenders of physical child abuse were more likely to report working from home 4-7 days/week, decreased work, covid infection of self and household members, unwillingness to receive covid vaccine, benevolent sexism, and personal history of child abuse. Female offenders were more likely to report bad relationships with household members, fear of covid, covid infection of self and household members, and history of childhood verbal abuse.

Feldman KW, Sokoloff M, Otjen JP, et al.

Short Falls in Childhood Occasionally Cause Major Brain Injuries Because of Unusual Circumstances.

Pediatr Emerg Care. 2023;39(5):335-41. PMID: [37115991](#)

Of 140 children seen in one ED for a short fall (less than 4 feet), 40 needed intensive care, but only 4 sustained major injuries. These 4 included a child with previous brain surgery and a shunt, an undiagnosed blood vessel issue, an undiagnosed platelet/clotting disorder, and a separation of the cranial sutures (baby's head bones which grow together over time). "Although young children rarely sustain major head injury following short falls, serious head injuries do occasionally occur because of unusual injury mechanisms or preexisting conditions. It is important to fully evaluate these patients to differentiate these unintentional falls from abusive head injury."

Keogh A, Goldberg A, Schroeder C, et al.

Anogenital HSV in Children: Should Providers Be Concerned for Sexual Abuse?

J Pediatr Adolesc Gynecol. 2023;36(3):263-7. PMID: [36693446](#)

"The purpose of this study was to describe how child abuse pediatricians evaluate children with anogenital herpes simplex virus infection and determine whether any consistent practice patterns are followed...although nonsexual transmission of anogenital HSV may be possible, providers must still consider sexual abuse. Children with a first-time outbreak of anogenital HSV should have a comprehensive evaluation for sexual abuse, including interview, physical exam, and testing for sexually transmitted infections."

van der Hoeven ML, Assink M, Stams GJM, et al.

Victims of Child Abuse Dropping Out of Trauma-Focused Treatment: A Meta-Analysis of Risk Factors.

Journal of child & adolescent trauma. 2023;16(2):269-83.

PMID: [37234839](#)

"A substantial number of children who experienced child maltreatment drop out of evidence-based trauma-focused treatments." From a review of studies, risk factors for dropout included being male, child protective services involvement, minority status, low therapist-child support, low youth perception of parental approval, family income, and parental education.

Keefe RJ, Cummings ADL, Smith AE, Greeley CS, Horne BSV.

Psychotropic Medication Prescribing: Youth in Foster Care Compared with Other Medicaid Enrollees.

Journal of child and adolescent psychopharmacology.

2023;33(4):149-55. PMID: [37204275](#)

From a large Medicaid state database of children aged 1-18 years, 35% of youth in foster care received at least one prescription for a mental health medication compared to 8% of nonfoster children. Foster children who were prescribed mental health medication received a mean of 2.9 classes of drugs compared to 1.4 for nonfoster children, and they were more likely to be prescribed certain types of medications without a formal diagnosis.

Adult Manifestations of Child Abuse

Segal L, Amos J.

The serious health consequences of abuse and neglect in early life.

Bmj. 2023;381:p930. PMID: [37137517](#)

From an editorial: “It is now clear that health outcomes for people exposed to serious child abuse or neglect are poor, and for those subject to the highest level of abuse truly disturbing. Clinicians and leaders in health and human services sectors must step up and provide the services needed. Notification to child protection services cannot be considered the end of our responsibility—it rarely elicits the clinical and related services that families need. Clinicians and health and community services require the capacity, skill, and funding to deliver the intensive and responsive service models needed to address the trauma underlying many, apparently intractable chronic conditions. A long-term commitment to a proportionate response could reduce the disturbing health consequences observed in victims of child abuse and neglect, and prevent the transmission of abuse to another generation.”

Wang YX, Sun Y, Missmer SA, et al.

Association of early life physical and sexual abuse with premature mortality among female nurses: prospective cohort study.

Bmj. 2023;381:e073613. PMID: [37137504](#)

Using data from the Nurses’ Health Study II, “Nurses who experienced severe physical abuse or forced sexual activity in childhood and adolescence had a higher crude premature mortality rate than nurses without such abuse in childhood or adolescence...severe physical abuse was associated with a greater risk of mortality due to external causes of injury and poisoning (multivariable adjusted hazard ratio 2.81), suicide (3.05), and diseases of the digestive system (2.4). Forced sexual activity as a child and adolescent was associated with greater risk of mortality due to cardiovascular disease (2.48), external injury or poisoning (3.25), suicide (4.30), respiratory disease (3.74), and diseases of the digestive system (4.83).”

De Rubeis V, Gonzalez A, Tarride JÉ, Griffith LE, Anderson LN.
A longitudinal study evaluating adverse childhood experiences and obesity in adulthood using the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging (CLSA).

Int J Epidemiol. 2023 May 8:dyad054. PMID: [37155914](#)

From a large Canadian study on aging, 66% of adults had experienced one or more ACE. The odds of obesity increased in a dose-response manner with increasing number of ACEs. A high proportion of

people had obesity defined by BMI (31%), waist circumference (43%) and % body fat (74%).

