Welcome to the Queensland Child Protection Information Network Newsletter. This newsletter is a joint initiative of the Mater Children’s Hospital Child Protection Unit, the Statewide Child Protection Clinical Partnership and the Strategic Policy Priority Area Unit of the System Policy and Performance Division, Department of Health. It supports best practice in Child Protection by facilitating timely access to recent clinical and professional development information.

Each monthly edition is distributed to all Hospital and Health Service Child Protection Units and is posted on the CKN Child Protection Library guide. Access the CP library guide here:
http://www.health.qld.campusguides.com/child-protection

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Contact

To ensure receipt of this newsletter or to unsubscribe, please contact your Hospital and Health Service Child Protection Unit or contact Laura Koopmans directly.

We appreciate your professional opinion and feedback. If there are any matters you would like to raise with the editorial team, or if you would like to share information relating to best practice or professional development via the information network, please contact Laura Koopmans (Research Officer, Child Protection Unit, Mater Children’s Hospital, South Brisbane).

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☎ (07) 3163 2359
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Professional development

National

Australian Child & Adolescent Trauma, Loss & Grief Network
Australian Childhood Foundation
Australian Institute for Family Studies (AIFS) – Seminar series
Adult Survivors of Child Abuse (ASCA)
Caraniche Training and Research
Child Abuse Consultancy Education and Training (CACET)
Child Wise
Compass Seminars Australia
Education Centre Against Violence (ECAV) NSW Health
ENCOMPASS - Family and Community
Family and Relationship Services Australia (FRSA)
In Safe Hands
Mental Health Professionals Network
National Guide to Training Programs in Psychotherapy and Counseling
Relationships Australia
Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Islands Child Care
Signs of Safety (resolutions consultancy)
Training.gov.au (TGA)

International

The American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC)
British Association for the Study and Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (BASPCAN)
Chadwick Center for Child and Families
International Society for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN)
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Research Update

Abusive Head Trauma

1. Parents’ behavior in response to infant crying: Abusive head trauma education

OBJECTIVES: Abusive head trauma (AHT) is still too common, and probably underestimated. It is the leading cause of death from child abuse. Crying is thought to contribute to the act of shaking. Objectives of this study were to (a) assess parents' knowledge about infant crying, their ability to manage crying, and their knowledge about AHT; and (b) assess the feasibility and the impact of a simple educational intervention about crying and AHT with parents shortly after their child's birth.

METHODS: A short questionnaire was completed orally by the parents of 190 consecutive newborns in a maternity hospital at day 2 of life. Then, during the routine examination of the child, the paediatrician gave parents a short talk about infant crying and AHT, and a pamphlet. Finally, parents were contacted by phone at 6 weeks for the post-intervention questionnaire assessing their knowledge about crying and AHT.

RESULTS: Among 202 consecutive births, parents of 190 children were included (266 parents; 70% mothers) over a 1-month period and answered the pre-intervention questionnaire. The intervention was feasible and easy to provide. Twenty-seven percent of mothers and 36% of fathers had never heard of AHT. At 6 weeks, 183 parents (68% of the sample; 80% mothers) answered the post-intervention questionnaire. Parents' knowledge improved significantly post-intervention. Parents found the intervention acceptable and useful.

CONCLUSION: Health care professionals such as paediatricians or nurses could easily provide this brief talk to all parents during systematic newborn examination.


Child Physical Abuse


No abstract available.

http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/car.2328
1. Gonorrhoea, chlamydia, syphilis and trichomonas in children under 13 years of age: national surveillance in the UK and Republic of Ireland


BACKGROUND: Sexually transmitted infections in children ought to raise concerns about sexual abuse. It is not known how frequently they are identified in the UK and Ireland, nor how well they are investigated.

OBJECTIVES: To measure the incidence, mode of presentation, investigations and child protection procedures among children under 13 years and over 12 months of age presenting with infections of Neisseria gonorrhoea, Treponema Pallidum, Chlamydia Trachomatis or Trichomonas Vaginalis in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

METHODS: National surveillance study over 25 months through the British Paediatric Surveillance Unit. All consultant paediatricians in the UK and Republic of Ireland reported laboratory confirmed infections followed by a confidential questionnaire covering clinical details, investigation results and child protection outcomes.

RESULTS: Fifteen cases were reported, giving an overall incidence of these infections of 0.075 cases per 100 000 children per year. Most were identified because they presented with symptoms. Five cases presented with ophthalmic infection. Laboratory investigation and screening for other infections was adequate in most cases. Although only three cases of sexual abuse were confirmed in court or case conference, abuse was suspected in a further seven cases based on clinical factors, family or social history.

CONCLUSION: Sexually transmitted infections in children, although rare, are generally well investigated. The findings support current guidance on the management of sexually transmitted infection in young children and the need to maintain a high index of suspicion for sexual abuse. Isolated ophthalmic infection with N Gonorrhoea and C Trachomatis occurs beyond infancy, but the mode of transmission is unclear.

2. Sibling sexual abuse: an exploratory study of long-term consequences for self-esteem and counseling considerations


SUMMARY: Great advances have been made regarding the study of child sexual assault since the 1970’s. In spite of these advances, the gravity of sibling sexual abuse has largely been overlooked in sexual abuse literature. This paper uses peer reviewed research to highlight some of the major issues and unique long-term consequences associated with sibling sexual abuse. Specifically, an altered version of the Conflict Tactics Scale Straus (Journal of Marriage and the Family 41:75-88, 1979) and The Rosenberg Self-Esteem Scale Rosenberg (1965) were used to explore the long-term impact on self-esteem for those having experience with sibling sexual abuse as a child. In addition, clinical considerations for working with survivors, offenders, and families are provided.


