

MEDICAL RESEARCH SUMMARY ON ABUSE FOR SANTA CLARA COUNTY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNCIL AUGUST 2011

This summary includes selected research articles relating to abuse indexed by the National Library of Medicine June 2011. 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. PTSD = Post Traumatic Stress Disorder IPV = Intimate Partner Violence

Child Abuse

Oral R, Bayman L, Assad A, Wibbenmeyer L, Buhrow J, Austin A, Bayman EO.

Illicit drug exposure in patients evaluated for alleged child abuse and neglect.

Pediatr Emerg Care. 2011 Jun;27(6):490-5. PMID: 21629147

In a chart study of children presenting with alleged abuse or neglect to an Iowa medical center, 14.7% of children tested positive for illicit drugs. Of those who tested positive, 28.6% were seen for neglect, 16.1% for soft tissue injuries, 14.3% for burns, 10.0% for sexual abuse, 7.1% for fractures, and 4.8% for abusive head trauma – in addition there was a 2.81 times increased risk for domestic violence in these families.

Davis RN, Davis MM, Freed GL, Clark SJ.

Fathers' depression related to positive and negative parenting behaviors with 1-year-old children.

Pediatrics. 2011 Apr;127(4):612-8. PMID: 21402627

In an analysis of 1746 fathers of 1 year old children in the Fragile Families and Child Wellbeing Study, 7% of fathers experienced depression. Depressed fathers were much less likely to read to their child, and were 3.92 times more likely to report spanking their child.

Harkness KL, Stewart JG, Wynne-Edwards KE.

Cortisol reactivity to social stress in adolescents: role of depression severity and child maltreatment.

Psychoneuroendocrinology. 2011 Feb;36(2):173-81. PMID: 20688438

Of 71 adolescents exposed to stress, those with a history of childhood maltreatment experienced higher and more prolonged levels of cortisol (stress hormone). However, this effect was blunted if the adolescent was moderate to severely depressed. Authors note that depression also needs to be considered when the stress hormones of maltreated children are assessed.

Sinclair KA, Woods CR, Sinal SH.

Venereal warts in children.

Pediatr Rev. 2011 Mar;32(3):115-21; PMID: 21364015

Review article on the subject.

Adult Manifestations of Child Abuse

Berlin LJ, Appleyard K, Dodge KA.

Intergenerational continuity in child maltreatment: mediating mechanisms and implications for prevention.

Child Dev. 2011 Jan-Feb;82(1):162-76. PMID: 21291435

Of 499 mothers, those who had themselves experienced childhood physical abuse were more likely to be physically abusive to their children by age 3 (16.7% vs 7.1%). Maternal social isolation increased risk of child abuse.

Jonas S, Bebbington P, McManus S, Meltzer H, Jenkins R, Kuipers E, Cooper C, King M, Brugha T.

Sexual abuse and psychiatric disorder in England: results from the 2007 Adult Psychiatric Morbidity Survey.

Psychol Med. 2011 Apr;41(4):709-19. PMID: 20534178

In a national British Adult Psychiatric Morbidity Survey with 7403 participants, six types of common mental health disorder, plus alcohol abuse, drug abuse, PTSD, and eating disorders, were all strongly and highly significantly associated with childhood sexual abuse.

Bebbington PE, Jonas S, Brugha T, Meltzer H, Jenkins R, Cooper C, King M, McManus S.

Child sexual abuse reported by an English national sample: characteristics and demography.

Soc Psychiatry Psychiatr Epidemiol. 2011 Mar;46(3):255-62. PMID: 20544176

From the same British study above, those who had experienced childhood sexual abuse were 10.6 times more likely to have also experienced adult sexual abuse, and 3.3 times more likely to engage in prostitution.

McIntyre JK, Widom CS.

Childhood victimization and crime victimization.

J Interpers Violence. 2011 Mar;26(4):640-63. PMID: 20505112

A group of 395 children with documented child abuse/neglect were matched to a control group, and followed up in middle adulthood. Child abuse and/ or neglect increased a person's risk for physical abuse (2.56 times more likely) and sexual abuse (2.28 times more likely) in adulthood.

Poon CY, Knight BG.

Impact of childhood parental abuse and neglect on sleep problems in old age.

