

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

Table 3: Studies primarily concerned with psychological sequelae of torture in various populations.

First Author	Year	Study Design	Sample Size	Study Population	Aims of Study	Main Findings	Limitations
Hondius, A =====	2000	Study 1: retrospective chart review  Study 2: survey	Study 1: N=480  Study 2: N=156	Study 1: <b>Latin American</b> or <b>Western Asian</b> refugees (69% male)  Study 2: <b>Turkish &amp; Iranian</b> refugees (61% male)	- In both studies, researchers recorded the health problems of refugees and looked at relation to violence, demographics, and asylum status.	- In studies 1 & 2, 29% and 30% attributed their somatic sx's to torture. - 44% of refugees in study 1 reported experiencing torture as opposed to 77% in study 2. - Overall, study 2 pts had a greater number of somatic complaints. - Although many reported violent events, few had diagnosable PTSD.	- Selection bias is present, so results can't be generalized - No control group.
Crescenzi, A =====	2002	Cross sectional survey	N=150	- Newly arrived <b>Tibetan</b> refugees in Dharamsala, India. - 76 previously imprisoned & 74 never imprisoned - 45% were Tibetan clergy.	- To look at how political imprisonment effects anxiety, depression, and PTSD symptoms of refugees.	- Imprisoned refugees experienced more torture/trauma and had significantly more anxiety than non-imprisoned, but not depression or somatic sx's. - Most frequent problems among imprisoned: recurring thoughts of torture, difficulty concentrating, hypervigilance, anger outbursts, and nightmares.	- The sample was mostly those who lived in institutions, so it may not be generalized to those who live freely. - Trauma survey was only given to imprisoned refugees and not the control group.
Gorst- Unsworth, C =====	1998	Cross- sectional survey	N = 84	- <b>Iraqi</b> males (torture survivors) arriving in the UK between 1990-1993.	- To determine how torture factors and/or social factors in exile produce various psych sequelae.	- Researchers found that poor social support s/p severe torture/trauma is a greater predictor of depression than trauma alone. - Diagnosis of PTSD was assoc'd with sexual torture. - Only 10.7% of participants had PTSD, but 44% were depressed.	- No records of psych illness before arrival in UK. - No control group.

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Van Ommeren, M =====	2001	Cross-sectional survey	N=810	- A population based sample of tortured and non-tortured <b>Bhutanese</b> refugees living in Nepal.	- To determine the impact of torture on the prevalence of psych disorders on Bhutanese refugees living in Nepal.	- Tortured vs non-tortured refugees were shown to report 12-month PTSD, dissociative, and chronic somatoform disorders. - Lifetime rates of PTSD, GAD, and dissociative disorder were higher in the tortured group.	- Most self-reported data was taken 3-11 yrs s/p torture events, so there may be under-reporting of events.
Van Ommeren, M =====	2002	Cross-sectional survey	N = 1052	- A matched sample of tortured and non-tortured <b>Bhutanese</b> refugees living in Nepal.	- To determine whether the relationship between PTSD and somatic illness is independent of comorbidities anxiety and depression.	- Somatic illness was more frequent in the tortured group than the non-tortured group. - The tortured group reported a higher number of organ systems with somatic complaints, There was an association between PTSD sxs and health status independent of anxiety & depression.	- Physicians conducting the interviews only received 1 day of training on assessing PTSD. - Torture was self-reported which could increase the likelihood of a Type II error.
Bradley, L =====	2006	Retrospective chart review	N = 97	- <b>Kurds</b> 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 sxs 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.
Masmas, TN =====	2008	Survey	N=142	- New asylum seekers in Denmark from 33 countries - 71% were male	- To determine the # of asylum seekers who were exposed to torture/trauma - To assess	- 45% reported being tortured - 37% of torture survivors reported health problems, while 27% of non-	- Sample was predominantly men (71%) - Interviewer bias. - No control

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				- Most from <b>Afghanistan, Syria, Iran, &amp; Chechnya.</b>	health status as a result of torture/trauma	tortured reported health problems. - 63% of torture survivors met criteria for PTSD, while 10% of non-tortured met PTSD criteria.	group.
Tamblyn, J =====	2010	Retrospective chart review	N = 58	- Torture survivors living in Denver, CO. - Over 90% in this study are from <b>Africa.</b>	- To determine the relationship between different types of torture and pts reported physical/psych diagnoses.	- In those who reported sexual 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.	- No control group. - Small sample size. - Pts were screened for HIV and TB.
Peel, MR =====	1995	Retrospective chart review	N = 92	- Asylum seekers from <b>Zaire</b> newly arrived in England. - 78% men	- To describe the health effects of Zaire's government on tortured Zairian asylum seekers.	- All of the imprisoned were beaten, and 72 had scars attributable to the beatings. - 15 of 20 women reported being raped, 12 multiple times. - 76% were considered to have major psych problems as a result.	- No control group. - Selection bias