

Modification of the adverse childhood experiences international questionnaire for cultural competency: methods for understanding childhood trauma in low-resource settings

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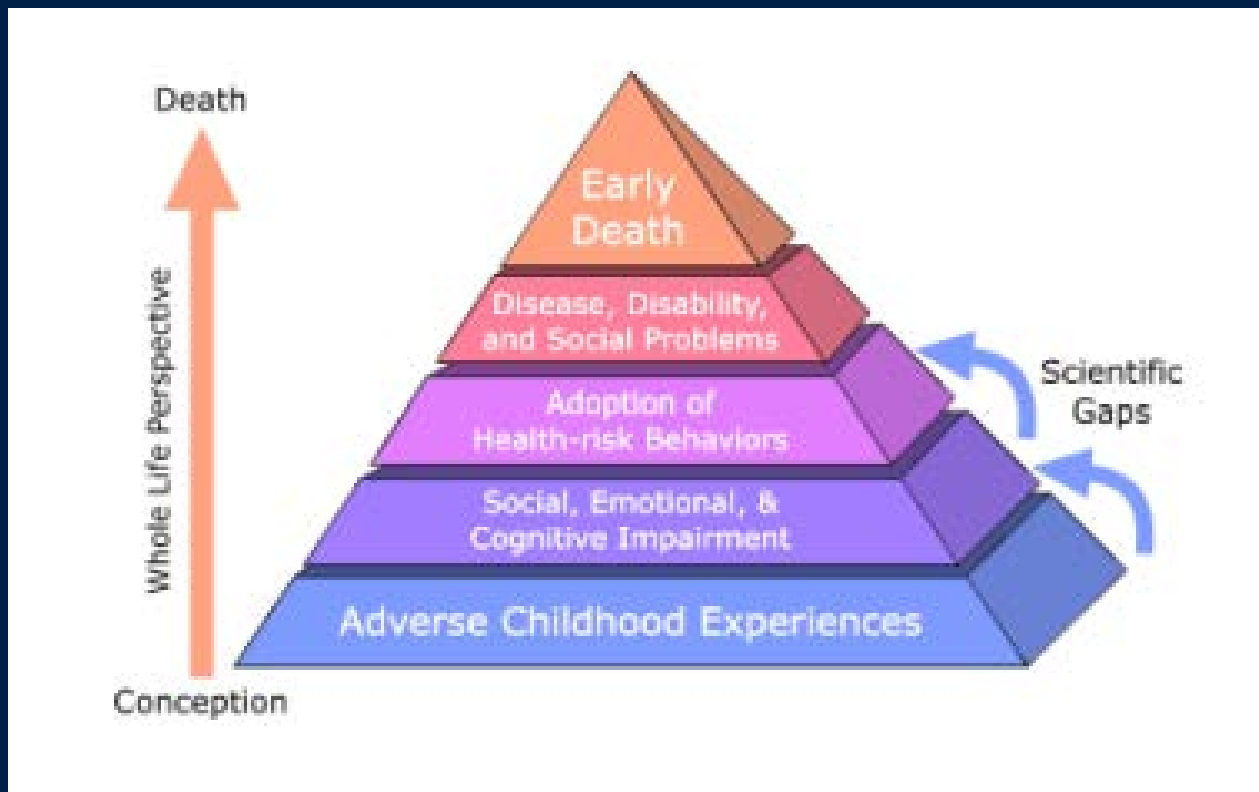
Objectives

- Qualitative study
- Modification of the World Health Organization's (WHO) Adverse Childhood Experiences International Questionnaire (ACE-IQ)
- Determine how to adapt ACE-IQ for cultural competence



Background

- ACEs refer to intense and frequent experiences that cause stress in a child



- Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) in community samples
- WHO ACE-International Questionnaire (ACE-IQ) includes abuse, dysfunction, neglect, peer, community, and collective violence factors
- ACE- IQ currently being validated for use globally with adults over age 18
- Measures prevalence of ACEs and the association with risk behaviors later in life



Methods

- Participants recruited through local non-government organization, Project Hope United Kingdom Thoughtful Path Munsieville
- Three focus groups: females 18-29 (N=6) and 30-50 (N=5); males 18-29 (N=5)
- Interview: male 30-50 (N=1)



Methods

- Focus groups completed in English
- Additional languages used to clarify
- Two note takers, audio recorded
- Guided questions regarding ACE-IQ



Methods

- Training in qualitative methods
- Four researchers independently analyzed data to identify themes
- Consensus
- Themes from each question to determine:
 - 1) Include question as written
 - 2) Include question with modifications
 - 3) Delete question
- Questions for inclusion with modification were discussed for final wording
- Added questions reviewed for consensus



Results

- Majority of ACE-IQ questions included
 - Two questions deleted
- Slight modifications for local vernacular
 - 23 questions were modified
 - Response options modified for four questions
- Additional questions (N=15):
 - Reporting sexual abuse
 - Exposure to additional ACEs
 - Abandonment
 - Severe neglect
 - Exposure to pornography
 - Witnessing sexual activity
 - Sex as currency



Limitations

- Lack of focus group for 30-50 year old males
- Social desirability bias



Conclusions

- Final modified ACE-IQ reviewed and approved for local implementation
- Provides a better understanding of ACEs in low-resource settings
- Tailored to the community and culture
- Methodology could be replicated



- Cultural relevance of ACE- IQ
- Validation of instrument for individual communities
- Creation of sustainable, community focused interventions



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