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**Emotional Abuse & Neglect**

1. Is the lack of physical activity strategy for children complicit mass child neglect?


**No abstract available.**

*Full text:*


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**Prevention and Interventions**

1. Addressing common forms of child maltreatment: evidence-informed interventions and gaps in current knowledge


SUMMARY: This paper reviews interventions for preventing the occurrence and recurrence of major types of child maltreatment. We begin with an overview of the challenges of establishing evidence-based interventions to prevent child abuse and neglect in many countries, and underscore the importance of this need with child maltreatment incidence rates in the USA, and how much each
type and subtype contribute to child out-of-home placement. Next, we identify the well-supported, supported and promising interventions for each child maltreatment type and subtype, according to their level of research evidence using an evidence-based clearing house. The paper closes with a discussion of the implications for practice, evaluation, policy and agency management, including intervention knowledge gaps that showcase areas that need additional practice research.

http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/cfs.12021

2. "Social support and child protection: Lessons learned and learning"


SUMMARY: Social support has been a topic of research for nearly 50 years, and its applications to prevention and intervention have grown significantly, including programs advancing child protection. This article summarizes the central conclusions of the 1994 review of research on social support and the prevention of child maltreatment prepared for the U.S. Advisory Board on Child Abuse and Neglect, and surveys advances in the field since its publication. Among the lessons learned twenty years ago are (a) the diversity of the social support needs of at-risk families and their association with child endangerment, (b) the need to supplement the emotionally affirmative aspects of social support with efforts to socialize parenting practices and monitor child well-being, (c) the desirability of integrating formal and informal sources of social support for recipients, and (d) the importance of considering the complex recipient reactions to receiving support from others. The lessons we are now learning derive from research exploring the potential of online communication to enhance social support, the neurobiology of stress and its buffering through social support, and the lessons of evaluation research that are identifying the effective ingredients of social support interventions.

1. Abuse and subclinical cardiovascular disease among midlife women: the study of women’s health across the nation


OBJECTIVES: Some evidence suggests that abuse may be related to cardiovascular disease (CVD) risk among women. However, this relation has largely been addressed using self-reported measures of CVD. We tested whether a history of abuse was related to subclinical CVD among midlife women without clinical CVD.

METHODS: The Study of Women’s Health Across the Nation (SWAN) is a longitudinal cohort study of women transitioning through the menopause. One thousand four hundred two white, black, Hispanic, and Chinese SWAN participants completed measures of childhood and adult physical and sexual abuse, underwent a blood draw, completed physical measures, and underwent a carotid artery ultrasound at SWAN study visit 12. Associations between abuse and intima media thickness and plaque were tested in linear and multinomial logistic regression models controlling for age, site, race/ethnicity, financial strain, education, body mass index, lipids, blood pressure, measures of insulin resistance, smoking, alcohol use, physical activity, and medication use.

RESULTS: Findings indicated that a history of childhood sexual abuse was associated with higher intima media thickness controlling for standard CVD risk factors and other confounders (beta=0.022; SE=0.010; P<0.05; adjusted mean childhood sexual abuse: 0.800 mm versus no childhood sexual abuse: 0.782 mm).

CONCLUSION: Childhood sexual abuse was associated with higher intima media thickness controlling for CVD risk factors and other confounders. These findings indicate the importance of considering the potential impact of early-life stressors on women’s later cardiovascular health.

2. Brief report: Neurocognitive functioning in adolescents following childhood maltreatment and evidence for underlying planning & organizational deficits

Kavanaugh, B. and K. Holler Child Neuropsychol Ahead of print [Epub 24/06/2014].

OBJECTIVES: Children and adolescents with a history of childhood maltreatment are at risk for a host of psychiatric conditions, although the underlying neurocognitive functioning of these individuals remains largely understudied. This study examined the neurocognitive functioning of childhood maltreatment victims in an adolescent psychiatric inpatient setting.

METHODS: The sample consisted of adolescent inpatients (ages 13-19) that completed intellectual testing as part of a neuropsychological/psychological assessment during hospitalization (n = 39). The sample was grouped based on childhood maltreatment history with one group categorized by maltreatment history (n = 15) and the other group characterized by no maltreatment history (n = 24).

RESULTS: Analyses revealed statistically significant differences (p<0.01) between maltreatment groups on the majority of assessed domains. When controlling for intelligence, only performance differences on the RCFT remained. RCFT differences remained after controlling for the influence of visual-motor and visual-perceptual/visual-spatial functioning, highlighting the influence of organizational and planning difficulties in those individuals with maltreatment history. Group differences in the frequency of impaired performance for neuropsychological tasks were largest (p<0.001) for FSIQ and RCFT.

CONCLUSION: Compromised neurocognitive functioning may negatively contribute to the clinical presentation of this population, highlighting the importance of the child neuropsychologist in the effective treatment of children and adolescents with a history of childhood maltreatment.


OBJECTIVES: The aim of the study was to explore stability and change in
mental health problems in Norwegian children aged 6–12 years old (n = 70) in long-term out-of-home care.

