

1 **Excess costs of post-traumatic stress disorder related to child maltreatment in Ger-**
2 **many**

3 **Short title: Excess costs of PTSD related to child maltreatment**
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40 **Abstract**

41 **Background:** Childhood maltreatment (CM) significantly increases the risk of developing post-trau-
42 matic stress disorder (PTSD) for which the prevalence in Europe is higher than initially assumed. While
43 the high economic burden of PTSD is well-documented, little is known about the health care cost dif-
44 ferences between individuals with PTSD-CM and those without PTSD in Germany. This study aimed
45 to determine the excess health care and absenteeism costs associated with PTSD-CM in Germany.

46 **Methods:** Baseline data from a multi-center randomized controlled trial on individuals with PTSD-CM
47 (n = 361) were combined with data from individuals without PTSD (n = 4760). Entropy balancing was
48 used to balance the data sets with regard to sociodemographic characteristics. Six-month excess health
49 care costs from a societal perspective were calculated for 2022, using two-part models with logit speci-
50 fication for the first part and a generalized linear model for the second part.

51 **Results:** The total six-month excess costs associated with PTSD-CM were €8864 (95% CI: €6855 to
52 €10,873) per person. Of this, the excess health care costs accounted for €4647 (95% CI €3296 to €5997)
53 and the excess costs of absenteeism for €4217 (95 % CI: €3121 to €5314). Individuals with mild to
54 moderate PTSD symptoms incurred total excess costs of €6038 (95 % CI: €3879 to €8197), while those
55 with severe to extreme symptoms faced €11,433 (95 % CI: €8220 to €14,646).

56 **Conclusion:** Excess health care and absenteeism costs associated with PTSD-CM were substantial, with
57 absenteeism accounting for roughly half of the total excess costs.

58 **Keywords:** Health care use; cost of illness; post-traumatic stress disorder, child abuse, Germany; health
59 services research

60 **Introduction**

61 Childhood maltreatment (CM) significantly increases the risk for developing post-traumatic stress dis-
62 order (PTSD) and other mental health issues. CM is defined as any act of commission or omission by a
63 parent or caregiver that results in intended or unintended harm, potential for harm, or threat of harm to
64 a child [1-4]. CM encompasses various forms, including physical abuse, sexual abuse, psychological or
65 emotional abuse, neglect and witnessing intimate-partner violence [2]. In Europe, the estimated preva-
66 lence of CM is approximately 23% for physical abuse, 10% for sexual abuse, and 30% for psychological
67 or emotional abuse [5]. A meta-analysis found the global prevalence of neglect to be around 18% [6].
68 The prevalence of witnessing intimate-partner violence during childhood was reported ranging between
69 8% and 24% in surveys from the USA and Sweden [2, 7, 8].

70 CM is associated with PTSD in adolescence and adulthood, particularly in cases of physical or sexual
71 abuse and neglect [2, 3]. Symptoms of PTSD related to CM (PTSD-CM) often include repeated occur-
72 rence of intrusive thoughts and memories, sleep disturbances and feelings of detachment or numbness
73 [2]. Additionally, individuals with PTSD-CM often exhibit high levels of complex symptomatology
74 beyond PTSD, such as, difficulties with emotion regulation difficulties, interpersonal issues, impulsive
75 and self-destructive behaviors and high levels of dissociation [9-11].

76 Individuals with PTSD are typically treated with trauma-focused psychotherapies, including trauma-
77 focused cognitive-behavioral therapy, eye-movement desensitization and reprocessing and prolonged
78 exposure therapy, as well as non-trauma-focused cognitive-behavioral therapies that address trauma-
79 related thoughts, emotions, and anger management [12-16]. For PTSD-CM particularly individual
80 trauma-focused psychotherapies are generally recommended as first-line treatment with adaptations to
81 meet the specific needs of individuals with PTSD-CM, such as phase-based approaches like Skills Train-
82 ing in Affect and Interpersonal Regulation/Narrative Therapy (STAIR/NT) [1, 12, 17, 18].

