

ISPCAN: CHILD ABUSE SCREENING TOOLS THE ICAST INSTRUMENTS REVISED

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World Report on Violence and Health 2002

- **Limitations of current international knowledge**
 - **data compromised by varying measures & definitions**
 - **Some studies mix school & home while others considered only home**
 - **Some scholars limit focus & avoided sexual abuse or other issues**
 - **Studies use such different samples & approaches: comparison is complex**
 - **Mixture of incidence & prevalence**

ISPCAN Contribution to SGSOVAC

Instrument to measure extent of child maltreatment:

- Rights based
- Reliable & valid
- Globally useful
- Culturally sensitive & easily translated

Tension between need to be standardized for comparison of data, yet flexible enough to allow for subject comfort, cultural & individual factors.

Development of ICAST Instruments

- Oak Foundation supported a meeting following the ISPCAN Congress in Brisbane in 2004
- 40 Researchers, Clinicians, & representatives of NGO's met to develop an instrument to measure child abuse
- Evolved to three measures:
 - Parent-completed form
 - Youth retrospective form
 - Child completed form

Development of ICAST

- The 40 developers divided into groups to develop drafts during and after Brisbane
- Two rounds of Delphi review of ICAST by a total of 120 reviewers, mostly social scientists.
 - Reviewers preferentially recruited from low & middle-income countries (authors published in CA&N)
- Instruments made available to Investigators by ISPCAN
- Translated instruments returned to ISPCAN

Validation Studies

- Initial studies: small samples (limited by financial support) of about 120 parents or children
 - India, Egypt, Colombia, Congo, Malaysia, Russia, Iceland
 - “ICAST P & C performed with little difficulty in pilot testing”
- *Chinese ICAST-C validation study* “This study supports it as a reliable, valid, and highly usable instrument to identify childhood victimization in adolescents

Published ICAST Data 17 Countries- So Far

- **Albania** – Part of BECAN at BECAN.EU
- **Cambodia** - Violence Against Children Survey in Cambodia 2013
- **China**- Psychometric testing of the Chinese version of ISPCAN Child Abuse Screening Tools Children's Home Version (ICAST-CH-C)☆
- **Colombia** - Maltreatment and sexual abuse at home concerning schooling adolescents
- **Croatia** –EPIDEMIOLOŠKO ISTRAŽIVANJE PREVALENCIJE I INCIDENCIJE NASILJA NAD DJECOM U OBITELJI U HRVATSKOJ
- **Croatia** - Gender and age differences in prevalence and incidence of child sexual abuse in Croatia
- **Georgia** - National Study on Violence against Children in Georgia
- **Greece** - Part of BECAN at BECAN.EU
- **Lebanon** - Child maltreatment: the Lebanese children's experiences
- **Korea** - Childhood maltreatment in South Korea: retrospective study

ICAST Papers and Pending publications

- **Macedonia** - Part of BECAN Studies
- **Romania**- Part of BECAN Studies
- **Saudi Arabia** - Association Between Sexual Abuse of Students Between 15-18 Years and Area of Residence, Gender and Who They Live With
- **Saudi Arabia** - Incidence of Child Maltreatment in Saudi Arabia Using ICAST-CH Tool: A Pilot Study
- **Serbia** – Part of BECAN Studies
- **Turkey**- Part of BECAN Studies (BECAN.EU)
- **Uganda**- School Violence, Mental Health, and Educational Performance in Uganda
- **Yemen** - Physical abuse in basic-education schools in Aden governorate, Yemen: a cross-sectional study
- **Zimbabwe** - The prevalence of child sexual abuse among secondary school pupils in Gweru, Zimbabwe

59 Country Investigators had requested ICAST

- Australia, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam
- Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Denmark, England, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Kosovo, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Scotland, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey
- Bahrain, Iran, Jordan, Palestine, UAE
- Bangladesh, India, Maldives, Pakistan, Mongolia, Sri Lanka,
- Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama, Peru, USA
- Botswana, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Libya, Namibia, Nigeria, South Africa, Somalia, Tanzania, Uganda

Revisions Needed

- 251 Investigators have requested ICAST from ISPCAN
- Largest Collaboration - Balkan Epidemiological Study on Child Abuse & Neglect made extensive modifications
- Survey (SurveyMonkey) of all ICAST users identified 3 concerns
 - Lack of parallel questions for all instruments
 - Response options problematic for translation
 - Lack of instructions on ability to drop questions and requested instructions on data entry and analysis

