Study and participant characteristics for included articles

Article	Objective	Method; Participant sampling strategy	Theories informing analysis	Sample	Context	Age/Experience	Country
		Study Characteristics			**Participant Characteristics**		**Country**
Liou et al. [1], 2016	To determine the factors which affect the decision of special education teachers' in Taiwan to file a report when confronted with a case of sexual victimization among their students	Individual interviews; participants responded to a notice on Facebook or PPT, which is a well-known bulletin board system in Taiwan	Thematic analysis	12 teachers	Some worked at special education schools; others worked at various school levels, including elementary schools, junior high schools, and senior high schools; some held administrative positions	30 to 44 years old (6 to 20 years of experience)	Taiwan
Skarsaune et al. [2], 2016	To describe the nurses' experiences when they had suspected child abuse in their encounters with children and their families in various health care contexts	Individual, semi-structure interviews; strategic selection	Qualitative content analysis	8 nurses	Hospital, various units	35 to 60 years old (all over 10 years of experience)	Norway
Tiyyagura et al. [3], 2015	To understand general ED providers'	One-to-one semi-structured	Grounded theory	29 mandated reporters (9 physicians, 16	Emergency Departments, Hospitals	(physician's median experience was	U.S.

	experiences with child abuse and neglect	interviews; purposive sampling and snowball sampling		nurses, 4 physician assistants)		7 years, nurses median experience was 12.5 years)	
Ellonen et al.[4], 2014	To study the institutional processes of identifying, responding to and reporting abuse experienced by children	Interviews; participants were randomly selected from document data from authorities, such as data about who made notifications	Thematic analysis (Coffey and Atkinson)	33 mandated reporters (9 police officers, 11 social workers, 9 doctors, and 4 school and day care personnel)	Not stated	Not stated	Finland
Gallagher-Mackay [5], 2014	To analyze decision making by educators about reporting child abuse and neglect	Interviews; parents with recently closed children's aid cases were recruited first and then aid workers and teachers associated with their case were recruited. 'Unlinked' teachers, principals, aid workers, and leaders from both groups were also recruited.	Institutional ethnography, grounded theory, regulatory theory	49 mandated reporters (10 teachers, 8 family service workers, 6 school principals, 6 student support workers, and 19 'leaders' in these areas)	Various	Not stated	Canada

Itzhaky et al. [6], 2014	To examine the impact of an intensive training program for hospital-pediatricians in identifying and treating young victims of abuse or neglect and how this training impacted cooperation between pediatricians and social workers, seeking to determine whether the doctors' increased familiarity with the social work profession enhanced team-work	In person, semi-structured, in-depth interviews; purposive sampling	Phenomenological approach	32 mandated reporters (18 pediatricians, 14 social workers)	Physicians worked in various capacities (first-year interns, directors of children's wards, directors of children's emergency wards, and specialists); social workers worked in children's wards or children's emergency wards	(physicians not stated; social workers 1-20 years of experience)	Israel
Kraft et al. [7], 2014	To explore how school nurses detect maltreated children and initiate support measures	Focus groups; strategic sampling	Grounded theory	23 school nurses	Worked in various municipalities and with various age groups	46 to 57 years of age (3 to 38 years of experience as school nurses)	Sweden
Kvist et al. [8], 2014	To examine what factors cause specialists in pediatric dentistry	Focus groups; specialists and postgraduates from the	Thematic analysis (Braun and Clarke)	19 specialists and postgraduate students in	Unclear	Not stated	Sweden

	to suspect child abuse or neglect and to determine what considerations influence the decision to report these suspicions to social services	Swedish Academy of Pediatric Dentistry and others told by them (snowball) were invited. Participants were 'strategically selected' from this sample.			pediatric dentistry		
Svard et al. [9], 2014	To explore how hospital social workers describe assessment processes for children at risk at their inter-professional workplaces	Semi-structured interviews; not stated	First-stage analysis (Gillham, 2005) and content analysis (Kvale, 2009)	14 social workers	Inpatient wards, children's hospitals or pediatric wards	(6 months to 30 years of experience)	Sweden
Zannettino et al. [10], (2014)	To examine how and in what ways child protection and domestic violence workers conceptualise and respond to children and families affected by domestic violence, and how do they consider that their service sectors could operate more	Focus groups; surveys were offered to workers from child protection authorities and from domestic violence agencies and respondents were invited to attend focus groups	Unclear	Total number of mandated reporters unclear (14 child protection workers, 16 domestic violence workers, and a mix of the two groups (n=20) in a second focus group)	Child protection or domestic violence workers whose offices were located in one of the most socially and economically disadvantaged areas in Australia	(most child protection workers had less than 2 years of experience; domestic violence workers had a range of experience from "new graduates" to those who had worked "many years")	Australia