Tabone JK, Cox S, Aylward L, Abunnaja S, Szoka N, Tabone LE.
Addressing Adverse Childhood Experiences and Psychological Symptoms Among Bariatric Patients.

Journal of child & adolescent trauma. 2023;16(2):321-7.

PMID: [37234836](#)

Of 199 patients seeking bariatric surgery for obesity, “there is a significant association between ACEs and psychological symptoms. The study also revealed that patients who reported having a childhood supportive person were significantly associated with a lower BMI, while those who reported having adulthood supportive person showed significantly less symptoms of depression, anxiety, and binge eating.” Findings have implications for addressing ACEs preoperatively to achieve optimal surgical outcomes.

Sandsæter HL, Eik-Nes TT, Getz LO, et al.

Adverse childhood experiences and pre-pregnancy body mass index in the HUNT study: A population-based cohort study.

PLoS One. 2023;18(5):e0285160. PMID: [37130113](#)

Of 6679 Norwegian women surveyed about pre-pregnancy BMI, “Perceiving childhood as difficult was associated with higher odds of pre-pregnancy underweight (Odds Ratio 1.78) and obesity (OR 1.58). A difficult childhood was positively associated with obesity with an adjusted OR of 1.19 (class I obesity), 2.32 (class II obesity,) and 4.62 (class III obesity). Parental divorce was positively associated with obesity (OR 1.34). Bad childhood memories were associated with both overweight (OR 1.34) and obesity (OR 1.63). Parental death was not associated with pre-pregnancy BMI.

Testa A, Jacobs B, Zhang L, Jackson D, Ganson K, Nagata J.

Adverse Childhood Experiences and Prescription Opioid Use During Pregnancy: An Analysis of the North and South Dakota PRAMS, 2019-2020.

Res Sq [Preprint]. 2023 May 9:rs.3.rs-2547252. PMID: [37214797](#)

Of 2,999 individuals in a pregnancy risk monitoring program in North and South Dakota, compared to those with no ACEs, recent mothers with three or more ACEs had a 2.4 greater odds of prescription opioid use during pregnancy. “Additional research is needed to better understand the mechanisms that link ACEs and prescription opioid use during pregnancy, as well as how to best support those with ACEs exposure in a trauma-informed manner to reduce the risk of substance use.”

Volkow ND, Blanco C.

Substance use disorders: a comprehensive update of classification, epidemiology, neurobiology, clinical aspects, treatment and prevention.

World Psychiatry. 2023;22(2):203-29. PMID: [37159360](#)

“Substance use disorders (SUDs) are highly prevalent and exact a large toll on individuals' health, well-being, and social functioning. Long-lasting changes in brain networks involved in reward, executive function, stress reactivity, mood, and self-awareness underlie the intense drive to consume substances and the inability to control this urge in a person who suffers from addiction (moderate or severe SUD). Biological (including genetics and developmental life stages) and social (including adverse childhood experiences) determinants of health are recognized factors that contribute to vulnerability for or resilience against developing a SUD. Consequently, prevention strategies that target social risk factors can improve outcomes and, when deployed in childhood and adolescence, can decrease the risk for these disorders.”

Yildiz M, Orak U, Aydođdu R.

Enduring Effects of Early Life Traumas on Adult Suicidal Ideation.

Journal of child & adolescent trauma. 2023;16(2):297-307. PMID: [37234841](#)

From a large US national study, childhood emotional abuse, physical abuse, and sexual abuse each was found to be significantly and independently associated with suicidal ideation in adulthood. Between 30-50% of this association was influenced by psychological distress (i.e., depression and anxiety), subjective powerlessness, and perceived social rejection.

Adolescents

McMullan J, Robinson J, Varley N.

The Neglect of Adolescent Neglect.

Comprehensive child and adolescent nursing. 2023;46(2):98-101. PMID: [36787497](#)

Authors bring up the concept that while neglect is more identifiable in children, it is more complicated in adolescents where there is a gray area of neglect vs. growing up and becoming more independent. However, neglect does happen to adolescents. It is important that health personnel have awareness that “anti-social and disruptive behaviors may not be the result of ‘normal’ teenage development, and that decisions to leave home may not signify

independence, but in fact may be the result of neglect and harmful parental relationships...We must acknowledge that they are not adults and thus advocate for their needs yet respect that they are beginning to form a strong sense of self.”

Friedman JK, Yoon CY, Emery Tavernier RL, et al.

Associations of childhood maltreatment with binge eating and binge drinking in emerging adult women.

Preventive medicine reports. 2023;33:102217. PMID: [37223561](#)

From a diverse sample of 788 students from Minneapolis middle and high schools followed over time, 62% reported at least one ACE. “Experiences of physical abuse had the strongest association with a ten-percentage point higher predicted probability [PP] of binge drinking, and seven-percentage point higher PP of co-occurring binge eating and drinking. Emotional abuse had the strongest association with an 11-percentage point higher PP binge eating only.”

Hébert É, Fortin L, Fortin A, Paradis A, Hébert M.

The Associations between Self-Silencing and Delinquency in Adolescent Who Experienced Child Sexual Abuse.