83 Despite those recommended and presumably cost-effective therapies, it is known that individuals with
84 PTSD cause a high economic burden, particularly those with more severe symptoms [19]. In 2010, the
85 total annual costs of PTSD in Europe was approximately €8.4 billion, affecting around 7.7 million peo-
86 ple [20]. A recent systematic review of economic evaluations and cost analyses found that annual excess
87 health care costs of PTSD, i.e. health care cost differences between individuals with PTSD and those

88 without, ranged from about €460 to €17,400 and annual excess costs of absenteeism of €4500 per person
89 [19]. High excess health care costs of PTSD were associated with greater utilization both outpatient
90 somatic, psychiatric, psychosomatic, psychological as well as nonmedical services among individuals
91 with PTSD [21-24]. However, analyses of excess costs related to somatic, psychiatric and psychoso-
92 matic hospital utilization were inconclusive.

93 To our knowledge, excess costs of PTSD have rarely been analyzed so far with studies conducted only
94 in Australia, USA, Canada and the Netherlands [21-25]. There are no existing studies on the excess
95 costs of PTSD in Germany or specifically on the excess costs of PTSD-CM. Previous excess cost anal-
96 yses primarily focused on victims of motorcycle accidents [21, 24] and veterans with PTSD [22, 23,
97 25]. Therefore, this study aimed to compare health care service utilization, associated costs of health
98 care and absenteeism in individuals with PTSD-CM to those in the general population in Germany,
99 ultimately determining the excess health care and absenteeism costs per person associated with PTSD-
100 CM from a societal perspective.

101

102 **Methods**

103 **Sample of individuals with PTSD-CM**

104 Data on individuals with PTSD-CM were obtained from the baseline sample of a multi-center random-
105 ized controlled trial (Enhancing treatment and understanding of PTSD-CM [ENHANCE]; trial registra-
106 tion number: DRKS 00021142) [26]. This study aimed to compare methods of STAIR/NT and of
107 trauma-focused psychodynamic therapy against a minimal attention waiting list for PTSD-CM. In Ger-
108 many, a significant proportion of care for mentally ill people is provided by psychosomatic-psychother-
109 apeutic clinics, clinics with a focus on specialized multimodal psychotherapeutic treatment, as well as
110 medical and psychological psychotherapists in the outpatient sector. Thus, the study was conducted in
111 university psychosomatic-psychotherapeutic outpatient clinics and university psychological institutes in
112 Giessen, Dresden, Berlin, Mainz and Ulm, Germany.

113 Participants were included if they had a primary diagnosis of PTSD-CM, experienced sexual or physical
114 abuse by a caregiver or authority figure before age of 18 and were aged 18 to 65 years. Exclusion criteria
115 included current psychotic disorders, ongoing maltreatment, acute suicidality requiring emergency care

116 or hospitalization within the past three months, substance dependence not in remission for at least three
117 months, borderline personality disorder, dissociative identity disorder, organic mental disorder, severe
118 medical conditions incompatible with psychotherapy, newly applied pharmacotherapy and concurrent
119 psychotherapy.

120 The ethics committee of the Faculty of Medicine at Justus Liebig University Giessen granted ethical
121 approval for the ENHANCE trial (AZ 168/19). A total of $n = 361$ persons diagnosed with PTSD-CM
122 were included in the randomized controlled trial from August 2020 to May 2023. All participants were
123 required to provide written informed consent prior to study participation. A detailed description of the
124 ENHANCE trial can be found elsewhere [26].

125 **Sample of individuals without PTSD**

126 Data on individuals without PTSD were obtained from a representative telephone survey of the German
127 adult general population conducted in March and April 2014 [27]. Self-reported diagnoses were used to
128 identify potential PTSD cases, with the question “Have you ever been diagnosed by a doctor with
129 PTSD?”. Of the total sample from the general population ($n = 5005$), $n = 245$ persons were indicated
130 with a PTSD diagnosis and were excluded, resulting in a final sample of $n = 4760$ persons without
131 PTSD. A detailed description of the representative telephone survey of the German adult population can
132 be found elsewhere [27].

133 **Health care service utilization and other measures**

134 Health care service utilization and absenteeism from work of individuals with PTSD-CM and those
135 without PTSD were assessed retrospectively over six months using an adapted self-report version of the
136 German Client Socio-Demographic and Service Receipt Inventory (CSSRI) [28]. Participants provided
137 information on their utilization of psychiatric and psychosomatic hospital or day care, somatic hospital,
138 day care or rehabilitation, outpatient psychiatric, psychosomatic and psychological services, outpatient
139 somatic medical services (e.g. general practitioner, orthopedist, dentist), and outpatient nonmedical ser-
140 vices (e.g. occupational therapist, physiotherapist).