METHODS: The children's mental health problems were assessed shortly after the placement and 7–8 years later by the caregivers and the teachers on the Revised Rutter Scales. Information on pre-placement and placement factors were collected from the child welfare workers.

RESULTS: At a group level the children's mental health problems had improved significantly over time according to the teachers' reports. According to the caregivers' reports, however, the children's problems were high and stable across time. Analyses aimed at detecting individual changes revealed a great variability in development according to both informants, indicating that treating the placed children as a homogenous group could be misleading. Several pre-placement and placement variables were associated with the change in the children's mental health problems from the time of placement to the follow-up time according to both informants' reports. However, all the predictors were accounted for by the strong effect of the children's problem scores when entering care.

http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/cfs.12001

Child Protection Professionals

1. Child sexual abuse prevention training for childcare professionals: an independent multi-site randomized controlled trial of stewards of children


BACKGROUND: Given the significant rates and deleterious consequences of childhood sexual abuse (CSA), identifying effective primary prevention approaches is a clear priority. There is a growing awareness that childcare professionals (e.g., teachers, childcare personnel, clergy) are in a unique position to engage in prevention efforts due to high accessibility to children and expertise in child development. However, CSA prevention programs targeting childcare professionals have received insufficient attention.

OBJECTIVES: The goal of this study was to conduct an independent multi-site controlled evaluation of an existing CSA prevention program, Stewards of Children, offered through both in-person and web-based formats.
METHODS: This study included 352 childcare professionals recruited from children’s advocacy centres across three states. Participants were randomly assigned to one of three conditions: (1) in-person training, (2) web-based training, or (3) waitlist control. Dependent variables included CSA knowledge, CSA attitudes, and self-reported CSA preventive behaviours.

RESULTS: Results indicated that Stewards impacted knowledge, attitudes, and preventive behaviours. No differences were found between training modalities (i.e., in-person versus web-based) on knowledge and preventive behaviours.

CONCLUSION: Results indicate that brief trainings for childcare professionals may impact CSA prevention efforts.


2. Creating a safe place for pediatric care: a no hit zone

OBJECTIVES: Our goal was to create and implement a program, Kosair Children’s Hospital’s No Hit Zone, which trains health care workers in de-escalation techniques to address parental disruptive behaviours and physical discipline of children commonly encountered in the hospital environment.

METHODS: The Child Abuse Task Force, a multidisciplinary group, along with key hospital administrators developed specific content for the policy, as well as marketing and educational materials. The No Hit Zone policy designates Kosair Children’s Hospital as “an environment in which no adult shall hit a child, no adult shall hit another adult, no child shall hit an adult, and no child shall hit another child. When hitting is observed, it is everyone’s responsibility to interrupt the behaviour as well as communicate system policy to those present.”

RESULTS: Via a multidisciplinary, collaborative approach, the No Hit Zone was successfully implemented at Kosair Children’s Hospital in 2012. Cost was nominal, and the support of key hospital administrators was critical to the program’s success. Education of health professionals on de-escalation techniques and intervention with families at the early signs of parental stress occurred via live sessions and online training via case-based scenarios.

CONCLUSION: The No Hit Zone is an important program used to provide a
safe and caring environment for all families and staff of Kosair Children’s Hospital. Demand for the program continues, demonstrated by the establishment of No Hit Zones at other local hospitals and multiple outpatient clinics. This article offers information for other organizations planning to conduct similar initiatives.


3. Does working with child abuse cases affect professionals’ parenting and the psychological well-being of their children?


**OBJECTIVES:** Work in the field of sexual abuse is extremely stressful and may arouse negative personal reactions. Although these secondary trauma effects were well described on a personal level, there is not enough evidence to understand if these professionals carry these effects to their homes, families, and offspring. This study aims to identify the effects of working with child abuse cases on the anxiety level, parenting styles, and children’s well-being of childhood trauma workers.

**METHODS:** Forty-three health and legal system workers who work with abused children in any step of their process and who have children constitute the study group, and 66 control cases, each working in the same institution and having the same occupation as one of the participants from the study group and who have children but have not been working directly with children and child abuse cases, were included in the study. Participants were asked to fill out a sociodemographic form, the Parental Attitude Research Instrument, the state portion of the State-Trait Anxiety Inventory, and an age-appropriate form of the Child Behavior Checklist for each child they have.

**RESULTS:** Professionals working with child abuse cases demonstrated significantly higher democratic parenting attitudes in the study. Law enforcement workers working with child abuse cases demonstrated strict and authoritarian parenting strategies, as well as democratic attitudes, more than their colleagues. There was not a statistically significant relationship between child abuse workers’ anxiety level and their children’s well-being with the control subjects.

1. Contact visits between foster children and their birth family: the views of foster children, foster parents and social workers


OBJECTIVES: It has been argued that contact visits between foster children and birth parents can help maintain attachment bonds and support the child's development. However, some research suggests that such visits can be detrimental. This study analyses the characteristics of contact visits and examines children's perceptions of the emotional relationship they have with foster carers and their biological parents.

METHODS: Participants were 104 non-kinship foster children and their respective foster carers and social workers. Fifty-six of these foster children had contact visits with their birth parents. Foster children rated the quality of their relationship with foster carers and birth parents using the Affect Scale. Foster children, foster carers and social workers all completed the Evaluation of Contact Visits Questionnaire.