J Child Sex Abus. 2023;32(4):438-54. PMID: [36776021](#)

For 110 adolescents seeking services following child sexual abuse, and after controlling for a variety of factors, self-silencing (i.e., low assertiveness and self-expression, conflict avoidance, presenting a non-authentic self, anger, and hostility) was positively associated with delinquent behaviors, affiliation with delinquent peers, alcohol and drug use, and aggressive behaviors. “Implementing interventions aimed at increasing adolescents' assertiveness, conflict management skills, and emotion regulation...may lower their involvement in delinquency.”

Piolanti A, Waller F, Schmid IE, Foran HM.

Long-term Adverse Outcomes Associated With Teen Dating Violence (TDV): A Systematic Review.

Pediatrics. 2023 Jun 1;151(6):e2022059654. PMID: [37126366](#)

From a research review, “Findings showed that TDV in adolescence was associated with future dating and intimate partner violence in adulthood. Studies also indicated that TDV was longitudinally associated with increasing high-risk behaviors (ie, marijuana and alcohol use) and poor mental health outcomes...more frequently among females compared with males.”

Scott S, Lavage DR, Acharya G, et al.
Experiences of Exploitation and Associations With Economic Abuse in Adolescent Dating Relationships.

J Trauma Dissociation. 2023:1-17. PMID: [37183437](#)

In an online survey of 1,752 adolescents ages 13-17, the 70% who reported economic adolescent relationship abuse (ARA) were more likely to report transactional sex (adjusted Odds ratio = 2.76), depending on a partner to pay for contraception or birth control (aOR = 2.20), and reproductive coercion (aOR = 3.20).” Authors want youth-serving providers and agencies should be aware of these intersections.

Domestic Violence – Effects on Children

Moss KM, Loxton D, Mishra GD.

Does Timing Matter? Associations Between Intimate Partner Violence Across the Early Life Course and Internalizing and Externalizing Behavior in Children.

J Interpers Violence. 2023:8862605231174505. PMID: [37224432](#)

From an Australian study of 2163 mothers, 32% reported that their children had been exposed to IPV. Of these children, 55.2% were exposed at one time, 28.7% at two times, and 16.1% at three times during the study. “Accumulation was the best model for explaining externalizing behaviors in boys and girls and for internalizing in girls. A critical period in middle childhood was identified for internalizing in boys. Overall, the duration of exposure was more important than the timing.”

Domestic Violence – Physical Health

Raskin SA, DeJoie O, Edwards C, et al.

Traumatic brain injury screening and neuropsychological functioning in women who experience IPV.

The Clinical neuropsychologist. 2023:1-23. PMID: [37222525](#)

Comparing 50 female IPV survivors to a group of sexual assault survivors and to a control group without IPV or SA, based on a HELPS brain injury screening tool, rates of traumatic brain injury were higher in IPV survivors, especially those who survived strangulation. IPV survivors also scored lower on measures of memory and executive

function, even after controlling for mood, compared to the other two groups.

Domestic Violence – Mental Health

Micklitz HM, Glass CM, Bengel J, Sander LB.

Efficacy of Psychosocial Interventions for Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence.

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2023:15248380231169481. PMID: [37148270](#)

From a research review, authors conclude that psychosocial interventions for survivors of IPV may significantly reduce symptoms of depression and PTSD, but not IPV reexperience. “High-intensive and integrative interventions, combining advocacy-based and psychological components” had more favorable results but effects were modest and not maintained long term, while quality of evidence was low. Authors recommend future research models.

Davies RL, Rice K, Rock AJ.

A systematic review of informal supporters of intimate partner violence survivors.

PeerJ. 2023;11:e15160. PMID: [37187522](#)

Authors create a model of readiness to help related to informal supporters of IPV survivors that include: normative helping readiness (such as what is considered socially acceptable and unacceptable behavior), individual helping readiness (including capacity, skills and knowledge to help, personal beliefs about IPV, sense of social responsibility, personal experience of violence), and situational helping readiness (including relationship, perception of risk, perceived usefulness of efforts).

Turgoose D, McKie RE, Connelly P.

Insurance Discrimination, Companion Animal Harm, and Domestic Violence and Abuse - Double Jeopardy in the UK.

Violence Against Women. 2023:10778012231176201. PMID: [37229764](#)

UK authors note the interrelationship with pets and IPV survivors, including pet abuse and owners delaying leaving due to pet concerns. Authors then analyze and make recommendations regarding pet insurance discrimination in this scenario, some exclusions of which include harm by a family member, pet emotional/behavioral disorders due to poor training and socialization, hospital admission of owner due to pregnancy/alcohol use/self-inflicted injury, or change from registered address without notification to insurance company.