141 In both samples, participants provided information on their sex, age, marital status, educational attain-
142 ment, professional training, employment status, health insurance, and the number of (underage) persons

143 living in their household. In the sample of individuals without PTSD, participants were asked about the
144 lifetime prevalence of various diseases, including lung diseases, metabolic disease, diabetes and cardi-
145 ovascular conditions. Since data on comorbid chronic diseases were unavailable for the sample of indi-
146 viduals with PTSD-CM, prevalence estimates were derived from medication use data based on the
147 World Health Organization's Anatomical Therapeutic Chemical (WHO-ATC) classification [29].
148 For individuals with PTSD-CM, PTSD severity was assessed using the Clinician-Administered PTSD
149 Scale for DSM-5 (CAPS-5) [30], a structured 30-item interview, evaluating past-month symptom se-
150 verity on a five-point scale ranging from absent to extreme/incapacitating [31, 32].

151 **Calculation of health care costs**

152 Costs associated with health care service utilization were calculated by valuating their quantities with
153 standardized unit costs for the German health care system [33-35]. Informal care hours were valuated
154 with the gross hourly labor costs of persons in the social care sector, sourced from the Federal Statistical
155 Office of Germany's gross labor cost database [36]. Days absent from work were valuated with the gross
156 hourly labor costs (including non-wage benefits) of persons in the manufacturing and services sectors,
157 assuming an average eight-hour working day.

158 Total costs were assessed from a societal perspective, encompassing health care and absenteeism costs.
159 All unit costs and hourly labor rates were inflated to 2022 price levels using the German consumer price
160 index [37]. A detailed list of unit costs and hourly labor costs can be found in Table S1 of the online
161 supplementary materials.

162 **Statistical Analysis**

163 Missing data in the samples of individuals with PTSD-CM and individuals without PTSD ranged from
164 0.02% to 0.80% across the 49 included variables, with 369 (0.14%) of a total 262,934 records being
165 incomplete among $n = 27$ (7.48%) and $n = 136$ (2.72%) individuals, respectively. To enhance accuracy
166 and statistical power of the analyses, missing data were imputed under the assumption of missing at
167 random using multiple imputation by chained equations, with predictive mean matching and $m = 20$
168 imputations [38].

169 The data sets of individuals with PTSD-CM and individuals without PTSD were balanced with regard
170 to sociodemographic characteristics using entropy balancing [39]. The entropy balancing-model in-
171 cluded the covariates sex, age, marital status, educational attainment, professional training, employment
172 status, health insurance, and the number of (underage) persons in the household. Furthermore, (comor-
173 bid) chronic diseases were added as dummy-coded covariates. The means, variances and skewnesses of
174 the covariates were balanced between the two data sets. The sociodemographic characteristics of the
175 samples of individuals with PTSD-CM and individuals without PTSD before balancing are presented in
176 Table S2 of the online supplementary materials.

177 Health care costs of individuals with PTSD-CM and those without PTSD were analyzed using two-part
178 models. The first part of the models was a logit specification to account for potential substantial zero
179 costs, while the second part was a generalized linear model with gamma family and log-link function to
180 account for the skewed cost distributions. The models incorporated the entropy balancing weights to
181 adjust for differences in sociodemographic characteristics. Marginal effects between individuals with
182 PTSD-CM and individuals without PTSD were estimated, representing the excess health care costs of
183 PTSD-CM.

184 All data analyses were conducted using Stata/MP 18.0 (StataCorp, TX, USA). Multiple imputation was
185 applied using Stata's 'mi' package, entropy balancing was applied using the 'ebalance' package [40]
186 and two-part models were computed with Stata's 'tpm' package [41]. All statistical tests were two-sided,
187 with a significance level set at $p < 0.05$.