J Gerontol B Psychol Sci Soc Sci. 2011 May;66(3):307-10. PMID: 21339302

In a longitudinal national survey of 877 older adults, childhood emotional abuse was significantly associated with sleep complaints in old age.

Domestic Violence – Effects on Children

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Bullying among middle school and high school students--Massachusetts, 2009.

MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep. 2011 Apr 22;60(15):465-71. PMID: 21508922

Summary of analysis of a report from Massachusetts Dept. of Public Health and National Center for Disease Control on factors relating to school bullying.

AOR = adjusted odds ratio (for example, an AOR of 2.0 means two times more likely to happen).

Bully-victim = those who reported being both bullies and victims of bullying

	Victim AOR	Bully AOR	Bully-victim AOR
Middle school students			
Physical abuse from a family member	2.9	4.4	5.0
Witnessing family violence	2.6	2.9	3.9
High school students			
Physical abuse from a family member	2.8	3.8	5.4
Witnessing family violence	2.3	2.7	6.8

Breiding MJ, Ziembroski JS.

The relationship between intimate partner violence and children's asthma in 10 US states/territories.

Pediatr Allergy Immunol. 2011 Feb;22(1 Pt 2) PMID: 20735803

In a national telephone survey of 9 states and one territory, women but not men who had been victims of IPV reported significantly more asthma in their children. The article discusses possible physiological mechanisms for this association, including prenatal stress and home stress causing changes in immune function of children.

Hunt KL, Martens PM, Belcher HM.

Risky business: Trauma exposure and rate of posttraumatic stress disorder in African American children and adolescents.

J Trauma Stress. 2011 Jun;24(3):365-9. PMID: 21626574

Of 257 African American children ages 8-17 years, being female and witnessing domestic violence was associated with more PTSD symptoms than the rest of the group.

Domestic Violence – Physical Health

Vives-Cases C, Ruiz-Cantero MT, Escribà-Agüir V, Miralles JJ.

The effect of intimate partner violence and other forms of violence against women on health.

J Public Health (Oxf). 2011 Mar;33(1):15-21. PMID: 21196478

In this Spanish national survey of 13,094 women, those who reported IPV were more likely to also report: coronary heart disease (5.28 times more likely), chronic neck pain (2.01 times more likely) and chronic back pain (2.34 times more likely).

Raffo JE, Meghea CI, Zhu Q, Roman LA.

Psychological and physical abuse among pregnant women in a Medicaid-sponsored prenatal program.

Public Health Nurs. 2010 Sep;27(5):385-98. PMID: 20840708.

In this convenience sample of 3675 Michigan Medicaid prenatal patients, 57% screened positive for depression, and 43% did not have their basic needs of food, housing or both satisfied. During pregnancy 9% experienced psychological abuse, 5% physical abuse, and 4% both psychological and physical abuse.

Domestic Violence – Mental Health

Rich-Edwards JW, James-Todd T, Mohllajee A, Kleinman K, Burke A, Gillman MW, Wright RJ.

Lifetime maternal experiences of abuse and risk of pre-natal depression in two demographically distinct populations in Boston.

Int J Epidemiol. 2011 Apr;40(2):375-84. PMID: 21169318

Across two different economically and ethnically distinct Boston populations, lifetime physical and sexual abuse histories, especially abuse during current pregnancy, were associated with significantly increased risk of prenatal depression.

Devries K, Watts C, Yoshihama M, Kiss L, Schraiber LB, Deyessa N, Heise L, Durand J, Mbwapo J, Janssen H, Berhane Y, Ellsberg M, Garcia-Moreno C; WHO

Multi-Country Study Team. Violence against women is strongly associated with suicide attempts: Evidence from the WHO multi-country study on women's health and domestic violence against women.

Soc Sci Med. 2011 Jul;73(1):79-86. PMID: 21676510

In this study from the World Health Organization of almost 21,000 women from 13 countries, suicidal thoughts in the previous month ranged from 1.9% to 13.6%, during which time 25-50% of these women had visited a health worker. Across all countries, “the most consistent risk factors for suicide attempts after adjusting for probable common mental health disorders were: intimate partner violence, non-partner physical violence, ever being divorced, separated or widowed, childhood sexual abuse, and having a mother who had experienced intimate partner violence.”