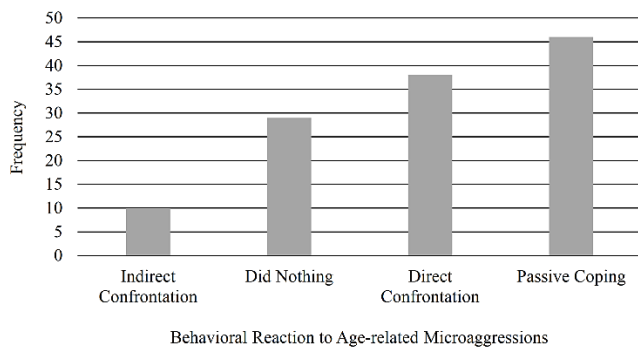
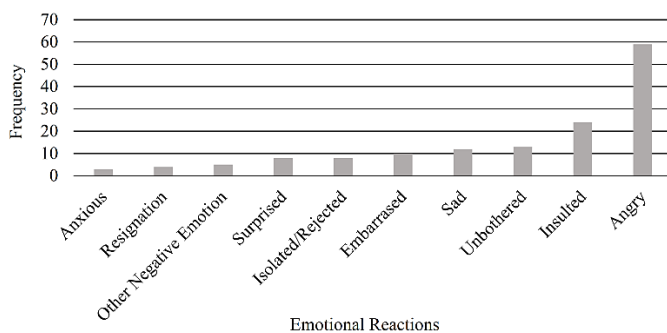
Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse

Gietzen LJ, Lewis H, Buchanan JA.

Age-Related Microaggressions: A Descriptive Study.

Gerontologist. 2023 Jun 15;63(5):820-830. PMID: [36250655](#)

From an online survey of 51 predominantly White elders, 35 female, participants reported frequently encountering age-related microaggressions, particularly micro-insults. “Although most participants reported having negative emotional reactions to microaggression and believing these acts are intentional, in most cases, perpetrators are not confronted.”



Makaroun LK, Halaszynski JJ, Rosen T, et al.

Leveraging VA geriatric emergency department accreditation to improve elder abuse detection in older Veterans using a standardized tool.

Acad Emerg Med. 2023;30(4):428-36. PMID: [36575600](#)

This description of a pilot study at one VA geriatric ED to initiate an elder abuse screen, including an interdisciplinary consultation team, and incorporation into the electronic medical record work flow, also discusses further adaptation needs for expansion of the program.

Sexual Assault

Geppert AB, Shah AH, Hirsch JS.

"Hardly Able to Move, Much Less Open a Book": A Systematic Review of the Impact of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Victimization on Educational Trajectories.

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2023;15248380231173430. PMID: [37232565](#)

“The review summarizes what is known about factors associated with victimization that affect survivors' educational trajectories...research on six key areas of educational outcomes: impacts on academic performance and motivation; attendance, dropout, and avoidance; changes in major/field of study; academic disengagement; educational attitudes and satisfaction; and academic climate and institutional relationships.” Modifying factors included mental health, physical health, social support, socioeconomic status, and resiliency. “We offer recommendations for future research on this topic.”

Harsey SJ, Freyd JJ.

The Influence of Deny, Attack, Reverse Victim and Offender and Insincere Apologies on Perceptions of Sexual Assault.

J Interpers Violence. 2023;8862605231169751. PMID: [37154429](#)

“DARVO (deny, attack, reverse victim and offender) is a response exhibited by perpetrators to deflect blame and responsibility. When using DARVO, perpetrators deny their involvement in wrongdoing, attack their victims' credibility, and argue that they are the real victims. When scenarios using DARVO were presented to 230 undergraduates, students rated the abuser as less abusive, less responsible for the sexual assault, more believable, and had less willingness to punish and perpetrator, while rating the victim as less believable. “By promoting distrust in victims and less punitive views of perpetrators, DARVO might contribute to rape-supporting outcomes such as victim blaming, greater victim distress, and low rates of rape reporting and perpetrator prosecution.”

Klein LB, Brewer NQ, Cloy C, et al.

Campus interpersonal violence survivor advocacy services.

J Am Coll Health. 2023;1-10. PMID: [37167592](#)

Campus interpersonal violence survivor advocacy service providers from 155 institutes of higher education “shared critical insights about (a) advocacy staffing/caseload, (b) program structure, (c) advocacy practices, and (d) connection to services for people who had caused harm. We found that advocacy programs are often providing best practice services for survivors of violence but operating with few staff and unclear privacy protections.”

Kettrey HH, Thompson MP, Marx RA, Davis AJ.
Effects of Campus Sexual Assault Prevention Programs on Attitudes and Behaviors Among American College Students: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis.

J Adolesc Health. 2023;72(6):831-44. PMID: [37037692](#)
“The US Campus Sexual Assault Violence Elimination (SaVE) Act of 2013 mandates that all higher education institutions receiving federal funds offer incoming students primary prevention and awareness programming addressing sexual violence. Yet, there is no thorough and up-to-date quantitative synthesis of the effects of campus sexual assault prevention programs...Our synthesis of 385 effect sizes from 80 eligible studies disseminated between 1991 and 2021 indicates campus sexual assault programs have a more pronounced effect on attitudes/knowledge than on violence. Effects on sexual assault victimization were significant but small, and effects on sexual assault perpetration were nonsignificant...Considering the limited effect of campus sexual assault prevention programs on violence, we recommend programming efforts move beyond a focus on individuals and, instead, adopt an ecological perspective targeting individuals, social relationships, community factors, and societal factors.”

