

Child abuse and brain development

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Objectives



Outline Types of Child Abuse

Discuss Brain Development

Outline Effects of Child abuse on Brain Development

Describe Impact of Child abuse on Adulthood

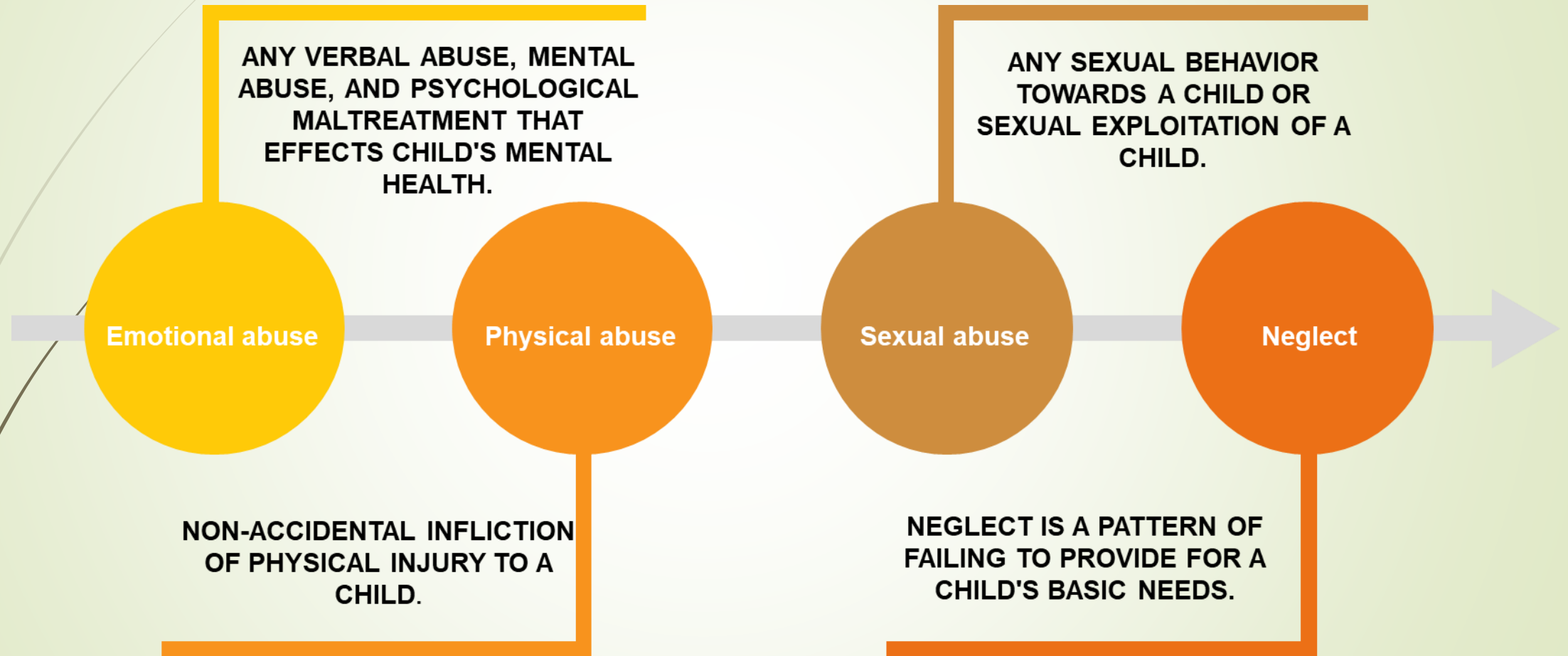


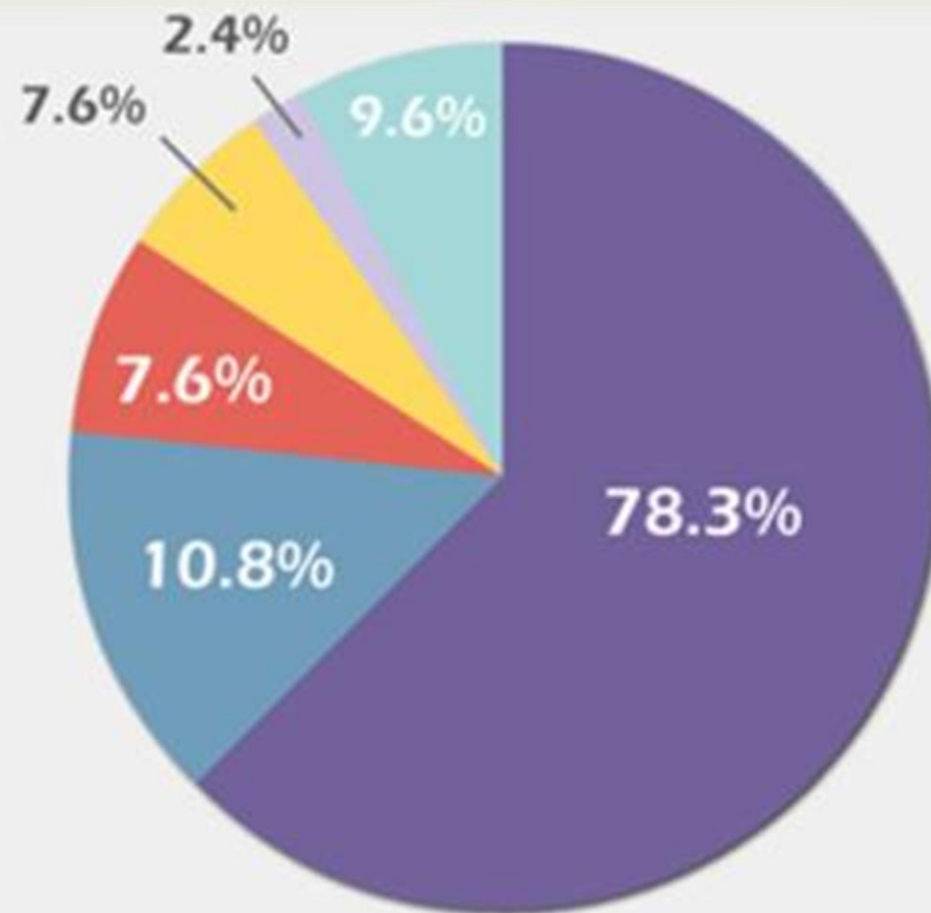
Child abuse

According to the World Health Organization (WHO) child abuse and child maltreatment is:

“The abuse and neglect that occurs to children under 18 years of age. It includes all types of physical and/or emotional ill-treatment, sexual abuse, neglect, negligence and commercial or other exploitation, which results in actual or potential harm to the child’s health, survival, development or dignity in the context of a relationship of responsibility, trust or power.”

Types of child abuse





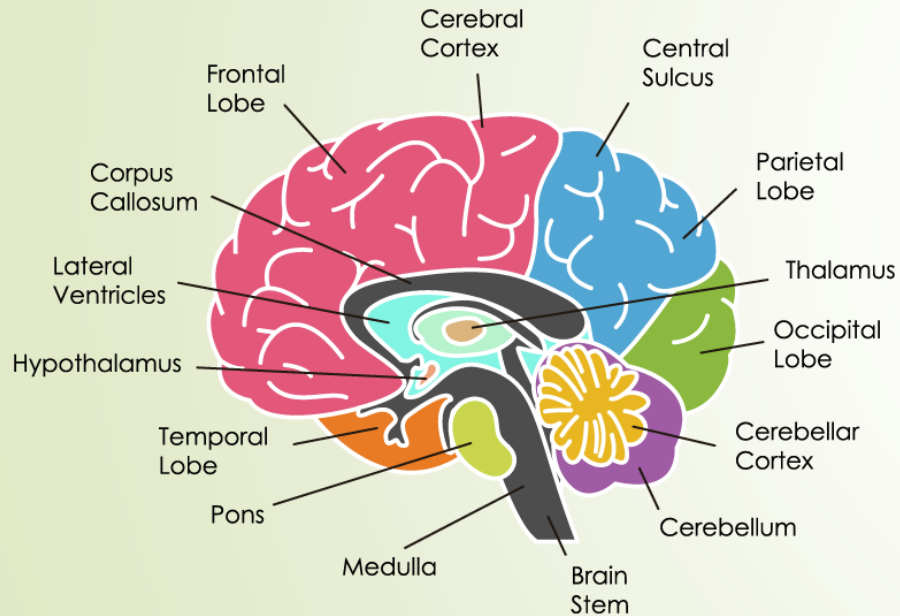
- Neglect
- Physical Abuse
- Sexual Abuse
- Psychological Maltreatment
- Medical Neglect
- Other

These percentages sum to more than 100.0 percent because a child may have suffered more than one type of maltreatment.

Brain Development

90%

By 3 years of age, a baby's brain has reached almost 90 percent of its adult size. For sufficient growth, the brain needs constant stimulation, which keeps the brain active in those regions. This stimulation provides the basis for learning.



Autonomic Functions

At birth, a baby's autonomic functions are well developed. As the lower parts of the brain and nervous system are what it needs for bodily functions. This allows instincts.


Myelination

This increases electrical transmission between neurons. Allowing the brain to make connections and improve neuron communication between parts of the brain.

Pruning

The natural process of dying of cells or connections that are no longer used.

Effects of Child abuse on Brain Development



Hippocampus



Corpus callosum



Cerebellum



Corticotropin releasing factor (CRF)



Glucocorticoids



Amygdala

Impact of Child abuse on Adulthood

- Poverty
- Unemployment
- PTSD
- Eating disorders
- Addictive behavior
- Depression
- Schizophrenia
- Asthma
- Temporal lobe epilepsy



Conclusion

- Your environment determines how your brain develops
- whether you'll become a functioning member of society able to learn and prosper from the environment.
- Or become a troubled individual unable to succeed
- Parents need to be educated
- actions have consequences
- Repeating the cycle for generations if not prevented.



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Thank you