Cultural Issues

Horsford SR, Parra-Cardona JR, Schiamberg L, Post LA.

Elder abuse and neglect in African American families: informing practice based on ecological and cultural frameworks.

J Elder Abuse Negl. 2011 Jan;23(1):75-88. PMID: 21253931

Discussion of the risk factors as well as the cultural protective factors involved in African American elder abuse.

Wong FY, DiGangi J, Young D, Huang ZJ, Smith BD, John D.

Intimate partner violence, depression, and alcohol use among a sample of foreign-born Southeast Asian women in an urban setting in the United States.

J Interpers Violence. 2011 Jan;26(2):211-29. PMID: 20457842

Of a sample of immigrant Cambodian, Laotian and Vietnamese women living in Washington DC, those with a history of IPV were 5.3 times more likely to experience depression, 34 times more likely to abuse alcohol, and 12 times more likely to smoke than those without a history of IPV.

Lacey KK, Saunders DG, Lingling Zhang.

A comparison of women of color and non-Hispanic White women on factors related to leaving a violent relationship.

J Interpers Violence. 2011 Mar;26(5):1036-55. PMID: 21362686

Of 382 women responding to a national survey “women of color and non-Hispanic White women did not differ in their length or rate of leaving. Factors associated with leaving for both groups were threat with a weapon, psychological abuse, being single, and having fewer adults in the household.” Differences between groups are discussed.

Azziz-Baumgartner E, McKeown L, Melvin P, Dang Q, Reed J.

Rates of femicide in women of different races, ethnicities, and places of birth: Massachusetts, 1993-2007.

J Interpers Violence. 2011 Mar;26(5):1077-90. PMID: 20522891

In an analysis of IPV deaths from a data set accumulated by the Massachusetts Dept. of Public Health, Black and Hispanic women were disproportionately more likely to die from IPV.

Chou CY, Su YJ, Wu HM, Chen SH.

Child physical abuse and the related PTSD in Taiwan: The role of Chinese cultural background and victims' subjective reactions.

Child Abuse Negl. 2011 Jan;35(1):58-68. PMID: 21334068

In a Taiwanese sample of 1,966 4th-8th graders, 34% reported childhood physical abuse – 13.6% developed full and 16.9% partial PTSD. The role and attitudes of child discipline in Chinese society is discussed.

Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse

Dong X, Simon MA.

Enhancing national policy and programs to address elder abuse.

JAMA. 2011 Jun 15;305(23):2460-1. PMID: 21673299

This commentary addresses major gaps in funding, policy, research, education, and training regarding elder abuse.

Amstadter AB, Cisler JM, McCauley JL, Hernandez MA, Muzzy W, Acierno R.

Do incident and perpetrator characteristics of elder mistreatment differ by gender of the victim? Results from the National Elder Mistreatment Study.

J Elder Abuse Negl. 2011 Jan;23(1):43-57. PMID: 21253929

This national telephone sample of 5,777 older adults revealed 10% reporting at least one form of mistreatment, the majority of which were not reported. Perpetrators of physical mistreatment were more likely to be related to and living with the victim, and to have legal, psychological or substance abuse issues.

Fisher BS, Zink T, Regan SL.

Abuses against older women: prevalence and health effects.

J Interpers Violence. 2011 Jan;26(2):254-68. PMID: 20457844

In this telephone survey of 995 women over age 55, 48% had experienced at least one type of abuse since age 55. Those with an abuse history were more likely to have poorer health, especially regarding depression/anxiety, digestive problems or chronic pain.

Perpetrators

Evans TM, Reid Meloy J.

Identifying and classifying juvenile stalking behavior.

J Forensic Sci. 2011 Jan;56 Suppl 1:S266-70. doi: 10.1111/j.1556-4029.2010.01593.x. Epub 2010 Oct 22. PubMed PMID: 20969566

Article looks at two cases of juvenile stalking in detail, and states “Juvenile stalking is a societal problem that has not yet garnered the attention it deserves, and all systems that deal with juvenile delinquency (juvenile court, law enforcement, and mental health personnel) as well as the school system must be educated to the prevalence and severity of this yet-to-be-recognized problem.”

Latzman NE, Viljoen JL, Scalora MJ, Ullman D.

Sexual Offending in Adolescence: A Comparison of Sibling Offenders and Nonsibling Offenders across Domains of Risk and Treatment Need.