Monteith LL, Kittel JA, Schneider AL, et al.
Military Sexual Trauma (MST) Among Women Veterans Using Veterans Health Administration Reproductive Health Care: Screening Challenges and Associations with Post-Military Suicidal Ideation and Suicide Attempts.

J Interpers Violence. 2023;38(11-12):7578-601. PMID: [36695157](#)
In a survey of 352 female veterans using reproductive health care, “68.7% screened positive for MST, including 44.9% who reported experiencing military sexual assault. Notably, 30.8% reported MST on the survey, but had a negative MST screen for their most recent MST screen in their VHA medical record.” Military sexual trauma was associated with increased prevalence of experiencing suicidal ideation and attempts following military service. “As MST and underreporting are highly prevalent among women veterans using VHA reproductive health care, rescreening for MST within this population is essential. A trauma-informed approach is recommended irrespective of prior MST screening results, and may facilitate suicide prevention in this population. Addressing barriers to MST disclosure and preventing MST and its sequelae remain critical.”

Human Trafficking

Carlson WC.
Implementation Challenges of T Visa Eligibility for Human Trafficking Survivors: A Role for Social Work.

Soc Work. 2023 Jun 15;68(3):222-229. PMID: [37164622](#)
“The present article explores the structural and conceptual limitations of current T Visa policy and of recent annual policy guidance materials as important contributors to these policy implementation problems...identified as an ambiguity of definitions and thresholds, a narrow conceptualization of victimhood, and the contradictory relationship between protection and prosecution. This article then utilizes a trauma-informed social policy framework to identify multisystemic action steps for social workers to address these limitations and improve the T Visa process for trafficking survivors.”

LGBTQ Concerns

Sherman ADF, Peitzmeier S, Cimino AN, et al.
Risks of Severe Assault and Intimate Partner Homicide among Transgender and Gender Diverse Intimate Partner Violence Survivors: Preliminary Findings from Community Listening Sessions.

Violence Against Women. 2023;10778012231172700. PMID: [37132033](#)
From listening sessions with 13 transgender and gender diverse (TGD) people, “While some themes resembled known severe assault and intimate partner homicide risks among cisgender women, several themes were unique to TGD people [including increased risks around gender disclosure and relationship stigma] and should be considered when safety planning with TGD individuals or adapting IPV screening tools for this population.”

Race/Cultural Concerns

Racic M, Roche-Miranda MI, Fatahi G.
Twelve tips for implementing and teaching anti-racism curriculum in medical education.

Med Teach. 2023:1-6. PMID: [37134226](#)
This paper proposes twelve practical and specific tips for implementing and teaching anti-racism in medical education, valuable for designing future curricula and educational activities.

Ramamurthy A, Bhanbhro S, Bruce F, Collier-Sewell F. **Racialised experiences of Black and Brown nurses and midwives in UK health education: A qualitative study.** Nurse Educ Today. 2023;126:105840. PMID: [37196491](#)

From interviews with 45 UK minority nurses and midwives, “healthcare workers’ experiences coalesced around three themes: 1) Racism is an ordinary, everyday experience; 2) Racism is operationalised through power structures; and 3) Racism is maintained through denial and silencing...The findings underscore the importance of understanding racism as a pandemic that we must challenge in response to a post-pandemic society.”

Neblett EW, Jr. **Racial, Ethnic, and Cultural Resilience Factors in African American Youth Mental Health.**

Ann Rev Clin Psychol. 2023;19:361-79. PMID: [36854288](#)
 “This review evaluates recent literature examining ethnic and racial identity, ethnic-racial socialization, religiosity and spirituality, and family and parenting as racial, ethnic, and cultural resilience factors that shape the impact of racism on youth mental health...providing important insights for the development of prevention and intervention efforts and policy.”

Helmus LM, Kyne A. **Prevalence, Correlates, and Sequelae of Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) among Indigenous Canadians: Intersections of Ethnicity, Gender, and Socioeconomic Status.**

Int J Environ Res Public Health. 2023;20(9). PMID: [37174245](#)
 “Among 282 Indigenous participants in Canada recruited from medical panels, CSA was reported by 35% of male, 50% of female, and 57% of trans and gender non-conforming participants. These rates are substantially higher than global meta-analytic estimates (7.6% of boys and 18.0% of girls)...CSA was associated with a variety of other indicators...including mental-health issues (e.g., PTSD), unemployment, and criminal legal-system involvement. Sexual abuse of Indigenous Canadian children is a public-health crisis, and layers of marginalization (e.g., gender, social class) exacerbate this risk.”