188 **Additional analyses**

189 A subgroup analysis was conducted for individuals with mild to moderate PTSD symptoms and those
190 with severe to extreme PTSD symptoms. The median CAPS-5 total score for the sample of individuals
191 with PTSD-CM was used to differentiate between mild to moderate symptoms (CAPS-5 total score <
192 34) and severe to extreme symptoms (CAPS-5 total score ≥ 34). The data sets of individuals with mild
193 to moderate PTSD symptoms and individuals with severe to extreme PTSD symptoms, and individuals
194 without PTSD were each balanced using entropy balancing for sociodemographic characteristics. Health
195 care costs of individuals with mild to moderate PTSD symptoms, individuals with severe to extreme

196 PTSD symptoms and individuals without PTSD were analyzed using two-part models incorporating the
197 respective entropy balancing weights.

198 Additionally, a further analysis explored potential determinants of total costs (including absenteeism
199 costs) and total health care costs among individuals with PTSD-CM. Generalized linear models with
200 gamma family and log-link function were used to examine these costs, with the covariates CAPS-5 total
201 score, sex, age, marital status, educational attainment, professional training, employment status, health
202 insurance, comorbid chronic diseases, and number of comorbid mental and behavioral disorders in-
203 cluded in the models.

204

205 **Results**

206 **Sample Characteristics**

207 The sociodemographic characteristics of the samples of individuals with PTSD-CM and individuals
208 without PTSD after balancing are presented in Table 1. The average age of the samples was 39 years.
209 Most participants were female (80%), single (62%) and had an academic secondary school qualification
210 (62%). In terms of professional training, 37% had completed vocational training and 33% had a univer-
211 sity degree. Approximately 30% were employed in full-time, 22% in part-time, and 26% were not in
212 employment. The prevalence of (comorbid) chronic diseases was 7% for lung diseases, 22% for meta-
213 bolic diseases, 3% for diabetes mellitus and 11% for cardiovascular diseases.

214 **Excess health care costs and costs of absenteeism**

215 The average six-month total health care costs in individuals with PTSD-CM were €6131, compared to
216 €1569 for those without PTSD (Table 2). This results in total excess health care costs associated with
217 PTSD-CM of €4562 per person (95% CI: €3182 to €5942; $p < 0.001$). The average six-month costs of
218 absenteeism in individuals with PTSD-CM were €4846, compared to €646 for those without PTSD,
219 leading to excess absenteeism costs associated with PTSD-CM of €4200 per person. Overall, the six-
220 month total excess costs associated with PTSD-CM amounted to €8762 per person (95% CI: €6736 to
221 €10,788; $p < 0.001$). The average six-month total costs including absenteeism costs, for individuals with
222 PTSD-CM were €10,977, compared to €2215 person in those without PTSD.

223 Individuals with PTSD-CM incurred significantly higher costs in several categories: hospital/day
224 care/rehabilitation (+€3267; 95% CI: €2167 to €4367; $p < 0.001$), outpatient medical and psychological
225 services (+€395, 95% CI: €293 to €498; $p < 0.001$), and outpatient nonmedical services (+€79; 95% CI:
226 €32 to €127; $p = 0.001$). Notably, individuals with PTSD-CM spent approximately 28 times more days
227 in psychiatric and psychosomatic hospitals than those without PTSD (5.37 days vs. 0.19 days). Addi-
228 tionally, they utilized outpatient psychiatric, psychosomatic and psychological services about six times
229 more frequently (4.21 contacts vs. 0.68 contacts). In terms of nursing care, those with PTSD-CM had
230 significantly higher costs for informal care (+€784; 95% CI: €219 to €1349; $p = 0.007$), spending
231 roughly three times more hours on informal care compared to individuals without PTSD (37.08 hours
232 vs. 13.56 hours).

