

Appendix: The Physical and Psychological Sequelae in Adult Refugees Or Asylum Seekers Who Have Survived Torture

Table 1: Results of Literature Search

<i>Design:</i>	<i>Number of Studies:</i>
Retrospective Chart Review	7
Cross-sectional Survey	12
Cohort Study	1
Survey	2
Systematic Review & Meta-Analysis	1
Total	23

Table 2: Studies that discuss the physical sequelae of torture in various populations.

First Author	Year	Study Design	Sample Size	Study Population	Aims of Study	Main Findings	Limitations
Masmas, TN =====	2008	Survey	N =142	- New asylum seekers in Denmark from 33 countries - 71% were male - Most from Afghanistan, Syria, Iran, & Chechnya.	- To determine the # of asylum seekers who were exposed to torture/trauma - To assess health status as a result of torture/trauma	- 45% reported being tortured - 37% of torture survivors reported health problems, while 27% of non-tortured reported health problems. - 63% of torture survivors met criteria for PTSD, while 10% of non-tortured met PTSD criteria.	- Sample was predominantly men (71%) - Interviewer bias. - No control group.
Hooberman, JB =====	2007	Retrospective chart review	N =325	- Torture survivors: 61% Male pts, 39% female pts. - 59% from Africa & 28% from Asia.	- To determine the different types of torture & sequelae experienced in various regions of the world, in order to expose torture patterns.	- Men were more likely to report being beaten, while women were more likely to experience sexual assault. - Pts who were raped had higher rates of PTSD. - African pts were more likely to report witnessing torture.	- Reporters only recorded a max of 5 types of abuse. - Recall bias - Sample may not be generalizable to other populations. - No control group.
Asgary, RG =====	2006	Retrospective chart review	N = 89	- Asylum seekers from 30 countries presenting to the Bronx Human Rights Clinic in New York. - 87% men	- To determine cause, nature, sequelae, timing, and types of torture - To list symptoms and signs of torture experience.	- Most common psych sx's: diff. sleeping, nightmares, sadness, flashbacks, and avoidance. - 40% of clients diagnosed with PTSD, and 5% w/depression - 87% had scars consistent w/ alleged torture. - Bone deformities/ fractures noted in 17 pts, and burns in 15.	- Depression may have been under-recorded, possibly due to physicians preference to document PTSD, or overlap of depression sx's w/ PTSD sx's. - Referral bias
Tamblyn, J =====	2010	Retrospective chart review	N = 58	- Torture survivors	- To determine the relationship	- In those who reported sexual	- No control group.

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				living in Denver, CO. - Over 90% in this study are from Africa .	between different types of torture and pts reported physical/psych diagnoses.	torture or were diagnosed with PTSD, somatic complaints were more frequent. - Researchers found a higher prevalence of depression, PTSD, and anxiety compared to the US population.	- Small sample size. - Pts were screened for HIV and TB.
Williams, A =====	2010	Cohort study (Random 20% sample)	N = 178	- Pts attending a Specialty Center for survivors of torture in the UK in 2005. - Most commonly from Africa, Turkey, Iran, and Iraq .	- To determine the prevalence of chronic pain as well as associations between certain pains & types of torture.	- 78% of pts reported multiple pains, mostly in the head and low back. - There was a significant correlation between abd/pelvic/genital px in women who endured sexual assault/rape, and in men with anal px who endured rape. - Falaka was not assoc'd with foot/leg px. - Shoulder/arm px was not assoc'd with suspension/hanging.	- Probable under-reporting of rape/sexual assault among both genders. - In pts reporting multiple pains/torture methods, univariate analysis used was most likely inadequate to determine relationships in the data. - No control group.
Bradley, L =====	2006	Retrospective chart review	N = 97	- Kurds seeking asylum in the UK.	- To examine the physical injuries, pain, disability, and psychiatric illness as evidence of torture in Kurdish refugees seeking asylum.	- PTSD and depression occurred in all groups despite method of torture experienced. - There is a prevalence of psych sx's among females who experienced sexual assault in this population. - 14% fulfilled criteria for PTSD, while 7% met criteria for depression or anxiety.	- Recall bias - No control group.