Pilarinos A, Field S, Vasarhelyi K, et al. **A qualitative exploration of Indigenous patients’ experiences of racism and perspectives on improving cultural safety within health care.**

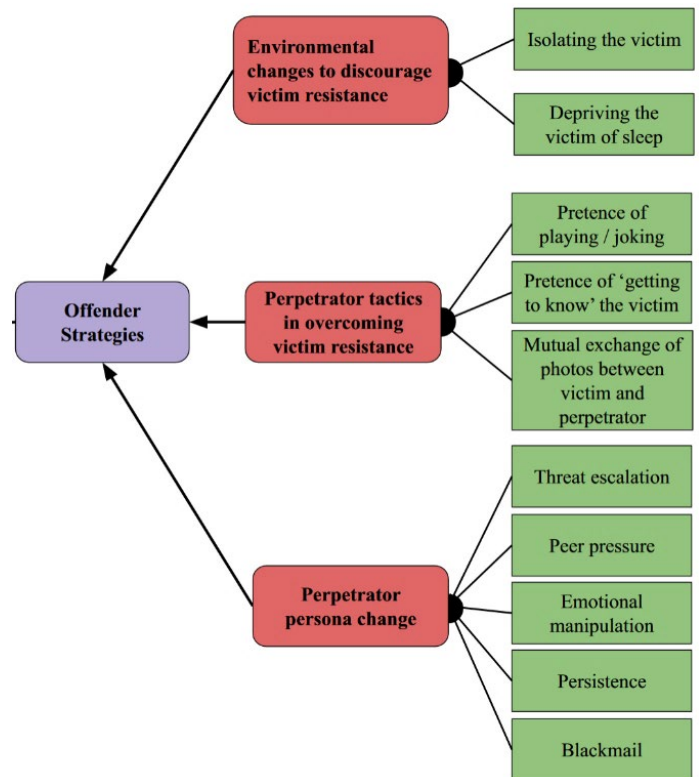
CMAJ open. 2023;11(3):E404-e10. PMID: [37130609](#)
 From interviews with 26 Canadian Indigenous Peoples, “Despite participants’ racist health care experiences, receiving culturally safe care was

credited with improving trust in the health care system and well-being. The continued expansion of Indigenous cultural safety education, the creation of welcoming spaces, recruitment of Indigenous staff, and Indigenous self-determination over health care services can improve Indigenous patients’ health care experiences.”

Perpetrators

Thomas K, Hamilton-Giachritsis C, Branigan P, Hanson E. **Offenders’ approaches to overcoming victim resistance in technology-assisted child sexual abuse.**

Child Abuse Negl. 2023;141:106143. PMID: [37182413](#)
 From interviews with 10 adolescents who had experienced technology-assisted child sexual abuse, authors detail strategies employed by the perpetrators to overcome victim resistance and the victim strategies to resist, de-escalate and end their abuse.



Police and Court Systems

Hartman DT, Wang Y, Wu Y, et al.

Childhood Sexual Abuse: A Longitudinal Study of Disclosures and Denials.

Child Maltreat. 2023 Aug;28(3):462-475. PMID: [36988427](#)

Of 99 children involved in a sexual abuse legal case, and interviewed 20 years later, “We found that consistent disclosure [disclosing at both time points] was associated with being older at Time1 and female. Deferred disclosure [denying and then disclosing later] was significantly associated with greater T2 trauma-related symptoms. Higher CSA severity predicted T2 recantation [disclosure followed by denial]. Consistent denial was related to less severe CSA.

Block SD, Johnson HM, Williams LM, et al.

Predictors of Prosecutorial Decisions in Reports of Child Sexual Abuse.

Child Maltreat. 2023 Aug;28(3):488-499. PMID: [35081788](#)

In a review of 500 US child sexual abuse reports, less than one in five cases proceeded to prosecution. Factors involved in a more likely decision to prosecute included: perpetrators over the age of 35 years (odds ratio 3.99), child having a history of CPS contact (OR 2.42), willingness of the victim to participate in prosecution (OR 2.67), the victim being female (OR 2.59), and positive caregivers support (OR 5.90). “If victims or their family members were unwilling to disclose details or if evidence was insufficient, cases were relatively unlikely to move on.”

Havighurst SS, Mathews B, Doyle FL, et al.

Corporal punishment of children in Australia: The evidence-based case for legislative reform.

Aust N Z J Public Health. 2023;100044. PMID: [37142485](#)

“Across all of Australia’s states and territories, it is legal for a parent or carer to hit their child. In this paper, we outline the legal context for corporal punishment in Australia and the argument for its reform...Extensive evidence exists demonstrating the adverse effects of corporal punishment. When countries change legislation, educate the public, and provide alternative strategies for parents, rates of corporal punishment decrease.”

Providers

Johnson S, Kasparian NA, Cullum AS, et al.

Addressing Adverse Childhood and Adult Experiences During Prenatal Care.

Obstet Gynecol. 2023 May 4;141(6):1072–87. PMID: [37141600](#)

Comprehensive, practical review article on providing inquiry about and response to pregnant patients' past and present adversity and trauma during prenatal care encounters.