	collaboratively as a means to improve service responses						
Angelo et al. [11], 2013	To understand the experience of the nurses in their care of child victims of domestic violence, in pediatric emergency, intensive care and inpatient units	Semi-structured interviews; snowball sampling	Theoretical-methodology consistent with phenomenology	15 nurses	Nurses working in pediatric inpatient care units	27 to 48 years of age (3 to 12 years since graduation)	Brazil
Hurtado et al. [12], 2013	To assess experiences and barriers associated with teaching child sexual abuse prevention and with reporting child sexual abuse	Focus groups; teachers and students attended a child sexual abuse exhibit and some of these teachers were included in the focus groups	Not stated	19 teachers	Unclear	Unclear	El Salvador
Lee et al. [13], 2013	To learn first-hand from CPS workers how CPS investigations could be improved	Focus groups; voluntary sample from Department of Human Services offices in a Midwestern state	Manual content coding	39 CPS workers	Urban Department of Human Service workers	Not stated	U.S.

Phasha [14] 2013	To investigate influences on under-reporting of sexual abuse involving teenagers with intellectual disability and the reason thereof	Individual interviews and focus groups; convenience sampling and theoretical sampling	Thematic analysis	32 mandated reporters (18 teachers, 6 staff caregivers, 2 psychologists, 3 social workers, 2 school nurses, 1 speech language pathologist	Special schools catering specifically for learners with intellectual disability	Unclear	South Africa
Davidov et al. [15], 2012	To identify and describe issues related to mandatory reporting within the context of Nurse Family Partnership (NFP) home visitation	Two consecutive focus groups; all nurses who reported home visiting abused NFP clients were invited (4 sites from all NFP sites were included in study)	Content analysis	Total number of mandated reporters unclear (23 nurses in first focus group and 25 nurses in second focus group)	Nurses working in the NFP home visitation program	Mean age of 46.2 years (5 to 38 years of experience)	U.S.
Feng et al. [16], 2012	To understand the ethical and legal challenges of reporting child abuse	Structured interviews; purposive, snowball sampling	Grounded theory	18 mandated reporters (4 social workers, 3 physicians, 6 nurses, and 5 teachers)	Social workers: 3 worked in hospitals, 1 worked for CPS	28 to 53 years old (3 to 27 years of practice)	Taiwan
Francis et al. [17], 2012	To understanding the circumstances and thence the decision-making processes of mandated professionals employed in rural communities	Face to face or phone interviews; advertisements in regional newspapers, followed by snowball sampling	Grounded theory	17 mandated reporters (1 medical practitioner, 7 nurses, 3 police officers, 6 teachers)	Rural region, but not otherwise stated	Not stated	Australia

Mallén [18], 2011	To discuss why some cases of abuse and neglect of disabled children are considered difficult to report by the Child and Youth Habilitation Services	Individual and group semi-structured interviews	Not stated	14 mandated reporters (all staff were Youth and Rehabilitation Service Workers, including psychologists, social workers, speech therapists, nurses, paediatricians, and divisional heads)	Not stated	Not stated	Sweden
Panayiotopoulos [19], 2011	To describe and understand on the one hand the importance of mandatory reporting through the professionals' lens and on the other hand to consider the obstacles to its effective implementation	In depth, semi-structured interviews with individuals or groups; sampling strategy unclear	Process evaluation (Riger)	Total numbers of MRs sampled unclear (educational psychologists from two districts, 10 school teachers, 11 family social workers, he previous and current public prosecutor responsible for mandatory reporting)	Various	Not stated	Cyprus
Sege et al. [20], 2011	To examine the validity of primary health care providers' assessment of suspicion that an	Telephone interviews; stratified sampling of primary health care providers	Formal qualitative analysis of themes obtained from the interviews was not performed	110 physicians	Primary health care providers	Not stated	U.S.

	injury was caused by child abuse and their decision to report suspected child abuse to child protective services	from the CARES study by level of suspicion and reporting decisions					
Eisbach et al. [21], 2010	To (a) describe the process of reporting child maltreatment from the perspective of pediatric nurses and (b) gain insight into mediating and/or moderating influences on the reporting process	In person or phone interviews; maximum variation sampling of nurses from 3 statewide nursing organizations in Iowa	Grounded theory	23 nurses	10 school nurses, 7 pediatric nurse practitioners, and 6 pediatric mental health nurse practitioners	(10-41 years nursing experience, 2-40 years pediatric experience)	U.S.
Feng et al. [22], 2010	To explore the collaborative experiences and perspectives in reporting child abuse of four primary mandated reporting disciplines in Taiwan	Interviews; purposive sampling of MRs recruited from calls to hospitals, Department of Child Welfare and schools	Grounded theory	21 mandated reporters (5 physicians, 5 nurses, 6 social workers, and 5 teachers)	16 worked directly with children, 5 were administrators	25-59 years old (3-34 years of experience)	Taiwan
Chanmugam [23], 2009	To explore school social workers relationships during instances	In-depth face to face or phone semi-structured	Ecomapping, thematic analysis (Braun and Clark;	10 school social workers	5 worked in elementary schools, 4 worked in	(mean 5 years of experience)	U.S.

