



**UCLA** | **UCSF**

ACEs Aware Family Resilience Network

## **Edward Machtinger, MD** Co-Principal Investigator, UCAAN

---

**UCAAN** | The UCLA-UCSF ACEs Aware Family Resilience Network

# Trauma-Informed Health Care

## National Expert Consensus Panel



## Published Framework



Machtiger, E. L., Davis, K. B., Kimberg, L. S., Khanna, N., Cuca, Y. P., Dawson-Rose, C., Shumway, M., Campbell, J., Lewis-O'Connor, A., Blake, M., Blanch, A., and McCaw, B (2019). From treatment to healing: inquiry and response to recent and past trauma in adult health care. *Women's Health Issues*. Mar - Apr;29(2):97-102.

# California ACEs Learning and Quality Improvement Collaborative (CALQIC)

---



## **Timeline:**

- 16-month learning collaborative

## **Evaluation:**

- Systematically learn about ACE screening implementation and outcomes
- Use learnings to inform provider training and statewide scale-up

## **Locations:**

- 48 clinic sites across 7 California regions that collectively serve nearly 250,000 patients covered by Medi-Cal

## **Evaluation led by:**

- UCSF Center to Advance Trauma-Informed Healthcare
- Center for Community Health and Evaluation (CCHE)
- RAND Corporation
- UCLA / Los Angeles County Department of Health Services

# Data Sources: Mixed Methods Evaluation

---



## **CALQIC-wide evaluation (breadth)**

All 48 clinics participated

- Quarterly aggregate reports on ACE screening & response metrics
- Clinic readiness for trauma-informed health care assessment
- Organizational case studies / qualitative data

## **Deep-dive evaluation (depth)**

Clinics in LA County and rural Northern California

- Focus groups with clinicians/staff from 7 clinics
- Interviews with 151 patients/ caregivers
- Quantitative analysis of individual-level data from almost 10,000 patient medical records

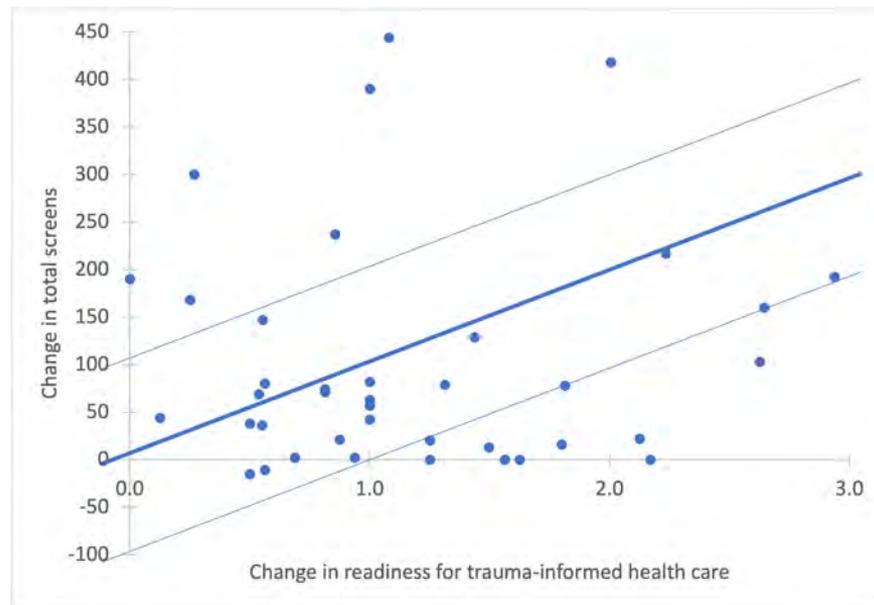
# Clinic Readiness for Trauma-Informed Health Care Is Associated with Uptake of Screening for Adverse Childhood Experiences

*The Permanente Journal*, January 2024

- Readiness for trauma-informed health care increased for all clinics
- Average number of quarterly screens increased
- Clinics with larger increases in readiness for trauma-informed health care had larger increases in quarterly screens

## Conclusion:

- **A trauma-informed environment is a crucial foundation for ACE screening and response**
- **ACE Aware is a transformative catalyst of trauma-informed systems change**



Journal Article:

# Clinician and Staff Perspectives on Implementing Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE) Screening in Los Angeles County Pediatric Clinics

*Annals of Family Medicine; September 2023*

- Providers and clinical staff felt comfortable administering and discussing the ACE screener
- Concerns about retraumatizing patients, but no instances of this occurring
- Providers and staff reported that ACE screening helped elicit important information and strengthen provider/patient relationship
- Providers made recommendations for the sustainability and expansion of ACE screening:
  - More time, expanded interdisciplinary team, and clear workflows

Journal Article:

# Patient and Caregiver Perspectives on Implementation of ACE Screening in Pediatric Care Settings: A Qualitative Evaluation

*Journal of Pediatric Healthcare*; August 2023

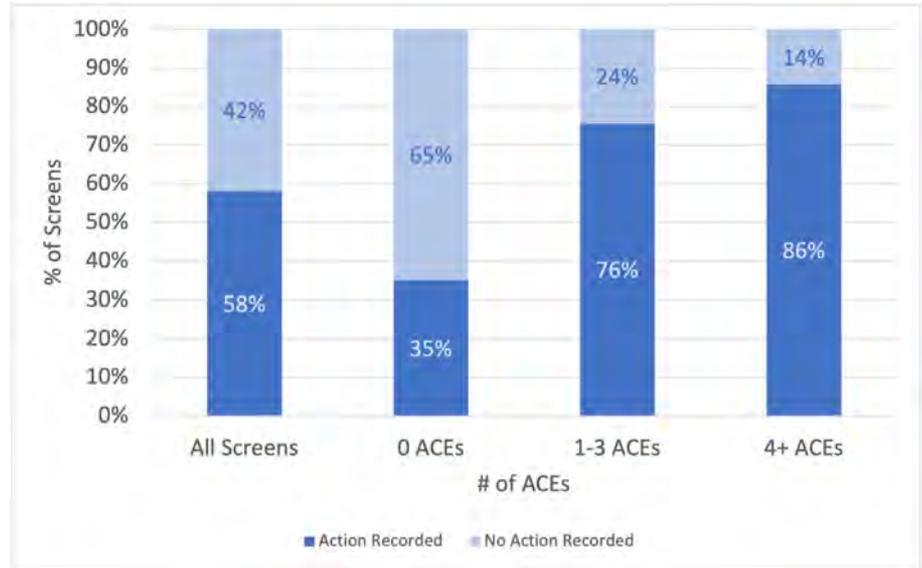
- Overall, patients and caregivers perceived ACE screening to be beneficial
- Patients and caregivers reported a positive or neutral effect on their relationship with clinic and/or providers
- No patient or caregiver reported any evidence of lasting adverse effects

Under Review:

## Provider Actions in Response to Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE) Screening

Evidence that ACE screening positively influences patient care:

- Providers take more action for patients with more ACEs
- Patients with more ACEs received increased referrals to mental health, social work, and community-based resources



# Key Takeaways

---

- A trauma-informed environment of care is a foundation for the start and spread of ACE screening and response
- Screening for ACEs in frontline Medi-Cal clinics is feasible
- ACE screening is acceptable and perceived to be beneficial by clinicians, staff, patients, and families
- There is no evidence of lasting adverse effects
- ACE screening positively influences patient care — patients with more ACEs receive increased referrals to needed services

These findings successfully set the stage for future phases of ACEs Aware, providing evidence to inform the initiative as ACE screening and response scales up in California