



Deeper Understanding, Better Care.





2009 Annual Report





Photo by James L. Stroud Jr.

A Note From Dave McCollum, MD AVA Chair

"When I first opened a family practice clinic thirty years ago, I was surprised at some of the histories my patients shared with me. Quite a few were victims of abuse or neglect. Gradually, a pattern started to become clear: people who have been abused have more doctor's visits, more chronic disease, require more medication and have more surgeries than those without that history. I recall wondering if there would come a day when medical providers would realize the impact abuse has on the health and well-being of patients. I am now encouraged that through the work of AVA that day may soon come. A lot of behind-the-scenes work is necessary to create change. AVA's Board of Directors, as well as its staff and volunteers, has worked diligently over this past year to lay the ground work necessary to create the changes we seek."

A Note from Bob Block, MD, FAAP AVA President

"As a Pediatrician, my primary focus is on child abuse. The lifelong physical and emotional effects of abuse have been amply demonstrated. But as health professionals we don't always do a very good job of helping our patients or their families understand these connections. As a professor at the University of Oklahoma School of Community Medicine, I am willing to link this inadequacy to a failure to emphasize the health consequences of violence and abuse in the training curricula for health professionals. An important AVA goal is to promote improvements in training of health professionals; and I am very pleased to be part of that effort."



The Facts:

An estimated 25% to 50% of the population has experienced some form of abuse in their lives.

AVA Mission

The Academy on Violence and Abuse (AVA) exists to advance health education and research on the prevention, recognition and treatment of the health effects of violence and abuse.

AVA Vision

By expanding health education and research, the Academy will integrate knowledge about violence and abuse into the training of all health professionals, promote the health of all people, protect the most vulnerable, and advance health and social policy that promotes safe families, workplaces and communities. The AVA strives to be an academic leader, addressing health professional education and research related to violence and abuse, focusing on minimizing the effects of violence and abuse on people's health.

A Brief History

In 2002 the Institute of Medicine report, Confronting Chronic Neglect: the Education and Training of Health Professionals on Family Violence, cited the need for a professional organization to champion the integration of teaching about violence and abuse into all health care training programs. In response, members of the AMA's National Advisory Council on Violence came together, with assistance from the Family Violence Prevention Fund (FVPF), to create the Academy on Violence and Abuse.

AVA Highlights:

- AVA incorporated as a non-profit and receives 501(c)3 approval (2005)
- Hosted conference Health Education Reform (2007) with the FVPF
- Proceedings published as Building Academic Capacity and Expertise (AVA 2008)
- Publication of Hidden Costs in Health Care, Abuse: the Economic Impact of Violence and Abuse (AVA 2009)
- Hosted scientific assembly Sowing Seeds of Academic Change: Nurturing New Paradigms (2009)
- Proceedings published in the journal Trauma Violence and Abuse (April 2010)
- Publication of AVA's Interdisciplinary Guidelines for Health Professional Education (AVA 2010)

For patients who have been abused...there is HOPE



The Facts:

People who have experienced abuse access health care more than twice as often as those who have not.

2009 AVA Board of Directors

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Practicing Emergency Physician, Waconia, MN, former Chair of the American Medical Association National Advisory Council on Violence and Abuse

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Our goal: safe families, workplaces and communities

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Bea Yorker, JD, RN, MS, FAAN

Dean, College of Health and Human Services, California State University, Los Angeles, CA

The Facts:

Those exposed to abuse are much more likely to engage in high-risk behavior including alcohol, drug abuse and unsafe sex.

AVA Initiatives

There is widespread agreement that we need to do a better job of training health professionals in the prevention, recognition and treatment of violence and abuse. AVA has identified two major barriers to improvement: a lack of appropriate teaching materials, and an insufficient number of dedicated and highly qualified faculty. To address these deficiencies, AVA develops and provides appropriate science-based training materials and works to educate and inspire junior faculty to teach about violence and abuse.

Training and Course Materials: To develop training and course materials AVA is:

- Developing online education modules for training practitioners in the prevention, identification and management of suspected child abuse, interpersonal violence and elder abuse.
- Creating innovative electronic patient simulations to teach sensitive interviewing and history taking skills using scenarios involving child maltreatment, domestic violence and elder abuse.
- Developing a major peer reviewed paper rethinking the paradigm about how our reaction to violence leads to biologic, behavioral and health changes, and addressing the intergenerational transmission of the effects of violence.
- Creating a new web-based teaching tool that provides links to the latest literature about the relationship between abuse and health effects across the lifespan based on the COLEVA concept.
- Producing and distributing a video lecture featuring Dr. Vincent Felitti and the latest research on the effects of Adverse Childhood Experiences to raise awareness of the need to address exposure to violence and abuse as major 21st. Century public health issue.