	of abuse and neglect reporting, focusing on reports made for children and adolescents already receiving school social work services	interviews and a focus group; convenience, maximum variation, and snowball sampling techniques	Miles and Huberman)			middle schools, and 1 worked in high-school		
Feng et al. [24], 2009	To explore kindergarten teachers' experience and perspectives of working with abused children and their families	Focus groups with an interview guide; purposive sampling	Grounded theory	20 teachers	All kindergarten teachers	20-45 years old (6 months-32 years of experience)	Taiwan
Phasha [25], 2009	To describe responses to situations of sexual abuse involving teenagers with intellectual disability	Individual interviews and focus groups; referral and theoretical sampling	Grounded theory	16 mandated reporters (4 police officers, 2 nurses, 4 staff caregivers and 10 educators)	Police officers from the Social Crime and Victim empowerment unit; nurses, caregivers, and educators from the special schools	Not stated	South Africa
Jones et al. [26], 2008	(1) To identify factors clinicians weighed when deciding whether to report injuries they suspected might have been caused by child abuse; (2) to	Structured telephone interviews; subsample of physicians in CARES study were invited to participate based on an	Ethnographic techniques (Jones)	75 physicians	Primary care physicians	Not stated	U.S.

	describe clinicians' management strategies for children with injuries from suspected child abuse that were not reported; and (3) to describe how clinicians explained not reporting high-suspicion injuries	informative sampling scheme					
Land et al. [27], 2008	To investigate if dilemmas arise for nurses in their mandated requirement to report cases of suspected child abuse in the Northern Territory of Australia and in their effectiveness in their role protecting children	Interviews (with semi-structured and open-ended questions); purposive sampling	Manual, thematic coding	10 nurses	Acute, community and school practice settings	Unclear (more than two years of experience)	Australia
Phasha [28], 2008	To provide a detailed description of participants' perceptions regarding the roles that	Snowball sampling	Not stated	Unclear	Teachers involved in guidance or life skills education at primary	Not stated	South Africa

					schools or high schools		
Tingberg et al. [29], 2008	To identify nurses' experiences in encountering abused children and their parents	Interviews; sampling strategy unclear	Critical incident technique	11 nurses	Emergency department nurses from tertiary care children's hospital	Not stated	Sweden
McLaren [30] 2007	To report exploratory research into social workers' perceptions and actions regarding ''forewarning'' clients of their child abuse reporting obligations as a limitation of confidentiality at relationship onset	In-depth interviews; snowball sampling	Discovery approach, phenomenological analysis	6 social workers	Social workers from six different welfare agencies that provide both primary and ancillary counselling support services to parents and their families; one each from education, hospital-based health, mental health, family support, domestic violence and refugee services	Not stated	Australia
Silva et al. [31], 2007	To identify and analyze	Semi-structured	Dialectic hermeneutics	10 mandated reporters (2	Not stated	Not stated	Brazil

	notifications of domestic violence against children at the Guarulhos Regional Health Divisions, the limits and gaps in health professionals' actions and the meaning of domestic violence against children in their daily work	interviews; not stated		psychologists, 2 nurses, 2 community health agents, 2 nursing aids and 2 pediatricians)			
VanBergeijk et al. [32], 2006	To analyze the experiences of school personnel who report child abuse along the United States-Mexico border and to add to what is known about Secondary Traumatic Stress (STS) through an exploration of qualitative data	Face to face interviews; not stated	Grounded theory	28 school personnel (17 general education teachers, 4 special education teachers, 1 acting administrator, 3 social workers, 2 school psychologists, 1 speech therapist, 1 speech therapist and secretary)	School personnel from San Ysidro and neighboring communities in the bilingual or English-only programs	Unclear	U.S.
Feng et al. [33], 2005	To explore nurses' experiences and perspectives regarding child abuse in Taiwan	Interviews; purposive sample	Thematic analysis (Morse & Field) and grounded theory	18 nurses	8 ER nurses and 10 pediatric nurses (all in hospitals)	23-46 years old (3-24 years of experience)	Taiwan

