

Systematic Review of the Associations between Child Maltreatment and Problem Gambling

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Background

- Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) increase the likelihood of many long-term physical and mental health problems.
- Gambler's history of maltreatment as children
 - Physical abuse: 13-27% (5 studies)
 - Sexual abuse: 20.5% (1 study)
 - Neglect: 16.5% (1 study)
- Gambler's maltreatment of own children
 - Physical abuse: 16.7-34% (2 studies)
 - Neglect: 10-16.7% (1 study)
- Problem and pathologic gambling has been associated with adverse outcomes for families and children
- Many studies of the association between problem gambling and child maltreatment have been limited by treatment-based samples and lack of control groups

Objectives

- To determine if:
- Exposure to child maltreatment increases the risk of pathologic gambling in adulthood
 - Adult problem gamblers are at increased risk of abusing or neglecting their children

Methods

Comprehensive database search run 10/2/14 and 4/16/15

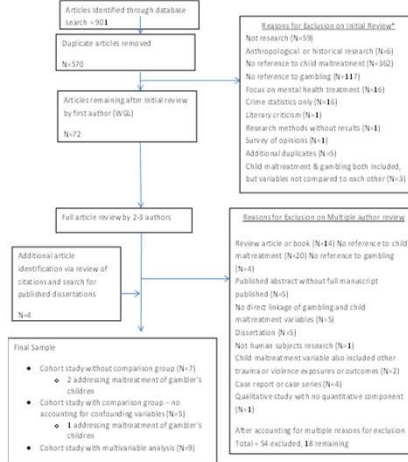
PubMed	Embase
Scopus	PsycINFO
SocIndex	CINAHL

Keywords incorporated concepts specific to gambling and child maltreatment
After duplicate references eliminated N=570

Methods

CHILD TERMS	ABUSE TERMS	GAMBLING TERMS
child	abuse*, abusing	gambling
infant (optional)	neglect*	gamble*
adolescent (optional)	negligence	casinos
youth (optional)	mistreat*	slot machines
	maltreat*	table games
	trauma	
	battered	
	domestic violence	
	family violence	
	dysfunctional family	
	family dysfunction	

Systematic Review of Gambling and Child Maltreatment: Process for Determining Articles for Inclusion.



Results – CM History & Gambling

Associations between Sexual Abuse History & Problem Gambling

Study	Population	Measurement of Gambling	Measurement of Sexual Abuse	Odds (CI) for 5A History & Gambling
Larsen, et al J Gambli Stud, 2013	Greenland Inuit	Lie/Bet Had problem or told so by others	1 Q - Forced sexual activity b/f age 13	F 2.01 (1.07-3.81) M 1.53 (0.8-2.9)
Scherrer, J Nerv Mental Ds, 2007	Vietnam Vets MZ & DZ twins	DSM-IV Pathologic vs. non-pathologic gamblers	1 Q - Sexual molestation as child	2.18 (0.95-5.02)
Black, Clin Psychiatry, 2012	Path. gambler registry, ads, random dial calls	SOGs, NODS, DSM-IV criteria	Childhood Experiences Questionnaire	3.65 (1.38-9.68)
Sharma, J Social work Practice in Addict, 2015	NESARC, U.S. pop-based epidemiologic survey	DSM-IV criteria lifetime gambling	Childhood Trauma Questionnaire; Conflict Tactics Scale	Prob Gambling 2.01 (1.48-2.72) Path Gambling 2.01 (1.22-3.30)

- Two additional studies did not report Odds Ratios
- 1 reported mean scores on maltreatment rating scale (Childhood Trauma Questionnaire) – significant association
 - 1 reported significant association between amount of gambling and sexual abuse

Associations between Physical Abuse History & Problem Gambling

Study	Population	Measurement of Gambling	Measurement of Physical Abuse	Odds (CI) for PA History & Gambling
Scherrer, J Nerv Mental Ds 2007	Vietnam Vets MZ & DZ twins	DSM-IV Pathol vs. non-pathol gamblers	1 Q - Physical abuse as child	2.31 (1.04-5.13)
Afifi, et al, J Psychiatric Res, 2010	National Comorbidity Survey	DSM-IV	1 Q – ever beaten up badly?	Prob: 2.8 (1.1 - 7.0) Pathol: 2.6 (0.8-9.0) Prob: 1.9 (0.8-4.7) Pathol: 1.5 (0.4-5.1)
Black, Clin Psychiatry, 2012	Path. gambler registry, ads, random calls	SOGs, NODS, DSM-IV criteria	Childhood Experiences Questionnaire	1.93 (0.88-4.23)
Sharma, J Social work Practice in Addict, 2015	NESARC, U.S. pop-based epidemiologic survey	DSM-IV criteria lifetime gambling	Childhood Trauma Questionnaire; Conflict Tactics Scale	Prob Gambling 1.62 (1.03-2.55) Path Gambling 2.96 (1.63-5.35)

Results – Gambling & Maltreatment of Own Children

- Three studies met inclusion criteria
- Gambling and Physical Abuse:** U.S. National Comorbidity Study Pathologic gamblers more likely to perpetrate severe physical assault OR=7.2 (1.2-44)
- Gambling and Neglect:** Aboriginal community Australia Neglect defined with ↑ risk of illness (scabies, URI, V/D, ear infection) Gambling associated with: ↑risk scabies OR=1.8 (1.07-3.05) ↑risk ear infection OR=1.68 (1.09-2.58)
- Gambling and Harsh Discipline – New Zealand Respondents who gambled:** More likely to use harsh discipline (23% v. 19%) But also more likely to be high nurturers (86% v. 76%)

Discussion

- Most studies show significant association between maltreatment history (sexual abuse & physical abuse) and gambling
- Association between problem gambling & CM perpetration less clear Very few studies in literature Unusual measures of neglect (scabies, ear infections)
- Review limited by variation in samples, methodology, measurement of CM & gambling
- Should we be controlling for psychological disorders? Are psychological disorders mediators? moderators?

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