ARTICLE:

SUMMARY:
Purpose: Create the first systematic estimates of the impact of child maltreatment on health care spending (Medicaid).

Approximately 17% of mean state budget was for Medicaid in 2007

Subjects/Design:
Data collected from National Survey of Child and Adolescent Well-Being (NSCAW), a nationally representative sample of children who were investigated or assess by CPS agencies (October 1999-December 2000). This includes children who were either maltreated or suspected of maltreatment. Children in NSCAW sample were matched with children without reports of maltreatment, and matched for:
- Gender
- Age
- Race/ethnicity
- Year of data collected
- State of residence and zip code
- Type of Medicaid coverage

Findings:
1. Children from NSCAW had significantly higher healthcare expenses – an average of $2,635 per year.
2. They had significantly higher healthcare costs for all of the following:
   i. Psychiatric care
   ii. Inpatient hospital
   iii. Outpatient – physician and clinic
   iv. Prescription drugs
   v. Targeted case management
3. Overall Medicaid spending for 2009 - $68.4 billion
4. Estimated cost related to child maltreatment impacts - $5.9 billion (9% of all Medicaid expenses)