Violence Risk Screening: Predicting Cyber Violence Perpetration and Victimization

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SAVIR 6-6-13
Background

Cyber violence is common among teenagers:

11-50% report being victims

15-33% report perpetrating

Cyber Violence Victimization

Have you....
1) been target of rumors;

2) received rude or nasty comments,

3) received threatening or aggressive comments

....on line.
Cyber Violence Perpetration

Have you...
1) made rude or nasty comments to someone

2) used the internet to harass or embarrass someone

...on line

Ybarra M et al. Examining the overlap in internet harassment and school Bullying. JAH 41 S42-50 2007
badgrl2:
I HATE U!!!!
I CAN RUIN UR LIFE
NO 1 LIKES YOU!
LOSER!
Sequalae of Cyber Violence

Victims
- depression
- academic difficulties
- delinquency

Perpetrators
- substance use
- delinquency
- aggression
Providers typically do not recognize youth involved with Cyber violence.

The Violence Injury, Protection and Risk Screen (VIPRS) use in health care settings.

It is not known whether the VIPRS also can predict cyber violence involvement.
Objectives

1) whether VIPRS predicts current cyber violence involvement - victimization or perpetration and

2) which of the 14 VIPRS questions may be associated with cyber violence involvement.
Methods

- Adolescents 12-17 –scheduled for routine physical exam were eligible.
- Assent from adolescents and consent from parents (both by phone).
- Screening instruments
Study Demographics

- 549/784 (70%) consented,
  - 74% (n=408) completed the pre-visit electronic screen.
- Mean age = 14.5 (sd 1.6);
- 65% female
- 45 % Hispanic; 38% Black; 17% White
- 18% positive VIPRS
- 23% current physical violence perpetration
Demographics of Cyber Violence

Cyber Victimization

- Gender:
  - Male: 27.8%
  - Female: 14.3%

- Race:
  - White: 22.7%
  - Black: 21.3%

- Age:
  - 12 yo: 9.3%
  - 13 – 18 yo: 20.5%

* p-value: .003

Cyber Perpetration

- Gender:
  - Male: 13.4%
  - Female: 11.2%

- Race:
  - White: 13.4%
  - Black: 11.7%
  - Hispanic: 12.0%

- Age:
  - 12 yo: 5.4%
  - 13 – 18 yo: 13.3%

* p-value: .53, .75, .09
Demographics of Cyber Violence

Cyber Victimization

Internet use frequency
<1x/week: 26.9%
2 or more/week: 22.6%
>1x/week: 20.6%

Internet use times/day
<1 hour/day: 25.0%
>1 hour/day: 25.0%

Cyber Perpetration

Internet use frequency
<1x/week: 16.7%
2 or more/week: 11.8%
>1x/week: 9.9%

Internet use times/day
<1 hour/day: 15.6%
>1 hour/day: 15.6%

* p-value
Cyber Violence by VIPRS

- Received rude comments:** 16.0% (VIPRS -), 31.2% (VIPRS +)
- Received threats* 7.3% (VIPRS -), 17.2% (VIPRS +)
- Target of rumors* 8.1% (VIPRS -), 17.3% (VIPRS +)
- Made rude comments** 7.0% (VIPRS -), 10.9% (VIPRS +)
- Harrased someone* 0.7% (VIPRS -), 7.4% (VIPRS +)

Any victimization**: 19.6% (VIPRS -), 42.6% (VIPRS +)
Any perpetration 40.3% (VIPRS -), 40.3% (VIPRS +)

*p<.05; **p<.001
Odds of Cyber Violence

- If VIPRS +
  - Cyber Victimization OR = 3.0 (1.7-5.5 95% CI)
  - Cyber Perpetration OR = 8.4 (4.3 -16.6 95% CI)
VIPRS and Cyber Victimization

- Poor Grades
- Trouble with Law
- Beaten Up
- Suspension
- Gang Involved
- Asked to Fight
- Fights
- Hurt Someone

- Marijuana
- Friend Suicide
- Injured in Fight
- Watched Fight
- ADHD
- Parental Expectations
VIPRS and Cyber Perpetration

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- Trouble with Law
- Beaten Up
- Suspension
- Gang Involved
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Limitations

• Only on-line experience explored; did not include text messaging or the general use of smart phones
• This study was cross sectional, so predictive validity of the VIPRS was not evaluated
Conclusions

• Cyber violence occurs with significant frequency in a general adolescent clinic population

• Scoring positive on the VIPRS not only predicts physical violence perpetration, but is strongly associated with current cyber violence perpetration and victimization
Implications

Practitioners can use a positive VIPRS screen as a prompt to further assess youth for cyber violence involvement.

The strong association between physical violence risk, specific violent behaviors, and electronic violence suggests that on-line violence and in person violence are similar constructs.

When assessing for violence involvement, cyber violence should be addressed as well.
Acknowledgements

• This study was funded in part by the Colorado Injury Control Research Center, the University of Colorado School of Medicine Dean’s Enrichment Fund, and the CDC-5K01CE001332
VIPRS Questions and Association with Cyber Violence Perpetration and Victimization

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VIPRS Questions</th>
<th>Cyber Perpetration + (%)</th>
<th>Cyber Victimization + (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parental Academic Expectations:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Low</td>
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<td>Grades:</td>
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<tr>
<td>&gt; C average</td>
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<tr>
<td>&lt; C average</td>
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<td>40 **</td>
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<td>Suspended from school:</td>
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<td>8.6</td>
<td>20.4</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
<td>28.6 ***</td>
<td>31.2 *</td>
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<td>Fight in Last Year:</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>17.8</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
<td>27.2 ***</td>
<td>37.4 ***</td>
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<td>Smoked Marijuana</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
<td>28.3 ***</td>
<td>44 ***</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trouble with Law</td>
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<tr>
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<td>35.2 ***</td>
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<td>Gang Involved:</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>21.4</td>
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<td>44 **</td>
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<td>Have ADHD</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
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<td>Friends Commit Suicide:</td>
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<td>51.1 ***</td>
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<th>Cyber Victimization + (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Been Injured in Fight</td>
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<td>Hurt Someone in a Fight</td>
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<td>Watched a Fight</td>
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<td>15.9</td>
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<td>Been Beaten Up</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
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<td>64.7 ***</td>
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<td>Asked to Fight</td>
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<td>30.3 **</td>
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Demographics of Cyber Violence

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<th>Cyber Perpetration</th>
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<td>Reduced Lunch</td>
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<td>% Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>&lt;1X per week</td>
<td>26.9</td>
<td>.42</td>
<td>16.7</td>
<td>.31</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 or more per week</td>
<td>22.6</td>
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<td>11.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Internet Use time per day</td>
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<tr>
<td>&lt; 1hour per day</td>
<td>20.6</td>
<td>.3</td>
<td>9.9</td>
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<td>??</td>
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• [yberbully.jpg](yberbully.jpg)