Shalhoub-Kevorkian [34], 2005	To examine the effect of such sociopolitical factors on the sexually abused Palestinian Israeli girl and on the application of the child protection laws in Israel	Focus groups; not stated	Not stated	20 mandated reporters (3 social workers, 4 heads of social units within the Welfare Department, 6 school counselors, 6 helpers who answer calls to rape crisis hotlines and centers [2 of which were social workers], 1 administrator)	Unclear	Not stated	Israel
VanBergeijk et al. [35], 2005	To understand school personnel's experiences reporting child maltreatment	Semistructured interviews; theoretical sampling	Grounded theory	28 school personnel (17 general education teachers, 4 special education teachers, 1 acting administrator, 3 social workers, 2 school psychologists, 1 speech therapist, 1 secretary)	Public school personnel	(2-20 years of experience)	U.S.
Nayda [36], 2002	To compare the decision making of teachers and nurses in cases of	Structured interviews;	Not stated	10 nurses	Community child and youth health	Not stated	Australia

| | suspected child abuse | purposive sample | | | | | |
| Waugh et al. [37], 2002 | To explore possible ways in which child protection practitioners and domestic violence practitioners could work collaboratively to promote the safety, well-being and welfare of children, young people and women who live in domestic violence situations | Individual, semi-structure interviews and focus groups | Thematic analysis | Total number of mandated reporters is unclear (interviews with 14 CPS workers interviews and focus groups with staff from family support services, physical abuse and neglect of children services, the Department of Community Services, child and family teams in community health, women's community legal centres, Relationships Australia, women's housing schemes, child protection teams, early intervention programmes, non-government child protection | Various | Not stated | Australia |

				services, specialist domestic violence services and women's migrant services)			
Deisz et al. [38], 1996	To understand the way therapists and child protection workers approach the requirements of mandated reporting and differ in their perspectives of what constitutes a legitimate report, child maltreatment, and the ensuing relationship between the reporter and the CPS worker	Open-ended, semi-structures interviews; convenience sample	Not stated	49 mandated reporters (29 therapists and 20 CPS workers)	Therapists were from 6 different nonprofit social service agencies	Therapists: Late 20s-early 50s; (recent graduates-over 10 years of experience) Child protection workers: not stated; (1-14 years of experience)	U.S.
Anderson et al. [39], 1993	To investigate therapists and child protective workers experiences with reporting in therapeutic relationships	Semi-structured interviews;	Thematic analysis	30 psychotherapists and 25 CPS workers	Therapists were from 6 agencies	Therapists: not stated; (new workers-over 10 years of experience) Child protective service workers: not stated; not stated	U.S.

Tite [40], 1993	To explore teachers' definitions of abuse and examine the relationship between definitions and intervention	Semi-structured interviews (phase 1) followed by survey (phase 2, not included) followed by focused telephone interviews; unclear sampling (phase 1) and random sample of subgroup of survey participants (phase 2)	Qualitative process and pattern data	10 teachers (phase 1); 8 teachers and 2 principles (phase 2)	Elementary schools	Not stated	Canada
Anderson [41], 1992	To explore if mandatory reporting laws are serving therapeutic or anti-therapeutic aims or if they are neutral with respect to therapy	Semi-structured interviews	Thematic analysis	30 psychotherapists who made a report in the previous 12 months on a client	6 agencies across 2 countries	Not stated; (new workers-over 10 years of experience)	U.S.
Giovannoni [42], 1991	To study CPS workers' attitudes about reporting, screening, and substantiation of cases as they	Semi-structured interviews; sampling	Content analysis	81 CPS workers	Unclear	Not stated	U.S.

	relate to the "unsubstantiated" report	strategy unclear					
Barksdale [43], 1989	To investigate the decision making process of a small sample of psychotherapists who discovered child abuse in their clinical practice, as well as the possible effects of the reporting decision	Semi-structured interviews; sampling strategy unclear	Qualitative, content analysis	10 psychotherapists	Psychotherapists were employed in private not-for-profit agencies	Unclear (minimum of 3 years post-masters or doctoral experience)	U.S.
Muehleman et al. [44], 1981	To investigate the reasoning of practicing psychologists in response to a hypothetical child abuse reporting dilemma and to study to study why psychologists make the choices they do (when discovering child abuse in therapy) by examining the relative importance of the issues of life, law, and confidentiality)	Face to face interviews and phone interviews; sampled from participants of the convention of the Tennessee and Kentucky Psychological Associations plus 10 practicing psychologists (sampling unspecified)	Not stated	39 mandated reporters (2 psychology students, 18 psychologists with their masters, 19 with doctoral degrees in psychology)	Unclear	Not stated	U.S.

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