Adverse Childhood Circumstances and the Dynamics of Disability throughout Adult Life

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Results, Women:
We illustrate results with women, see table
Asterisks indicate statistically significant comparisons between those with no childhood adversities and those with 4+ adversities (p<0.01)
First age of IADL impairment, ADL difficulty, ADL dependency, was much younger for women with 4+ adversities
% of population and % of years with impairments was much greater for women with 4+ adversities
We calculated ratios of results shown in table to examine race/ethnicity differences; selected results for women at age 30:
Increase in IADL limitations and childhood adversity was 340% greater for Hispanics than for whites (p<0.01)
Increase in ADL difficulty and childhood adversity was 6.7 times greater for Hispanic women than for African American women; increase in ADL dependency was 1.8 times greater (both p<0.01)

Table. Associations of childhood adversity with adult impairments in activities of daily living (ADLs) and instrumental ADLs (IADLs), women.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Childhood Adversity Level</th>
<th>African American</th>
<th>Hispanic</th>
<th>White</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Low</td>
<td>47.3 ± 19.8</td>
<td>6.8 ± 1.9</td>
<td>46.2 ± 20.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td>84.7 ± 20.3</td>
<td>8.3 ± 1.9</td>
<td>45.8 ± 20.3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Results, Men:
For most measures, men reporting high childhood adversity had more functional limitations in adult life than those who reported none
Most comparisons among African American, Hispanic, and white men did not suggest differences

Discussion and Implications:
• For women, and for most indicators for men, those with high childhood adversity had significantly more impairment throughout adult life than those who reported none
• For women, the association of childhood adversity with adult functional status varied with race and ethnicity
• Results suggest reducing childhood adversity may help to address adult health disparities
• There is evidence characteristics of places we live are associated with health, disability, and mortality
• Results highlight need to better understand associations of childhood adversity with functional status throughout life for Hispanics, given growth among Hispanics and evidence suggesting that they may live longer, more impaired lives

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