Version 3 of ICAST-P, -C, & -R

- Began with BECAN version modifications
- Added back questions dropped from ICAST P and added **ICAST-C(sexual abuse)** and **ICAST-P(neglect)** questions to ICAST-R
- Modified list of perpetrators
- Reworded several questions
- Modified response options

≥ 50 times	13-50 times	6-12 times	3-5 times	1-2 times	Not in the past year, but it has happened before	Never in my life	No answer
Once a week or more often	Several times a month	About once a month	Several times a year	Once or twice a year			

Revisions Continued

- Merged ICAST-CI and –CH with optional questions for institutions
- Revised drafts of instruments send to the 251 investigators who have earlier requested ICAST
- Further wording suggested by a few investigators
- Overall appreciation expressed for revision of response options
- Revised Manuals will clarify how additions or deletions are made by section and translation & ethics standards
- Version 3 to be copyrighted by ISPCAN.
- We are considering evolving a data entry template in EpilInfo

14(23) Known Translations To Date

- Vietnamese, Urdu, Turkish, Swahili, Spanish, Russian, Romanian, Persian, Hindi, Greek, French, English, Arabic, Albanian, Thai, Serbia, Marathi, Korean, Macedonian, Icelandic, Croatian, Bulgarian, Bosna and Herzegovina

The ICAST-P

- Ample evidence that parents will reveal sensitive information by interview
- Parents can understand informed consent
- Parents were present
- Can be asked about behaviors in context of child rearing
 - Background- 10 demographic questions
 - Discipline – 36 questions
 - Neglect and Sexual abuse – 8 questions
 - Attitude about corporal punishment – 1 questions
 - Parent Demographics- 5 questions

Sample items

All adults use certain methods to teach children the right behavior or to address a behavior problem. I will read various methods that might be used and I want you to tell me how often you (*or if applicable*, your husband/partner) have used this with (*index child's name*) in the last year.

Q. Explained why something was wrong

Q. Shook him / her

Q. Hit him or her on the buttocks with an object such as a stick, broom, cane or belt

Q. Threatened to leave or abandon him/ her

Total of 36 questions about discipline

Developing the ICAST-C

- Child abuse is often a private act
- Child rights perspective - respect for children
- Research ethics: informed consent & respect for persons
 - US conference recommended not asking children less than 10 years
- Multi- year experience asking children directly: found children understood & reveal more events than parents
- Child well-being best predicted by child report

ICAST-C

- Revised response options

	≥ 50 times	13-50 times	6-12 times	3-5 times	1-2 times	Not in the past year, but it has happened before	Never in my life	No answer
	Once a week or more often	Several times a month	About once a month	Several times a year	Once or twice a year			
D1a. Shouted, yelled, or screamed at you very loudly?								

D1b. If this happened, was it by (Please check all that apply)

☐ Adult male ☐ Adult female ☐ Child/Adolescent male ☐ Child/adolescent female

D2a. Insulted you by calling you dumb, lazy or other names like that?								
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D2b. If this happened, was it by (Please check all that apply)

☐ Adult male ☐ Adult female ☐ Child/Adolescent male ☐ Child/adolescent female

The ICAST-R (retrospective)

- Legal reporting complicates research consent
- Young Adults can give a retrospective report
- Older youth may have a better perspective as to what is unacceptable

Sample of response option revision

9. Were you ever not taken care of by your parent(s) or other responsible adult(s) when you were sick or injured even though they could afford it?



- a. Yes b. No (Go to question 10) c. Cannot remember (Go to question 10)



If yes, at what times in your life did this happen to you? (Please mark all the years of age when it happened to you on the line below)

Birth | 1yr | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18yrs

If yes, how often did this happen to you during your life?

- ☐ Too many times to count ☐ Between 10-50 times ☐ less than 10 times

Which people did this to you? (put X in one or more boxes)

- | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Parent or parents | 2. Other adult relative(s) |
| 3. Sibling(s) | 4. Someone else in my home |
| 5. Teacher(s) | 6. Friend(s) or peer(s) you know |
| 7. People whom you work with | 8. Neighbor(s) |
| 9. Stranger(s) | 10. Others(Please specify:_____) |

How much did this experience hurt or harm you?

- ☐ A great deal ☐ Seriously ☐ Mildly ☐ Not at all

Access

- All instruments, and field guides, will be available after this meeting at ISPCAN.ORG