RESULTS: Results showed that (i) a high proportion of children had no contact visits; (ii) the contact agreement was often not fulfilled; (iii) many visits were rated as poor quality; (iv) foster carers' evaluation of visits was more negative than that of both foster children and social workers; and (v) children who experienced poor-quality visits and perceived less warmth and more criticism/rejection from their parents.

CONCLUSION: These results highlight the need to improve contact visits by developing intervention strategies targeted at all those involved.

http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/cfs.12163

2. Elasticity of abdominal wall vessels in children: clinical implications in child abuse


BACKGROUND: Abdominal trauma secondary to non-accidental injury is associated with high rates of morbidity and mortality. It has been noted that children who have suffered abusive abdominal injuries often lack

No papers identified.
abdominal wall bruising. We hypothesize that children have highly elastic vessels that stretch instead of rupturing when the abdomen is punched.

OBJECTIVES: This study investigates the degree of elasticity in abdominal wall vessels in young children.

METHODS: Twenty children aged less than 5 years undergoing routine hernia repair or orchidopexy were included in our study. Subcutaneous vessels were identified during the procedures. The vessels were measured at resting length and when stretched to maximum length prior to rupture. Samples of the vessels were then collected for histological examination.

RESULTS: On average, we were able to stretch the vessels to 3.4 times their resting length without rupture. Histology revealed that the vessel walls contained a high amount of elastin.

CONCLUSION: We have demonstrated a high degree of elasticity in the abdominal wall vessels of young children. This may help to explain why children do not bruise when hit in the abdomen. Our findings have potential implications for both clinical practitioners and paediatric surgeons involved in child abuse cases.


3. An electronic tool for systematic reporting of fractures on skeletal surveys in suspected child abuse: prototype development and physician feedback


BACKGROUND: Narrative skeletal survey reports are highly variable and prone to inconsistencies with potential adverse impact on patients.

OBJECTIVES: To describe a skeletal survey data entry and compilation tool and assess physician attitudes toward this reporting approach.

METHODS: The prototype skeletal survey data entry and compilation tool was developed and introduced into clinical practice at a large urban children’s hospital. Paediatric radiologists and child protection team (CPT) paediatricians completed a survey of reporting preferences. Skeletal survey reports between March 1, 2013, and March 1, 2014, were reviewed to assess use of the tool.

RESULTS: The survey response rate was 70% (14/20) for radiologists and 100% (4/4) for CPT paediatricians. Among responding radiologists, 54.5%
(6/11) indicated that a skeletal survey data entry and compilation tool was helpful for skeletal surveys with >3 fractures; 80% (8/10) of responding radiologists indicated that tabulated data from prior skeletal survey was helpful when interpreting a follow-up skeletal survey with >3 fractures; 90.9% (10/11) of radiologists thought the tool improved report organization; 72.7% (8/11) thought it improved accuracy. Most radiologists (11/12, 91.7%) and 100% (4/4) of CPT clinicians preferred reports with both free text and a tabulated fracture list for testifying in court when >3 fractures were present. The tool was used in the reporting of 14/23 (61%) skeletal surveys with >3 fractures during a 1-year period. A case example using the application is presented.

CONCLUSION: Most radiologists and CPT physicians at our centre prefer skeletal survey reports with tabulated data and narrative description; 91.7% (11/12) of radiologists and all CPT clinicians prefer this approach for testifying in court when >3 fractures are present.


4. The yield of high-detail radiographic skeletal surveys in suspected infant abuse


**BACKGROUND:** Skeletal surveys are routinely performed in cases of suspected child abuse, but there are limited data regarding the yield of high-detail skeletal surveys in infants.

**OBJECTIVES:** To determine the diagnostic yield of high-detail radiographic skeletal surveys in suspected infant abuse.

**METHODS:** We reviewed the high-detail American College of Radiology standardized skeletal surveys performed for suspected abuse in 567 infants (median: 4.4 months, SD 3.47; range: 4 days-12 months) at a large urban children's hospital between 2005 and 2013. Skeletal survey images, radiology reports and medical records were reviewed. A skeletal survey was considered positive when it showed at least one unsuspected fracture.

**RESULTS:** In 313 of 567 infants (55%), 1,029 definite fractures were found. Twenty-one percent (119/567) of the patients had a positive skeletal
survey with a total of 789 (77%) unsuspected fractures. Long-bone fractures were the most common injuries, present in 145 children (26%). The skull was the site of fracture in 138 infants (24%); rib cage in 77 (14%), clavicle in 24 (4.2%) and uncommon fractures (including spine, scapula, hands and feet and pelvis) were noted in 26 infants (4.6%). Of the 425 infants with neuroimaging, 154 (36%) had intracranial injury. No significant correlation between positive skeletal survey and associated intracranial injury was found. Scapular fractures and complex skull fractures showed a statistically significant correlation with intracranial injury ($P = 0.029$, $P = 0.007$, respectively).

CONCLUSION: Previously unsuspected fractures are noted on skeletal surveys in 20% of cases of suspected infant abuse. These data may be helpful in the design and optimization of global skeletal imaging in this vulnerable population.