233 **Additional analyses**

234 The total excess health care costs associated with PTSD-CM for individuals with mild to moderate
235 PTSD symptoms amounted to €2663 per person (95% CI: €680 to €3996; $p < 0.001$), while for individ-
236 uals with severe to extreme PTSD symptoms the total excess health care costs amounted to €6369 per
237 person (95% CI: €4057 to €8482; $p < 0.001$; Table 3). The excess costs of absenteeism associated with
238 PTSD-CM for individuals with mild to moderate PTSD symptoms were €3308 per person (95% CI:
239 €1911 to €4705; $p < 0.001$), compared to €5042 per person (95% CI: €3400 to €6685; $p < 0.001$) for
240 individuals with severe to extreme symptoms. Consequently, the six-month total excess costs associated
241 with PTSD-CM were €5971 per person (95% CI €3813 to €8128; $p < 0.001$) for those with mild to
242 moderate PTSD symptoms and €11,312 per person (95% CI €8081 to €14,542; $p < 0.001$) for those with
243 severe to extreme symptoms. The sociodemographic characteristics of the samples of individuals with
244 mild to moderate PTSD symptoms and individuals with severe to extreme PTSD symptoms are pre-
245 sented in Table S3 in the online supplementary materials. The samples differed statistically significantly
246 with regard to marital status, educational attainment, and employment status.

247 Among individuals with PTSD-CM, total health care costs (+€336; 95% CI €78 to €594; $p = 0.010$) and
248 the total costs including absenteeism costs (+€419; 95% CI: €101 to €737; $p = 0.011$) were significantly
249 associated with the CAPS-5 total score. The total health care costs and the total costs including costs of
250 absenteeism from work were not associated with age. The generalized linear models of total health care

251 costs and total costs, PTSD severity and selected sociodemographic characteristics in patients with
252 PTSD-CM are shown in Table S4 in the online supplementary materials.

253 **Discussion**

254 The aim of this study was to determine the excess costs associated with PTSD-CM in Germany. The
255 six-month total excess costs associated with PTSD-CM amounted to €8762 per person, with the primary
256 contributors being absenteeism (€4200) and hospitalization (€3267). Among all individuals with PTSD-
257 CM, those with severe to extreme PTSD symptoms incurred nearly twice the excess costs compared to
258 those with mild to moderate symptoms (€11,312 vs. €5971).

259 Compared to a similar analysis of annual excess costs of PTSD conducted in the Netherlands, this dif-
260 ference in six-month total excess costs associated with PTSD-CM between individuals with severe to
261 extreme PTSD symptoms and those with mild to moderate symptoms was notably higher. In the Dutch
262 study, the difference in excess costs associated with PTSD between individuals with more severe PTSD
263 symptoms (above the 95th percentile) and those with less severe PTSD symptoms (below the 9th percen-
264 tile) was approximately €460 [25]. However, as the Dutch sample consisted of veterans and the PTSD
265 severity assessed using the Self Report Inventory for PTSD, direct comparability between the two stud-
266 ies is limited.

267 The six-month excess absenteeism costs associated with PTSD-CM in this study were higher than those
268 reported in another analysis of annual excess costs of PTSD, which also accounted for absenteeism costs
269 (€4540) [19, 21]. However, comparability is limited since the referenced study was conducted in Aus-
270 tralia in 2003 and focused on victims of traffic accidents [21].

271 Costs for hospitalization in psychiatric, psychosomatic and somatic facilities, outpatient psychiatric,
272 psychosomatic and psychological, somatic medical and nonmedical outpatient services were signifi-
273 cantly higher among individuals with PTSD-CM compared to those without PTSD. In contrast, a sys-
274 tematic review indicated only non-significantly higher costs for outpatient medical, psychological and
275 nonmedical services between individuals with and without PTSD [19, 21-23]. Regarding hospitalization
276 costs, the review yielded inconclusive results, with two identified studies reporting positive excess costs
277 of hospitalization [21, 24] and two others reporting negative excess costs [19, 22, 23, 25]. Notably, only
278 two studies [21, 22] found significant differences in costs between individuals with and without PTSD.

279 The current study identified significantly higher costs for informal care among individuals with PTSD-
280 CM compared to those without PTSD. A cost-of-illness study reported annual informal care costs of
281 approximately €4710 for war-affected adults with PTSD in Germany, which exceeds the six-month in-
282 formal care costs of €1236 identified in this study [19, 42]. These elevated informal care costs suggest
283 a greater need for assistance from family members, friends, and acquaintances due to health issues faced
284 by individuals with PTSD-CM, particularly for tasks typically managed independently. However, the
285 specific activities involved in informal care, such as emotional support or assistance with everyday tasks,
286 remain unclear as does the underlying health issues prompting this need for help, such as social isolation
287 or impaired functioning.