J Child Sex Abus. 2011 May;20(3):245-63. PMID: 21660813

In this study comparing two groups of adolescent sexual offenders, sibling offenders were more likely to have histories of sexual abuse and been exposed to domestic violence and pornography than nonsibling sexual offenders.

Basile KC, Hall JE.

Intimate partner violence perpetration by court-ordered men: distinctions and intersections among physical violence, sexual violence, psychological abuse, and stalking.

J Interpers Violence. 2011 Jan;26(2):230-53. PMID: 20410373

In this detailed study of 340 Texas men arrested for physical assault of a female partner, 96.8% reported perpetration of all four types of violence evaluated in the study – psychological, physical, sexual and stalking.

Alsaker K, Kristoffersen K, Moen BE, Baste V.

Threats and acts of intimate partner violence reported by users at Norwegian women's shelters.

J Interpers Violence. 2011 Mar;26(5):950-70. PMID: 20587473

Detailed study of previous acts of violence from 87 women (41% of those asked) in a Norwegian shelter. Many factors were assessed, including: 46.9% had been choked, and 17% had experienced physical violence directed toward the abdomen while pregnant.

Bell E, Shouldice M, Levin AV.

Abusive head trauma: A perpetrator confesses.

Child Abuse Negl. 2011 Jan;35(1):74-7. PMID: 21315450

Detailed perpetrator confession of a “shaken” 3 year old child, with discussion of physiological forces involved.

Police and Court System

Levi BH, Portwood SG.

Reasonable suspicion of child abuse: finding a common language.

J Law Med Ethics. 2011 Spring;39(1):62-9. PMID: 21314795

This article analyzes the wording of mandated child abuse reporting in the different states, and suggests a set of criteria to evaluate “reasonable suspicion”.

Levi BH, Crowell K.

Child abuse experts disagree about the threshold for mandated reporting.

Clin Pediatr (Phila). 2011 Apr;50(4):321-9. PMID: 21138854

Anonymous survey from 81 child abuse experts revealed no consensus on how experts interpret “reasonable suspicion”.

Providers

Rhodes KV, Kothari CL, Dichter M, Cerulli C, Wiley J, Marcus S.

Intimate partner violence identification and response: time for a change in strategy.

J Gen Intern Med. 2011 Aug;26(8):894-9. PMID: 21404130

Linking police and ED records in a semi-rural Midwestern county, “993 identified IPV victims generated 3,426 IPV-related police incidents (mean 3.61, median 3, range 1-17) over the 4-year study period; 785 (79%) generated 4,306 ED visits (mean 7.17, median 5, range 1-87), which occurred after the date of a documented IPV assault.” ED visits were 78.4% for medical complaints, and 72% of these women were never identified by ED personnel as IPV victims. When IPV was identified, safety was only assessed in 33%, and only 25% were referred to victim services.

Dubowitz H, Lane WG, Semiatin JN, Magder LS, Venepally M, Jans M.

The safe environment for every kid model: impact on pediatric primary care professionals.

Pediatrics. 2011 Apr;127(4):e962-70. PMID: 21444590

In a controlled study of eighteen pediatric private practices, the Safe Environment for Every Kid (SEEK) program was introduced, including a parent questionnaire, the participation of a social worker, and training for health professionals. SEEK led to significant and sustained improvement over 3 years in addressing parental depression, substance abuse, IPV and stress.

Meyer JS, Gunderman R, Coley BD, Bulas D, Garber M, et al; American College of Radiology.

ACR Appropriateness Criteria(®) on suspected physical abuse-child.

J Am Coll Radiol. 2011 Feb;8(2):87-94. PMID: 21292182

Consensus recommendations from the American College of Radiology on appropriate radiological tests used to investigate child abuse, taking into account the clinical situation and radiation exposure.

Nurius PS, Macy RJ, Nwabuzor I, Holt VL.

Intimate partner survivors' help-seeking and protection efforts: a person-oriented analysis.

J Interpers Violence. 2011 Feb;26(3):539-66. PMID: 20448232

This article follows up from a previous paper which identified 5 different subgroups of women experiencing IPV. It analyzes the differences in each subgroup regarding variables such as how many times a woman tried to leave a relationship, whether a restraining order was obtained, what types of services were sought, etc.

