

F22.030: Validation of the Child & Adult Maltreatment Tool

Faculty mentor: Beth McManis

Overview

The study will help establish the validity and reliability of a checklist used in emergency room and pediatric floor to detect maltreatment of children. The overall study consists of several sub-studies: Content validity, validation of the clinical decision rule, inter-rater reliability, and validation using case studies. Experts will be asked to review the checklist and rate if the items are relevant and if they have clarity and conciseness. Once content validity has been established, experts will be asked to review completed checklists from patients' charts and indicate if the child had been mistreated or not and if the case merits a referral to child protective services. Since multiple experts will rate each case, their ratings will be compared to other experts to determine if the checklist is reliable. The results of the expert's ratings will be compared to the provider's ratings and possibly the outcome of the case to determine if the clinical decision is valid or not. Lastly, cases consisting of maltreatment and no maltreatment will be developed. Short videos of the cases may be developed. Nurses will view the short videos and indicate if they feel the case merits referral to child protective services or not.

What the student will DO and LEARN

The student will assist in entering the surveys. The student will assist in contacting experts, sending out the materials to the experts, and monitoring the return of their surveys. The student will assist in reviewing de-identified data for analyses. The student will assist in developing cases for the nurse study. If videos are developed, the student will assist in developing the story line and filming. The student will assist in reviewing the literature. The student will assist in cleaning the data. The student will assist with the data analysis and writing up the results.

Additional benefits

The student will be able to use a variety of skills. The student will be required to communicate, both verbally and in writing, with my research partners, the experts, and the participants. The student will learn about maltreatment including physical abuse, sexual abuse, and neglect. The student will learn more about the research process.

Additional qualifications

- Curiosity
- Willingness to learn
- Attention to detail
- Good communicator

Time commitment

6 hrs/week for 30 weeks