288 **Generalizability and policy implications**

289 The excess costs associated with PTSD-CM identified in this study may be merely applicable to indi-
290 viduals who sought treatment in a university psychiatric, psychosomatic and psychological outpatient
291 clinic or a university psychological institute in Germany. However, it is important to note that routine
292 care for individuals with PTSD occurs in the outpatient settings outside hospitals [43]. To potentially
293 reduce these excess costs associated with PTSD-CM in the German health care system, cost-effective-
294 ness should be especially explored for hospital care which has been the primary driver of total excess
295 health care costs. As hospitalized individuals with PTSD-CM are predominantly severely and not often
296 chronically ill, adequate inpatient and outpatient treatment is difficult. Multimodal specialized inpatient
297 and outpatient treatment for patients with PTSD-CM should be strived for. Also stepped care depending
298 on patient's symptom severity with the option of preceding trauma-focused outpatient medical and psy-
299 chological psychotherapy should be targeted as alternative treatment option. However, in order to be
300 able to refer patients with PTSD-CM to outpatient medical and psychological psychotherapy, it is nec-
301 essary to have a sufficient number of qualified psychotherapists available who are also willing to treat
302 individuals with severe PTSD. This could subsequently contribute to reduce admissions to hospital care.
303 Additionally, understanding and addressing the underlying factors contributing to work absenteeism
304 among individuals with PTSD-CM is crucial. It should also be acknowledged that much of the caregiv-
305 ing of individuals with PTSD-CM is provided by family members, friends, and acquaintances at no
306 additional cost to the health care system. Finally, health care services and policies should specifically

307 target those individuals with severe to extreme PTSD symptoms, as their hospitalization, informal care
308 and absenteeism costs are notably high.

309 **Strengths and Limitations**

310 One significant strength of this analysis is extensive data on health care service utilization and work
311 absenteeism for a large cohort of individuals with PTSD-CM in Germany. Additionally, the adjustment
312 for sociodemographic differences between individuals with PTSD-CM and those without PTSD from
313 the general population enabled the isolation of health care and absenteeism costs specifically attributable
314 to PTSD-CM. It is worth mentioning that individuals with PTSD-CM in Germany differed with regard
315 to sociodemographic characteristics compared to those in the general population in Germany. For ex-
316 ample, there were differences in health insurance status, with about only 2% of all individuals with
317 PTSD-CM being privately insured, whereby about 10% of all individuals from the German general
318 population were privately insured in 2022 [44]. This difference could be explained, at least in part, by
319 the younger age of those individuals with PTSD-CM and by an association of posttraumatic stress and
320 socioeconomic disadvantage [45].

321 However, this study has further limitations. First, data on medication use, medical aids, and presentism
322 were not available for the general population sample without PTSD, which may have led to an underes-
323 timation of the total excess costs associated with PTSD-CM. Second, health care service utilization was
324 assessed using an adapted self-report version of the German CSSRI, which does not cover specific med-
325 ical and nonmedical outpatient services for people with mental illnesses, such as psychiatric counselling,
326 psychosocial care, assisted living and occupational integration. Third, the recruitment of individuals
327 with PTSD-CM was supported by application of additional measures, such as information about the
328 study in mass media, in psychiatric, psychosomatic and psychological outpatient clinics and practices,
329 which may have introduced a potential selection bias. Fourth, the data for the general population was
330 collected through a representative telephone survey conducted in the year 2014, which may limit com-
331 parability regarding health care service utilization and absenteeism due to significant differences in time
332 periods and data collection methods (telephone survey vs. patient interviews). Nevertheless, health care
333 service utilization and absenteeism were valued using standardized unit costs for the German health

334 care system [33-35]. and gross hourly wages from the Federal Statistical Office's gross labor cost data-
335 base [36], which were inflated to 2022 price levels using the German consumer price index [37], ensur-
336 ing an increased comparability. Lastly, the data on individuals with PTSD-CM was collected during the
337 COVID-19 pandemic, which may affect health care service utilization and absenteeism patterns com-
338 pared to periods outside the pandemic.

