A Research-to-Practice Summary:
Predicting treatment attrition for child sexual abuse victims: The role of child trauma and co-occurring caregiver intimate partner violence

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ARTICLE:

SUMMARY:
Purpose:
The purpose of this study is to determine whether a relationship exists between child trauma symptomatology and a CSA client’s therapy graduation status; and a relationship on a caregiver’s exposure to interpersonal violence predicts whether a child completes treatment.

Design:
132 case records from NCAttrak for children seen at a CAC in Florida between 2010 and 2012:

- Sexual abuse victims
- No longer in treatment
- Completed both the Trauma and Attachment Belief Scale (TABS) and Trauma Symptom Checklist for Children (TSCC) at intake
- Had caregivers who either confirmed or denied past or current Interpersonal Violence (IPV)

Findings:
1. Rates for completing treatment:
   a. No IPV in home – 50%
b. IPV in home – 29%

2. The odds of a CSA victim prematurely terminating treatment are 2.5 times higher if parents confirm past or current IPV than children whose parents denied IPV.