

Adult interpersonal violence or childhood abuse, neglect increase later diabetes risk

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Both adult interpersonal violence or abuse and childhood abuse or

neglect increase the risk for adult-onset diabetes, according to a study recently published in the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*.

Maureen Sanderson, Ph.D., from Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee, and colleagues used data from 25,251 lower-income participants in the Southern Community Cohort Study (2002 to 2009 and 2012 to 2015) to explore the relationship between lifetime interpersonal [violence](#) or abuse and diabetes.

The researchers found that adult interpersonal violence or abuse was associated with an increased risk for diabetes (adjusted hazard ratio [aHR], 1.23; 95 percent confidence interval [CI], 1.16 to 1.30). Diabetes risk was also higher for childhood abuse and neglect. The combination of adult interpersonal violence or abuse and [childhood abuse](#) or neglect further elevated the risk for diabetes (aHR, 1.35; 95 percent CI, 1.26 to 1.45) versus experiencing no violence, abuse, or neglect. These associations were consistent for Black and White participants and for women and men.

"Our finding that lifetime [interpersonal violence](#) was associated with a significantly increased risk of developing diabetes across race and gender before the additional social stress of the COVID-19 pandemic strongly suggests the need for helping professionals across disciplines to implement effective violence prevention and intervention strategies to reduce the short- and long-term social and health consequences of partner violence and [child abuse](#)," Sanderson said in a statement.

More information: Maureen Sanderson et al, Lifetime Interpersonal Violence or Abuse and Diabetes Rates by Sex and Race, *American Journal of Preventive Medicine* (2023). [DOI: 10.1016/j.amepre.2023.06.007](#)

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