339 **Conclusion**

340 The six-month excess health care and absenteeism costs associated with PTSD-CM were substantial,
341 with, absenteeism accounting for approximately half of the total excess costs. Notably, individuals with
342 severe to extreme PTSD symptoms, faced more than twice the total excess costs compared to those with
343 mild to moderate PTSD. Further research is essential to order to explore cost-effectiveness of hospital
344 care of individuals with PTSD-CM, as well as to identify and address the underlying factors contributing
345 to work absenteeism in this population.

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354 **Conflict of interest**

355 T.G., H.-H.K., F.L., M.E.B., L.F., H.G., A.H., M.H., C.K., I.-T.K., J.K., H.N., F.N., S.S., K.S.S., P.S.,
356 C.S., K.W., J.v.W., J.H. and J.D. declare none.

357 **Data availability**

358 The data sets generated and/or analyzed during the current study are not publicly available due to ethical
359 and confidentiality concerns but are available from the corresponding author upon reasonable request.

360 **Supplementary material**

361 For supplementary material accompanying this paper, visit cambridge.org/EPA.

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511

512 **Table 1. Sociodemographic characteristics of the samples of individuals with post-traumatic stress**
 513 **disorder related to child maltreatment and individuals from the general population without PTSD**
 514 **after balancing^a**

Sociodemographic and clinical characteristic	Individuals with PTSD-CM (n = 361)	Individuals without PTSD (after balancing, n = 4760)
Age in years: mean (SE)	39.00 (0.44)	38.98 (0.23)
Female sex: n (%)	288 (79.71)	3791 (79.65)
Marital status: n (%) ^b		
Single	225 (62.20)	2957 (62.11)
Married/having a partner	97 (26.99)	1288 (27.06)
Educational attainment: n (%) ^c		
Secondary general school	29 (8.06)	383 (8.05)
Secondary school	105 (29.00)	1384 (29.08)
Academic secondary school	222 (61.55)	2927 (61.49)
Professional training: n (%)		
No completed education	79 (21.80)	1041 (21.86)
Vocational training	134 (37.23)	1765 (37.09)
Technical/engineering college degree	30 (8.23)	392 (8.24)
University degree	118 (32.74)	1562 (32.81)
Employment status: n (%) ^d		
Full-time employed	108 (29.90)	1414 (29.71)
Part-time employed	80 (22.15)	1057 (22.21)
Marginally employed	22 (5.96)	284 (5.96)
Apprenticeship/retraining	16 (4.47)	213 (4.48)
Not in employment	93 (25.64)	1224 (25.71)
Health insurance ^e		
Statutory health insurance	302 (83.59)	3976 (83.54)
Statutory health insurance (plus private supplementary insurance)	48 (13.35)	638 (13.39)
Private health insurance	7 (1.94)	92 (1.94)
(Comorbid) chronic diseases: n (%)		
Lung disease	24 (6.65)	317 (6.66)
Metabolic disease	80 (22.16)	1058 (22.23)
Diabetes mellitus	12 (3.32)	158 (3.33)
Cardiovascular disease	41 (11.36)	542 (11.40)

515 SE: standard error; PTSD-CM: post-traumatic stress disorder related to child maltreatment.

516 ^a The entropy balancing-model included the covariates age, sex, marital status, educational attainment, professional
 517 training, employment status and number of (underage) persons in household.

518 ^b 'Separated', 'divorced' and 'widowed' are not shown

519 ^c 'No school-leaving qualification', 'special-needs school', and 'still a pupil' are not shown

520 ^d 'Not applicable/not specified' is not shown

521 ^e 'Other health insurance' and 'No health insurance' are not shown

522

523

524

525 **Table 2. Average day/contacts, health care costs, and excess health care costs of post-traumatic**
 526 **stress disorder related to child maltreatment (six months, in Euro 2022)**