Professional development

National

Australian Child & Adolescent Trauma, Loss & Grief Network

The network aims to promote understanding of child and adolescent trauma, loss and grief. It offers key resources to help people involved with, or who have responsibility for, children and adolescents and those who are interested in the impact of psychological trauma, loss and other adversities as they affect young people. It also provides an online forum for communication and sharing of information and expertise among professionals and community workers; as well as people involved in research, policy, education and training and other interested members of the community. The website includes a sub-section on abuse, neglect and violence.

Website:
http://www.earlytraumagrief.anu.edu.au/

Australian Childhood Foundation

The Australian Childhood Foundation has developed a reputation for providing high quality education and training programs which focus on the neurobiology of trauma, attachment and related practice issues.

Website:
http://www.childhood.org.au

Events calendar:

Australian Institute for Family Studies (AIFS) – Seminar series

The Australian Institute for Family Studies seminar series presents eminent speakers focusing on contemporary issues in national and international family research. All seminars are free and open to the public.

Events calendar:

Adult Survivors of Child Abuse (ASCA)

ASCA is an Australian national charity which advances the health and wellbeing of people and communities affected by child abuse, for this and future generations. There are an estimate 4-5 million adult survivors of childhood trauma in Australia. This includes people who have experienced childhood abuse in all its forms, neglect, family and community violence in childhood and/or other
adverse childhood events (complex trauma). ASCA provides professional support, education and training programs, as well as a trauma-informed approach to care to improve the lives of adults abused as children. It also advocates nationally for the often complex needs of trauma survivors to be better met.

**Website:**
http://www.asca.org.au

**Workshops:**

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**Caraniche Training and Research**

Caraniche draws on the applied expertise of its staff to deliver professional development training in the health and welfare sector, including supervision and clinical skills, professional practice and critical incidents. They provide customized in-house training that can be modified to meet specific learning needs and participant requirements.

**Website:**
http://www.caraniche.com.au

**Training and research:**

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**Centre for Community Child Health (CCCH)**

CCCH offers a wide range of professional development activities that are designed to meet the needs of all professionals who work with children and families. Drawing on its world-class research and its clinical practice, CCCH's training and seminars are run by experienced early childhood facilitators.

**Website:**
http://www.rch.org.au/home

**Events calendar:**

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**Child Abuse Consultancy Education and Training (CACET)**

CACET (Kay-set) Global offer a wide range of awareness seminars designed to equip professionals and volunteers who work with children to manage and appropriately respond to suspicions of, or disclosures of child maltreatment throughout Australia and the Asia-Pacific region.

**Website:**
http://www.cacetaustralia.com.au

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**Child Wise**

Child Wise provides a range of specialized training packages, consultancies and services to protect children when they are in someone else’s care; to inform parent’s and carers about how they can keep their
children safe; and to help children recover from the trauma of abuse.

**Website:**
http://www.childwise.net

**Professional training programs:**
http://www.childwise.net/events

**Compass Seminars Australia**
Compass is Queensland’s newest professional development training provider for people who work with children, young people and families.

**Website:**
http://www.compassaustralia.com.au

**Events calendar:**

**Education Centre Against Violence (ECAV) NSW Health**
Education Centre Against Violence (ECAV) NSW Health, administered by Sydney West Area Health Service. ECAV is committed to enhancing the quality and accessibility of services to people whose lives have been affected by interpersonal violence.

**Website:**
http://www.ecav.health.nsw.gov.au

**Courses and Forums**

**Events calendar:**

**ENCOMPASS - Family and Community**
ENCOMPASS regularly develop and deliver small group and workplace-based training for child protection workers, family support workers, youth workers, and community support workers. All training is informed by latest research and thinking, is evidence-based where applicable, and regularly updated.

**Website:**
http://www.efac.com.au

**Training schedule:**

**Family and Relationship Services Australia (FRSA)**
FRSA list a range of training and workshop events for professionals looking to refresh their skills in a range of areas related to family relationship service provision.

**Website:**
http://www.frsa.org.au

**Training and events calendar:**
http://www.frsa.org.au/training-events

**In Safe Hands**
In Safe Hands offers a wide variety of child protection workshops and online training for all sectors, including educators, community and health professionals. The workshops can be
tailored to meet the service requirements of individual agencies.

**Website:**
http://www.insafehands.net.au

**Online child protection courses:**
http://www.insafehands.net.au/courses

**In service training courses:**
http://www.insafehands.net.au/our-services

Mental Health Professionals Network

The Mental Health Professionals Network (MHPN) establishes and supports interdisciplinary mental health networks across Australia. MHPN further provides a range of online learning and networking opportunities for people working in primary mental health care. This includes a series of regular, free webinars with panels of expert presenters participating in a facilitated case study discussion.

**Website:**
http://www.mhpn.org.au

**Webinars:**
http://www.mhpn.org.au/Webinars

National Guide to Training Programs in Psychotherapy and Counseling

This guide provides information on the many different training programs in psychotherapy and counseling offered by numerous training bodies across Australia and New Zealand.

**Website:**

Relationships Australia

Relationships Australia provides training for professionals and human services workers to develop specialist counseling, mediation and management skills in the area of relationships. Training is provided from basic to advanced professional competency levels.

**Website:**
http://www.relationships.org.au

**Training guide:**
http://www.relationships.org.au/what-we-do/courses/professional-training

Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Islands Child Care

SNAICC lists a range of Indigenous-focused professional development training resources in the areas of governance and management, community and family services and family violence and sexual assault.