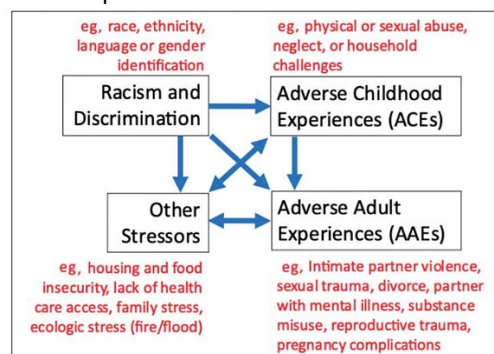


Table 3. Example Resources and Community-Based Programs*

Resource Type	Potential Options
Educational classes	Managing depression and anxiety in the perinatal period Relaxation, meditation, and mindfulness Stress reduction Exercise during pregnancy Childbirth preparation
Support groups	Parenting and child development Intimate partner violence Prenatal and postpartum anxiety and depression New parents
Treatments	Interpersonal therapy Parent-infant psychotherapy and attachment-based therapies Cognitive behavioral therapy home visiting Substance misuse Psychopharmacotherapy
Support programs	Group-based prenatal care Nurse-family partnership: case management and nurse home visiting for primiparas Healthy Families America: home visiting for families at risk of child abuse and neglect Doula services Black Infant Health Program or other local programs to reduce health disparities
Community resources	WIC and local farmers' markets Parks and Recreation Department exercise classes Walking groups
Telephone support and crisis intervention	9-8-8 Hotline for Mental Health Emergencies Mental Health Access Line: 1-888-678-7277 SAMHSA National Helpline: 1-800-662-HELP (4357) National Crisis Text Line: text HOME to 741-741 National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799-SAVE (7233) National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-TALK (8255)
Online and apps	Psychoeducation handout about trauma, posttraumatic stress disorder, and pregnancy: https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/jmwh.12705 Online research-informed module for survivors of childhood sexual abuse in pregnancy: https://rise.articulate.com/share/0x2-UjCz5j5SAyV6rs5yc4c5tF88S7 ACEs Too High News Blog: https://aces200high.com Resources for health care professionals and patients: https://www.ACEsAware.org Mindfulness apps: Calm, Headspace, Insight Timer Parenting apps: MindMum, Mind the Bump Sleep support apps: CBT-I Coach https://mobile.va.gov/app/cbt-i-coach ; Insomnia Coach https://mobile.va.gov/app/insomnia-coach

Simkin DR.

Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder/Developmental Trauma Disorder/Complex Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and Complementary and Integrative Medicine/Functional Medicine.

Child Adolesc Psychiatr Clin N Am. 2023;32(2):317-65. PMID: [37147042](#)

Author reviews trauma diagnoses and treatment in children, and notes “Traditional therapies may be insufficient because the underlying root of prolonged PTSD may be related to early effects on the developing brain that sustain through adulthood. Developmental Trauma Disorder (based on biology rather than symptoms) may be better suited to identify PTSD in children.” She then reviews in detail the research evidence for a variety of complementary and integrative medicine therapies, including meditation, EMDR, EFT, art therapy, imagery rescripting, yoga, neurofeedback, supplements, etc.

Prevention

Brown RB, Miller-Walfish S, Scott S, et al.

Cross-sector collaboration in Project Catalyst: Creating state partnerships to address the health impact of intimate partner violence.

Preventive medicine reports. 2023;33:102204. PMID: [37223578](#)

“This paper describes a federal initiative in the United States to formalize cross-sector collaborations at the state-level and encourage practice and policy changes intended to promote prevention and improve health and safety outcomes for Intimate Partner Violence/Human Trafficking (IPV/HT) survivors.”

Holmes MR, King JA, Miller EK, et al.

Innovations in Trauma-Informed Care: Building the Nation's First System of Trauma-Informed Recreation Centers.

Behavioral sciences (Basel, Switzerland). 2023;13(5). PMID: [37232631](#)

“This paper describes the efforts over the past five years to transform the City of Cleveland, Ohio's 22 recreation centers into trauma-informed Neighborhood Resource and Recreation Centers--places where children, youth, and adults can readily acquire the support and services they need in an environment in which trauma-informed care principles are fully embedded in the fabric of the organization's culture.”

Trabold N, King PR, Jr., Crasta D, et al.

Leveraging Integrated Primary Care to Enhance the Health System Response to IPV: Moving toward Primary Prevention Primary Care.

Int J Environ Res Public Health. 2023;20(9). PMID: [37174219](#)

“In this paper, we summarize current knowledge about the healthcare system's response to IPV and evaluate the strengths, limitations, and opportunities. We offer recommendations to broaden the continuum of healthcare resources to address IPV, which include a population health approach to primary prevention.”

Table 1. Summary of Prevention.

	Primary Prevention	Secondary Prevention	Tertiary Prevention
Formal Definition			
Target Population	Population-level (prior to disorder onset)	Those with early-stage issues (prior to onset of harm)	Those who have already been harmed by a disorder
Goal	Prevent disorder	Prevent impact of disorder	Stop/mitigate further harm
Activities at Level	Health promotion and Specific protection	Early Diagnosis and Prompt Treatment	Disability Limitation and Rehabilitation

Researchers

Grocott LR, Avery K, Medenblik AM, et al.

Reactions to Participation in Research on Violence Experiences and Minority Stress Among Sexual and Gender Minority Young Adults.

J Interpers Violence. 2023;8862605231169756. PMID: [37119023](#)

For 230 sexual minority young adults participating in research on dating relationships, “gender minority participants and those with higher minority stress and ACEs reported significantly higher negative emotional reactions to participation. Furthermore, gender minority participants scored worse on a scale indicating appreciation for contributing to research.”

Follis S, Breathett K, Garcia L, et al.