Cost category	Individuals with PTSD-CM (n = 361)		Individuals without PTSD (n = 4760)		Excess costs (SE) [†]	95% CI	P value
	Average days/contacts/hours [†] (SE)	Average costs (SE)	Mean days/contacts/hours [†] (SE)	Average costs (SE)			
Hospital/day care/rehabilitation	9.36 (1.23)	3921 (505)	1.07 (0.34)	654 (244)	3267 (561)	2167; 4367	< 0.001
Psychiatric and psychosomatic hospital/day care	5.37 (0.96)	2312 (407)	0.19 (0.11)	76 (42)	2235 (410)	1433; 3038	< 0.001
Somatic hospital/day care/rehabilitation	3.99 (0.80)	1609 (308)	0.88 (0.31)	577 (238)	1032 (389)	269; 1794	0.008
Outpatient medical and psychological services	12.15 (0.79)	733 (50)	6.70 (0.25)	337 (17)	395 (52)	293; 498	< 0.001
Psychiatric, psychosomatic and psychological services	4.21 (0.41)	411 (38)	0.68 (0.14)	84 (14)	327 (41)	246; 407	< 0.001
Somatic medical services	7.94 (0.49)	322 (19)	5.84 (0.20)	253 (9)	69 (21)	27; 111	0.001
Outpatient nonmedical services	5.11 (0.61)	174 (21)	3.19 (0.37)	95 (12)	79 (24)	32; 127	0.001
Nursing care	38.76 (7.70)	1304 (258)	14.32 (4.22)	483 (141)	820 (294)	244; 1396	0.005
Formal nursing care	1.68 (0.67)	68 (27)	0.77 (0.49)	31 (20)	36 (33)	-29; 101	0.278
Informal care	37.08 (7.56)	1236 (252)	13.56 (4.18)	452 (139)	784 (288)	219; 1349	0.007
Absenteeism	16.75 (1.82)	4846 (552)	2.04 (0.23)	646 (73)	4200 (556)	3109; 5290	< 0.001
Total health care costs	-	6131 (624)	-	1569 (328)	4562 (704)	3182; 5942	< 0.001
Total costs (including absenteeism costs)	-	10,977 (978)	-	2215 (335)	8762 (1033)	6736; 10,788	< 0.001

527 SE: standard error, CI: confidence interval, PTSD-CM: post-traumatic stress disorder related to child maltreatment.
 528 * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$

529 † Average days are shown for hospital/day care/rehabilitation, average contacts are shown for outpatient medical,
530 psychological and nonmedical services, average hours are shown for nursing care and absenteeism.
531 ¶ Excess health care costs were calculated by a two-part model with logit specification for the first part and a
532 generalized linear model with gamma family and log link function for the second part.

533

534 **Table 3. Excess health care costs of post-traumatic stress disorder related to child maltreatment**
 535 **(six months, in Euro 2022): subgroup analysis by post-traumatic stress disorder symptom severity**

Cost category	Individuals with mild to moderate PTSD symptoms [†] (n = 175)		Individuals with severe to extreme PTSD symptoms [‡] (n = 186)	
	Excess costs (SE) [¶]	95% CI	Excess costs (SE) [¶]	95% CI
Hospital/day care/rehabilitation	2071 (582)***	881; 3162	4377 (886)***	2640; 6114
Psychiatric and psychosomatic hospital/day care	1209 (408)**	410; 2008	3183 (688)***	1835; 4532
Somatic hospital/day care/rehabilitation	812 (407)*	14; 1611	1193 (586)*	46; 2341
Outpatient medical and psychological services	208 (44)***	122; 293	566 (89)***	392; 740
Psychiatric, psychosomatic and psychological services	161 (35)***	91; 230	479 (68)***	345; 612
Somatic medical services	47 (22)*	5; 90	87 (37)*	30; 176
Outpatient nonmedical services	54 (26)*	4; 104	103 (37)**	30; 176
Nursing care	380 (269)	-147; 906	1223 (475)**	292; 2154
Formal nursing care	77 (56)	-33; 187	-2 (28)	-56; 52
Informal care	303 (251)	-188; 794	1225 (471)**	301; 2149
Absenteeism	3308 (713)***	1911; 4705	5042 (838)***	3400; 6685
Total health care costs	2663 (680)***	1329; 3996	6369 (1129)***	4057; 8482
Total costs (including absenteeism costs)	5971 (1101)***	3813; 8128	11,312 (1648)***	8081; 14 542

536 SE: standard error, PTSD: post-traumatic stress disorder, PTSD-CM: post-traumatic stress disorder related to child
 537 maltreatment.

538 * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$

539 ‡ CAPS-5 total score < 34

540 † CAPS-5 total score ≥ 34

541 ¶ Excess health care costs were calculated by a two-part model with logit specification for the first part and a
 542 generalized linear model with gamma family and log link function for the second part.

543