Adverse Childhood Events and Trauma

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The Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Study is one of the largest investigations ever conducted to assess associations between childhood maltreatment and later-life health and well-being. The study is a collaboration between the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Kaiser Permanente’s Health Appraisal Clinic in San Diego.

More than 17,000 Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) members undergoing a comprehensive physical examination chose to provide detailed information about their childhood experience of abuse, neglect, and family dysfunction. To date, more than 50 scientific articles have been published and more
What impact do ACEs have?

As the number of ACEs increases, so does the risk for negative health outcomes.

Possible Risk Outcomes:

**Behavior**
- Lack of physical activity
- Smoking
- Alcoholism
- Drug use
- Missed work

**Physical & Mental Health**
- Severe obesity
- Diabetes
- Depression
- Suicide attempts
- STDs
- Heart disease
- Cancer
- Stroke
- COPD
- Broken bones

Source: Rwjf.org/vulnerablepopulations

The Truth About ACEs – Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
Helping Traumatized Children Learn

Supportive school environments for children traumatized by family violence

A Report and Policy Agenda
Trauma and School

• There is a dose-response relationship between adverse childhood experiences and student learning.
  • Are two-and-one-half times more likely to fail a grade
  • Score lower on standardized achievement test scores
  • Have more receptive or expressive language difficulties
  • Are suspended or expelled more often
  • Are designated to special education more frequently