**Website:**
http://www.snaicc.asn.au

**Training:**
Signs of Safety (resolutions consultancy)

Resolutions Consultancy provides training and consultancy in safety-organized child protection practice across the globe. They are constantly developing new practice-based materials and resources to help agencies and professionals build their practice. Tailored training and implementation options are available for a fee.

Website:  
http://www.signsofsafety.net

Events calendar:  
http://www.signsofsafety.net/event/

Training.gov.au (TGA)

TGA is a database on Vocational Education and Training in Australia. It is the official National Register of information on Training Packages, Qualifications, Courses, Units of Competency and Registered Training Organizations (RTOs) and has been developed for experienced training sector users.

Website:  
http://training.gov.au

Tests and Measurements

The University of California, in conjunction with the California Department of Education, has conducted a comprehensive study to determine the feasibility of using assessments of student achievement as measures of student performance. The study was conducted to determine whether there is a relationship between student achievement, as measured by tests and measurements, and student performance. The study was designed to test the hypothesis that student achievement, as measured by tests and measurements, is a significant predictor of student performance.

The study used a large sample of students from a variety of schools and districts in California. The study included a total of 2,000 students, representing a diverse range of demographic characteristics. The study used a variety of test materials, including standardized tests, classroom assessments, and teacher assessments.

The study found that student achievement, as measured by tests and measurements, is a significant predictor of student performance. The study also found that the relationship between student achievement and student performance is stronger for students who are more engaged in their learning.

The study has important implications for policymakers and educators. The study suggests that investments in student achievement, as measured by tests and measurements, can have a significant impact on student performance. The study also suggests that policies that increase student engagement in learning can have a positive impact on student performance.

The study has important implications for educators. The study suggests that educators should focus on student achievement, as measured by tests and measurements, as a primary goal of education. The study also suggests that educators should focus on increasing student engagement in learning as a means of improving student performance.
the UK, bringing together personnel from all agencies who work in the field with children in need, and with those who are abused and neglected.

**Website:**
http://www.baspcan.org.uk

**Events calendar:**
http://www.baspcan.org.uk/events.php

### Chadwick Center for Child and Families
**USA**

The centre promotes the health and well-being of abused and traumatized children and their families through excellence and leadership in evaluation, treatment, prevention, education, advocacy, and research.

**Website:**
http://www.chadwickcenter.org

### International Society for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN)
**USA**

The International Society for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN) is the only multidisciplinary international organization that brings together a worldwide cross-section of committed professionals to work towards the prevention and treatment of child abuse, neglect and exploitation globally.

**Website:**
http://www.ispcan.org

**Events Calender**
http://www.ispcan.org/events/event_list.asp

**Training Calender**
http://www.ispcan.org/?page=TrainingEvents

**UK**

This website is for all practitioners, researchers, trainers, policy-makers and other professionals, and provides free access to the most current information on child abuse, child protection and safeguarding in the UK.

**Website:**
http://www.nspcc.org.uk

**Events calendar:**
http://www.nspcc.org.uk/Inform/informhub_wd a49931.html

### NEARI Press
**USA**

For over 20 years, NEARI has been providing nationally recognized “cutting edge” work with seriously emotionally disturbed children and youth as well as providing “state of the art” resources about sexual abuse prevention. NEARI’s mission is to provide...
education and treatment services for emotionally disturbed, traumatized, neurologically challenged and learning disabled children and adolescents, and to create effective learning opportunities for the organizations, professionals and other adults who care about these children, youth and other at-risk populations. NEARI Press further organises online trainings and free webinars.

**Website:**
http://www.nearipress.org

**Stop It Now! – Preventing Sexual Abuse of Children**

**USA**

Stop It Now! aims to prevent the sexual abuse of children by mobilizing adults, families and communities to take actions that protect children before they are harmed. Stop It Now! further offers (free) online training to help adults prevent child sexual abuse. Webinars help parents, professionals and all adults learn about the Stop It Now! approach and research, and about using online tools for prevention.

**Website**
http://www.stopitnow.org

**Past and current webinars:**
http://www.stopitnow.org/training

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**Professional Interest**

**National**

**Australian Centre for the Study of Sexual Assault (ACSSA)**

The Australian Centre for the Study of Sexual Assault (ACSSA) is a central collection point for research, information and resources about sexual assault in Australia. ACSSA’s key role is to facilitate access to the growing evidence-base on sexual assault and to support organizations, agencies and others who use research and evidence in shaping policy, practice and research directions in responding to, and reducing, sexual assault.

**Website:**

**Australian Domestic & Family Violence Clearinghouse**

The Australian Domestic & Family Violence Clearinghouse is a national organisation, providing high quality information about domestic and family violence issues and practice. The primary goal of the Clearinghouse is to prevent domestic and family violence. We do this by supporting specialist and generalist service providers, government agencies, researchers,
advocates and activists in their efforts, through the dissemination of information and research, and through facilitating discussion.

Website:
http://www.austdvclearinghouse.unsw.edu.au

Child Protection Special Interest Group – RACP

The Child Protection Special Interest Group (CPSIG) is a special interest group within the Chapter of Community Child Health of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP). RACP – CPSIG is collective of doctors interested in the field of child protection. Membership is open to all doctors regardless of qualifications and experience. Interests range from the forensic evaluation of children's injuries to concern for vulnerable and disadvantaged children.

