Brief Summary of Papers included in the Meta-Analysis

In 2003, Allen Keller and colleagues associated with the Bellevue/NYU Program for Survivors of Torture published a paper in The Lancet. They had conducted interviews with 70 asylum seekers who were being detained in New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. The people interviewed were mostly men and from various countries on the African continent. 74% of them reported experiences of torture.


In 2004, James Jaranson and colleagues associated with the University of Minnesota and the Center for Victims of Torture published a paper in the American Journal of Public Health. These researchers had interviewed 1,134 Oromo and Somali refugees living in the Minneapolis/St Paul area. 55% of Oromo respondents and 36% of Somali respondents reported experiences of torture. Overall, 44% of the sample reported tortured.


In 2005, Grant Marshall and colleagues associated with the Program for Torture Victims, Los Angeles conducted a household survey, and interviewed 490 refugees from Cambodia who were living in California at the time of the study. 24% of those interviewed were primary victims, and a further 31% were secondary victims. In total, 54% of respondents had been exposed to torture.


In 2013, Cynthia Willard and colleagues associated with the Community Health Alliance published a paper in the Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health. These researchers conducted retrospective chart reviews of public health screenings of Iraqi refugees in Utah. Of 497 files reviewed, 24% reported being primary survivors of torture, and 31% reported being secondary survivors. In total, 56% of people had been exposed to torture.


In 2014, Patricia Shannon and colleagues associated with the University of Minnesota and the Center for Victims of Torture published a paper in the Journal of Loss and Trauma. The reviewed the charts following public health screening of 179 Karen refugees from Burma and Thailand, now living in Minneapolis and St Paul. Of these 27% were primary survivors of torture and 51% were secondary survivors.