Miller E, Decker MR, McCauley HL, Tancredi DJ, Levenson RR, Waldman J, Schoenwald P, Silverman JG.

A family planning clinic partner violence intervention to reduce risk associated with reproductive coercion.

Contraception. 2011 Mar;83(3):274-80. PMID: 21310291

In this Northern California controlled pilot study, family planning clinic healthcare providers who were educated in an intervention regarding reproductive coercion were able to reduce patients' subsequent reproductive coercion experiences as well as increase patient rates of leaving an abusive relationship.

Griffin G, McEwen E, Samuels BH, Suggs H, Redd JL, McClelland GM.

Infusing protective factors for children in foster care.

Psychiatr Clin North Am. 2011 Mar;34(1):185-203. PMID: 21333847

This detailed article analyzes the Illinois state child welfare agency, which adapted treatment and evidence-based early intervention practices in a collaboration between local and state policies.

Brykczynski KA, Crane P, Medina CK, Pedraza D.

Intimate partner violence: advanced practice nurses clinical stories of success and challenge.

J Am Acad Nurse Pract. 2011 Mar;23(3):143-52. PMID: 21355947

Interesting article using in-depth interviews with 10 nurse practitioners who had experience with caring for women with IPV – stories of patients and various factors are discussed, including positive interactions/outcomes and cynicism/frustration.

Connor PD, Nouer SS, Mackey ST, Tipton NG, Lloyd AK.

Psychometric properties of an intimate partner violence tool for health care students.

J Interpers Violence. 2011 Mar;26(5):1012-35. PMID: 20587479

This survey tool for readiness to manage IPV has been adapted and favorably evaluated with medical, nursing, social work, and dentistry students.

Ford-Gilboe M, Merritt-Gray M, Varcoe C, Wuest J.

A theory-based primary health care intervention for women who have left abusive partners.

ANS Adv Nurs Sci. 2011 Jul-Sep;34(3):198-214. PubMed PMID: 21654310

This Canadian six component program delivered by a nurse and a DV advocate is a comprehensive, trauma informed promising intervention for women who have left abusive partners (safeguarding, managing basics, managing symptoms, cautious connecting, renewing self, and regenerating family).

Other of Interest

Grudzen CR, Meeker D, Torres JM, Du Q, Morrison RS, Andersen RM, Gelberg L.

Comparison of the mental health of female adult film performers and other young women in California.

Psychiatr Serv. 2011 Jun;62(6):639-45. PMID: 21632733

Compared to women in California, female adult film performers were more depressed (33% vs 13%), had more experience with: childhood rape (37% vs. 13%), being placed in foster care (21% vs. 4%), adult rape (27% vs. 9%), and domestic violence in the past year (34% vs. 6%).

Wolitzky-Taylor KB, Resnick HS, McCauley JL, Amstadter AB, Kilpatrick DG, Ruggiero KJ.

Is reporting of rape on the rise? A comparison of women with reported versus unreported rape experiences in the National Women's Study-Replication.

J Interpers Violence. 2011 Mar;26(4):807-32. PMID: 20522886

In a national sample of women from 2006, 15.8% reported sexual assault, approximately the same as from the 1990s. Rapes involving drug or alcohol incapacitation were less likely to be reported. Many other stats.

Ohnishi M, Nakao R, Shibayama S, Matsuyama Y, Oishi K, Miyahara H.

Knowledge, experience, and potential risks of dating violence among Japanese university students: a cross-sectional study.

BMC Public Health. 2011 May 19;11:339. PMID: 21592400

In a survey of 274 Japanese college students, participants did not recognize verbal harassment, controlling behaviors or unprotected sexual intercourse as violence.

Mitchell KJ, Finkelhor D, Wolak J, Ybarra ML, Turner H.

Youth Internet victimization in a broader victimization context.

J Adolesc Health. 2011 Feb;48(2):128-34. PMID: 21257110

Using data from 2,051 adolescents as part of a National Survey of Children's Exposure to Violence, 6% reported past-year online victimization. Of these, 96% reported offline victimization as well during the same period, including sexual harassment, being flashed, rape and psychological and emotional abuse. "Prevention and intervention should target a broader range of behaviors and experiences rather than focusing on the Internet component exclusively."