Professional Development: To advance academic and professional support AVA is:

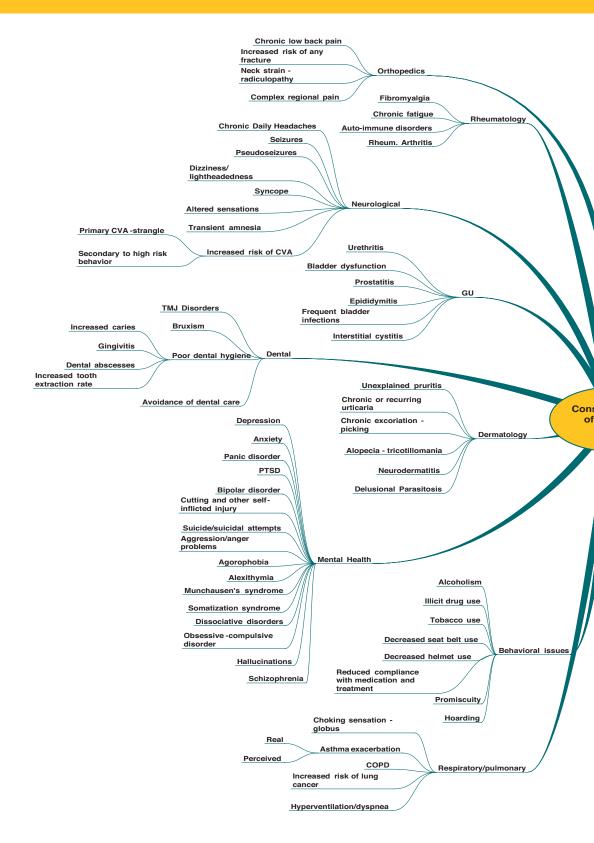
- Hosting the 2011 AVA Scientific Conference -The Developing Science of Violence: Toward a New Understanding which will bring together researchers in fields ranging from neurobiology, psychology, medicine, nursing and education research '
- Working with our partners to endow teaching fellowships at medical, nursing or dental schools for teaching about violence and abuse.
- Providing visiting lecturer seminars on preventing, recognizing and treating violence and abuse to health professional educator conferences.
- Providing faculty development training workshops around Developing Research on Violence; Early Career Planning to encourage junior faculty to advance the field at their institutions.

The Facts:

Individuals who experience maltreatment during childhood are much more likely to develop heart disease, lung disease and other chronic health conditions leading to premature death and disability.

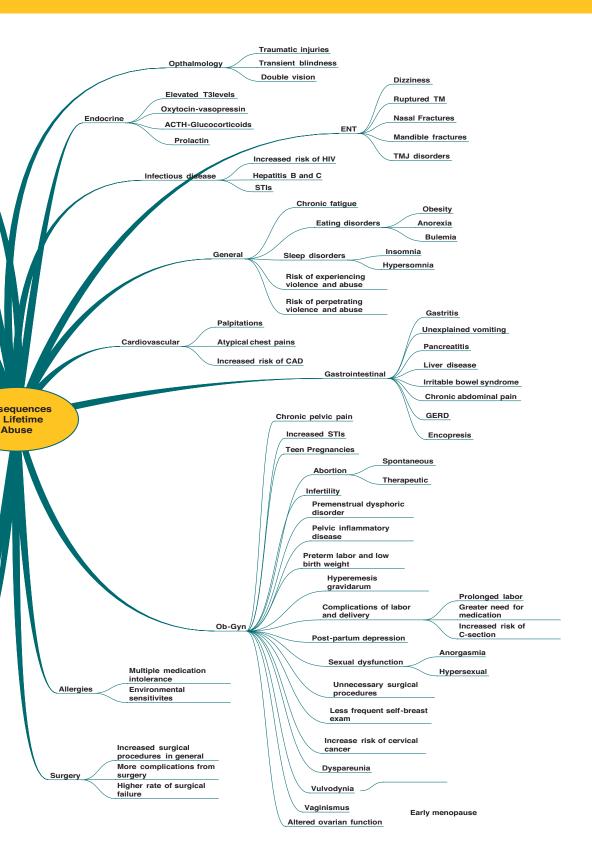


Known and Suspected Consequences of Li





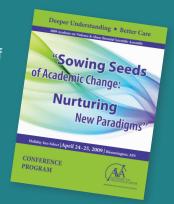
fetime Experiences of Violence and Abuse





AVA 2009 Scientific Conference

In late April 2009, the AVA held its first scientific conference, "Sowing Seeds of Academic Change: Nurturing New Paradigms," where more than 30 speakers from the United States and around the world, discussed new research and outlined ways to enhance academic training on violence and abuse. Attendees of the two-day event represented multiple disciplines, including medicine, nursing, dentistry, social work, psychology, physical therapy, public health, academia (e.g., faculty and deans), and violence prevention advocacy.