Quantifying structural racism in cohort studies to advance prospective evidence.

SSM - population health. 2023;22:101417. PMID: [37207111](#)

“Calls-to-action in health research have described a need to improve research on race, ethnicity, and structural racism. Well-established cohort studies typically lack access to novel structural and social determinants of health or precise race and ethnicity categorization, contributing to a loss of rigor to conduct informative analyses and a gap in prospective evidence on the role of structural racism in health outcomes. We propose and implement methods that prospective cohort studies can use to begin to rectify this, using the Women's Health Initiative (WHI) cohort as a case study.”

Xue J, Zhang B, Zhang Q, Hu R, Jiang J, Liu N, et al.

Using Twitter-Based Data for Sexual Violence Research: Scoping Review.

J Med Internet Res. 2023;25:e46084. PMID: [37184899](#)

“We described the current state of using Twitter data for sexual violence research, developed a new taxonomy describing Twitter as a data source, and evaluated the methodologies. Research recommendations include the following: development of methods for data collection and analysis, in-depth discussions about ethical norms, exploration of specific aspects of sexual violence on Twitter, examination of tweets in multiple languages, and decontextualization of Twitter data.”

Other of Interest

Test Liu GS, Nguyen BL, Lyons BH, et al.

Surveillance for Violent Deaths - National Violent Death Reporting System, 48 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico, 2020.

Morbidity and mortality weekly report Surveillance summaries (Washington, DC : 2002). 2023;72(5):1-38. PMID: [37220104](#)

"In 2020, approximately 71,000 persons died of violence-related injuries in the United States...(58.4%) were suicides, followed by homicides (31.3%), deaths of undetermined intent (8.2%), legal intervention deaths (1.3%), and unintentional firearm deaths (<1.0%)...suicide rate was highest among adults aged ≥85 years. In addition, non-Hispanic American Indian or Alaska Native (AI/AN) persons had the highest suicide rates among all racial and ethnic groups. Among both males and females, the most common method of injury for suicide was a firearm. Among all suicide victims, when circumstances were known, suicide was most often preceded by a mental health, intimate partner, or physical health problem or by a recent or impending crisis during the previous or upcoming 2 weeks...the homicide rate was highest among persons aged 20-24 years compared with other age groups. Non-Hispanic Black (Black) males experienced the highest homicide rate of any racial or ethnic group. Among all homicide victims, the most common method of injury was a firearm. When the relationship between a homicide victim and a suspect was known, the suspect was most frequently an acquaintance or friend for male victims and a current or former intimate partner for female victims."

O'Mara Kunz EM, Howell JL, Beasley N.

Surviving Racism and Sexism: What Votes in the Television Program Survivor Reveal About Discrimination.

Psychol Sci. 2023;9567976231165665. PMID: [37171988](#)

"Among 731 contestants across 40 seasons, we found evidence of racial and gender bias at multiple stages of Survivor. Compared with men, women were more likely to be voted out of their tribe first and were less likely to make it to the individual-competition stage of the game (i.e., the "merge"). They were also less likely to win Survivor. Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) contestants, compared with White contestants, were more likely to be voted out of their tribe first and were less likely to make it to the individual-competition stage of the game."

Fang X, Chen Y, Wang J, et al.

Increased intrinsic and synaptic excitability of hypothalamic POMC neurons underlies chronic stress-induced behavioral deficits.

Mol Psychiatry. 2023 Mar;28(3):1365-1382. PMID: [36473997](#)

In this mouse study, chronic, unpredictable stress led to increased firing of neurons in one part of the brain hypothalamus in both male and female mice. This increased brain area activity was associated with mouse behaviors that in humans would translate to anhedonia (inability to feel pleasure) and depression.

Biermanns N.

Gatekeepers of Extermination: SS Camp Physicians and Their Scope of Action.

Ann Intern Med. 2023 Jun;176(6):853-856. PMID: [37186918](#)

"From 1943 and 1944 onward, SS camp physicians made the individual medical decisions on whether each prisoner was fit for work or was immediately subjected to extermination... This was due to a functional change in the concentration camp system during World War II, where the selection of prisoners, which had previously been carried out by nonmedical SS camp staff, became a main task of the medical camp staff. The initiative to transfer sole responsibility for the selections came from the physicians themselves...It is another long-held myth that Nazi medical crimes were committed by sadistic individual perpetrators in a moral vacuum. In reality, most Nazi physicians had a detailed system of moral values, and it was instead the Nazis' racist-utilitarian reinterpretation of traditional medical ethical principles and the corresponding conviction of many physicians 'that their actions were necessary and, therefore, even right and good' that turned 'ordinary physicians' into murderers...What can we learn from this for today's medical practice?...Our contemporary health care system is unmistakably characterized by implicit and explicit hierarchies of power and value, relationships of dependency, and increasing economization. Physicians...have to prioritize human life and allocate scarce resources—especially in crisis situations. In this context, a personal moral compass and reflection on social and economic factors and their potential influence on medical decisions, as well as recognition of one's own professional dependency, are needed...Learning from the Holocaust can be a starting point for reflecting on the value of human life in modern medicine."