Website:

RACP Home:
http://www.racp.edu.au

Institute of Child Protection Studies, Australian Catholic University

The Institute of Child Protection Studies aims to enhance the well-being of children, young people and families through quality research, evaluation, training and community education.

Website:

National Association for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (NAPCAN)

Child abuse and neglect is one of Australia's most significant social problems. Last year over 30,000 Australian children were proven to have been abused or neglected. The mission of the National Association of Child Abuse and Neglect (NAPCAN) is to prevent child abuse and neglect and to ensure the safety and wellbeing of every Australian child.

Website:
http://www.napcan.org.au

National Child Protection Clearing House (NCPCH)

The NCPCH is an information, advisory and research unit focused on child abuse prevention, child protection and out-of-home care.

Website:

Events calendar:
Protecting Australia’s Children: Research and Evaluation Register

The Protecting Australia’s Children: Research and Evaluation Register is a searchable database of Australian research and evaluation undertaken since 1995. The 1371 projects and publications included in this Register cover a range of topics relating to the protection of Australia’s children including:

- The prevention of child abuse and neglect
- Early intervention
- Child protection services
- Out of home care; and
- Support for children who have experience abuse or neglect

The projects and publications included in the Register were identified through a literature search and through details provided by researchers working in the field.

Website:

California Evidence Based Clearinghouse (CEBC) USA

The California Evidence Based Clearinghouse for Child Welfare (CEBC) provides child welfare professionals with easy access to vital information about selected child welfare related programs. The primary task of the CEBC is to inform the child welfare community about the research evidence for programs being used or marketed in California.

Website:
http://www.cebc4cw.org

Events calendar:
http://www.cebc4cw.org/resources/cebc-calendar/

Child Protection Special Interest Group – BACCH & RCPCH UK

The Child Protection Special Interest Group (CPSIG) is a special interest group of the British Association for Community Child Health (BACCH) and the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH). CPSIG provides peer support at local and national level as well as regional and national study days. CPSIG membership is open to BACCH and
RCPCH members, and to doctors from other appropriate professional organisations.

Website:
http://www.cpsig.org.uk

BACCH Home:
http://www.bacch.org.uk/index.php

RCPCH Home:
http://www.rcpch.ac.uk

Child and Woman Abuse Studies Unit
UK

The Child and Woman Abuse Studies Unit conducts independent research into the abuse of children and women, working from a feminist perspective. The website contains information on the Unit’s research projects and publications, as well as an FAQ section including rape and sexual assault and trafficking in women and children for sexual exploitation.

Website:
http://www.cwasu.org

CORE INFO
UK

Cardiff Child Protection Systematic Reviews. The Welsh Group provides a series of systematic reviews defining the evidence base behind the diagnosis of physical child abuse.

Website:
http://www.core-info.cardiff.ac.uk

Division of Violence Prevention, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
USA

The Division of Violence Prevention is a division within the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) of the US Department of Health and Human Services. It provides general information on violence and violence prevention, as well as statistics on sexual violence, preventing violence against women, fact sheets, definitions and data sources.

Website:
http://www.cdc.gov/ViolencePrevention/overview/index.html

DynaMed

DynaMed is a clinical reference tool created by physicians for physicians and other health care professionals for use at the point-of-care. With clinically-organized summaries for more than 3,200 topics, DynaMed provides the latest content and resources with validity, relevance and convenience.

Access DynaMed:
https://dynamed.ebscohost.com
FirstConsult

FirstConsult leverages evidence-based medical information to deliver answers that are trusted, quick, and accessible anytime, anywhere. Content is subject to rigorous oversight by expert peer reviewers, a renowned editorial board, physician editors, and the Editor-in-Chief.

Access First Consult:
http://www.mdconsult.com/about/login/AboutMDC.html?pladuid=7176589&useproducts=AJ01&denyproducts=&allowproducts=BASE,MDC,CRDO,PAIN,RESP,INFD,MRC,K,MDAU,FCSA

Institute on Violence, Abuse and Trauma (IVAT)
USA

The Family Violence and Sexual Assault Institute has now merged with Alliant International University to form The Institute on Violence, Abuse and Trauma (IVAT). The IVAT is an important International resource, research and training centre that includes all areas of violence, abuse and trauma. The Institute encompasses multiple centres, which focus on family violence in the broad sense, including sexual assault, youth and school violence, workplace violence, violence prevention and traumatic stress.

Website:
http://www.ivatcenters.org

Minnesota Center Against Violence and Abuse (MINCAVA)
USA

MINCAVA provides research, education, and access to violence related resources through the MINCAVA Electronic Clearinghouse. As well as articles, research and bibliographies the website contains information about training resources and courses.

Website:
http://www.mincava.umn.edu

National Clearinghouse for Family Violence Canada

The National Clearinghouse on Family Violence (NCFV) is a resource centre for information on the prevention of violence and abuse within the family. Operating on behalf of the 15 partners that make up the Family Violence Initiative (FVI), the NCFV facilitates knowledge exchange between those working on the prevention, protection and treatment aspects of violence. It also helps increase public awareness, encouraging Canadian communities to become more involved in reducing family violence.
National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC)

USA

The National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC) is a central clearinghouse for resources and research on sexual violence in the USA. NSVRC aims to strengthen the support system for sexual assault survivors, provide information and assistance for effective interventions in preventing sexual violence, and identify emerging policy issues and research needs. The National Sexual Violence Resource Center Library contains library collections of both the NSVRC and the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape (PCAR). To search and access one or both collections, use the link provided below.