Photos by James L. Stroud Jr.



Patty Wetterling



Leslie Halpern, MD, DDS and Bruce Ettinger, MD



Dick Krugman, MD



Amy E. Bonomi PhD, MPH and Phaedra Corso, PhD



Marie Christensen, MD

The Facts:

The majority of chronic pain sufferers have been victims of abuse at some point in their lives.

Charles Mouton, MD



Theresa Dolezal, MA

SAVE THE DATE!

Join us on April 15-16, 2011 in Minneapolis for next year's scientific conference: "The Developing Science of Violence and Abuse: Toward a New Understanding"

A growing body of research is yielding important new insights into the neurobiological and epigenetic mechanisms that connect exposure to abuse to adverse health consequences in later life. This research has important implications that should help encourage us to treat exposure to abuse as a serious public health issue. The Academy on Violence and Abuse is hopeful that a wider understanding of research, bridging the biology of the effects of abuse on brain development with the subsequent behavioral and physical health effects, can help make the case that these interrelationships must be taught in our health professions schools in order for practitioners to understand the importance of preventing these effects.



Bob Block, MD (AVA President), Dave McCollum, MD (AVA Board Chair)



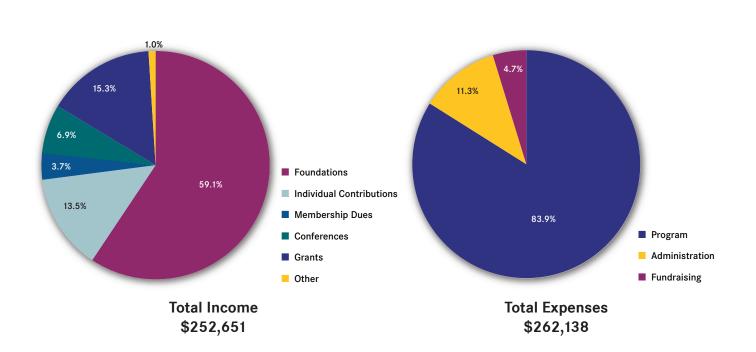
Dave Corwin, MD, Jackie Campbell, PhD, FAAN, Jamila Stockman, PhD, Tasneem Ismailji, MD (AVA President Elect)

The Facts:

Exposure to abuse has been shown to have long lasting effects on the immune system.

Academy on Violence and Abuse – 2009 Financial Report

BEGINNING NET ASSETS	\$ 161,822
INCOME	
Foundations	\$150,000
Individual Contributions	\$34,305
Membership Dues	\$9,450
Conferences	\$17,589
Grants	\$38,793
Other	\$2,514
Total Income	\$252,651
EXPENSES	
Program	\$220,035
Administration	\$29,661
Fundraising	\$12,442
Total Expenses	\$262,138
ENDING NET ASSETS	\$152,335



With Gratitude, We Thank Our 2009 AVA Donors:

Anonymous

Robert Block

Michael Callahan

Marie Christensen

Columbus Coalition Against Family Violence

David Corwin

Peter Cronholm

Laresa Deboer

Bruce Ettinger

Family Violence Prevention Fund

Georgia State University

Jacquelyn Hauser

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Janice Humphreys

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Ellen Taliaferro

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Support AVA

Become an AVA member. Apply online by clicking "Becoming a Member" on the left hand side of AVA's website.

Share our mission. Increased awareness regarding the effects of violence and abuse on health is critical. Please help us by sharing this information with your colleagues and friends.

Make a donation. Use the enclosed envelope to send your donation or go to www. avahealth.org, click on Support Our Mission.

The Facts:

Most graduates of health professions schools have had only cursory training in the recognition of and caring for patients who have experienced abuse; there is almost no training in the prevention of abuse.



AVA is a non-profit, academic, membership-based organization. Our membership includes a variety of health care professionals, representing various facets of the health care field. We continue to expand health education and research and integrate knowledge about violence and abuse into the training of all health professionals to promote safe families, safe workplaces and safe communities.



ADVANCING HEALTH EDUCATION & RESEARCH

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