RESEARCH OVERVIEW

Topic
A scoping review of reviews of the biopsychosocial factors associated with intimate partner violence (IPV)

Key question
What biopsychosocial risk factors are associated with IPV perpetration and victimization, and how do these factors interact to increase the risk for violence?

Project aims
IPV is widely prevalent and has worsened in the last few years. Previous research has identified factors associated with perpetration and victimization of IPV. However, this information has yet to be aggregated in a succinct review.

This scoping review offers a comprehensive summary of the interactions between biological, psychological, and social (“biopsychosocial”) factors that increase the risk of IPV perpetration and victimization. The study creates a synthesized map of the factors involved. By identifying and summarizing a range of factors, the study’s results will help guide future treatments and interventions.

Activities
- Developing a systematic search strategy to capture reviews of interest, using keywords related to biological factors (e.g., genetics, brain injury, endocrinology), psychological factors (e.g., trauma, substance use, narcissism), and social factors (e.g., gender, culture).
- Searching online journal databases with different combinations of these terms related to IPV and risk factors.
- Conducting a title and abstract analysis, followed by a full-text search.
- Organizing and discussing findings.

Helpful terms
- Biopsychosocial: The complex interactions between biological, social, and psychological factors that influence health.
- Intimate partner violence (IPV): Domestic violence by a current or former partner in an intimate relationship against the other partner. Can take a number of forms.

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