Website:
http://www.nsvrc.org

Search the NSVRC Library database:
http://n80002.eos-intl.net/N80002/OPAC/Index.aspx

National Criminal Justice Reference Services

USA

The NCJRS website contains a wide collection of criminal justice publications organised by subject and a searchable abstracts database. You can search for national and international upcoming events around juvenile and criminal justice, victim assistance and drug policy here.

Website:
https://www.ncjrs.gov

New Zealand Family Violence Clearinghouse

The New Zealand Family Violence Clearinghouse is a national center for collating and disseminating information about family violence in Aotearoa New Zealand. The aim of the Clearinghouse is to provide resources for people interested in working towards the elimination of family violence. An outcome of the Government's Te Rito: New Zealand Family Violence Prevention Strategy, the Clearinghouse supports the vision of Te Rito: to create a society families/whanau are living free from violence.

Website:
http://www.nzfvc.org.nz
PediatricRadiology.com

PediatricRadiology.com is a paediatric radiology and paediatric imaging digital library. The goal of PediatricRadiology.com is to provide a starting point for entry into paediatric radiology places of enlightenment, entertainment and education on the Internet. PediatricRadiology.com identifies high quality paediatric radiology World-Wide Web sites that can teach, illuminate, and inspire. In essence, PediatricRadiology.com is meant to serve as a "pico portal" for users interested in paediatric radiology.

Website: http://www.pediatricradiology.com

Sexual Abuse Survivors Trust

NZ

The Sexual Abuse Survivors Trust (SAST) offers information and support for those who have experienced sexual abuse.

Website: http://www.sast.org.nz

Sexual abuse of Males - Jim Hopper

USA

Jim Hopper is a clinical psychologist and researcher specialising in childhood sexual abuse in boys. This page provides resources around the sexual abuse of boys and the lasting effects of childhood sexual abuse in the lives of men.

Website: http://www.jimhopper.com

Welsh Child Protection Systematic Review Group

UK

The Welsh Group provides a series of systematic reviews defining the evidence base behind the diagnosis of physical child abuse.

Website: http://www.core-info.cf.ac.uk
# Events

## August 2014

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>30 Jul - 1 Aug</td>
<td>13th Australian Institute of Family Studies Conference 2014 – Families in a rapidly changing world</td>
<td>Melbourne VIC</td>
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<tr>
<td>4-8</td>
<td>International Childhood Trauma Conference</td>
<td>Melbourne VIC</td>
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<tr>
<td>6-7</td>
<td>National Centre Against Bullying Conference</td>
<td>Melbourne VIC</td>
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<td>7-10</td>
<td>American Psychological Association Conference</td>
<td>Washington USA</td>
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<tr>
<td>13-15</td>
<td>International Conference on End of Life : Law, Ethics, Policy and Practice</td>
<td>Brisbane QLD</td>
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<td>18-20</td>
<td>Association of Children’s Welfare Agencies</td>
<td>Sydney NSW</td>
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<tr>
<td>21-22</td>
<td>Youth Affairs Network of Qld Conference</td>
<td>Brisbane QLD</td>
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<tr>
<td>25-27</td>
<td>International Mental Health Conference</td>
<td>Gold Coast QLD</td>
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<tr>
<td>26-29</td>
<td>The Mental Health Services Conference</td>
<td>Perth WA</td>
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## September 2014

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3-5</td>
<td>Keeping Children Safe Conference</td>
<td>Cape Town South Africa</td>
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<tr>
<td>4-5</td>
<td>Action of Social Determinants of Health</td>
<td>Alice Springs NT</td>
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<tr>
<td>4-7</td>
<td>Early Childhood Australia 29th National Conference - Seasons of Change</td>
<td>Melbourne VIC</td>
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<tr>
<td>7-10</td>
<td>International Conference and Summit on Violence, Abuse and Trauma</td>
<td>San Diego USA</td>
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<tr>
<td>10-12</td>
<td>National Organisation for the Treatment of Abusers Conference</td>
<td>York UK</td>
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<tr>
<td>11-12</td>
<td>MATER CHILD PROTECTION UNIT CONFERENCE</td>
<td>Brisbane QLD</td>
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<tr>
<td>14-17</td>
<td>International Congress on Child Abuse and Neglect</td>
<td>Nagoya JAPAN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
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<tr>
<td>17-19</td>
<td>International Family Law Conference</td>
<td>Shanghai CHINA</td>
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<td>17-19</td>
<td>CWLAs National Kinship Care Conference</td>
<td>New Orleans USA</td>
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<tr>
<td>24-26</td>
<td>Recent advances in the prevention and management of Indigenous childhood and adolescent obesity</td>
<td>Manitoba CANADA</td>
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</table>
References


21. Jones, S., *Parents of adolescents who have sexually offended: providing support and coping with the experience.* J Interpers Violence. Ahead of print [Epub 03/07/2014]. [http://jiv.sagepub.com/content/early/2014/07/02/0886260514540325.abstract](http://jiv.sagepub.com/content/early/2014/07/02/0886260514540325.abstract)


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