

Complete search strategies for

“ACE-ing Healthcare: Healthcare Utilization from Emerging to Older Adulthood in Individuals with Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs): A Systematized Literature Review” Wilson, L.

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- Developed June 2025
- Available via ECU’s The Scholarship:

Databases & Platforms	Limiters Used	Date Searched	Search Strings
PsychINFO via EBSCOhost	Used advance search to do three individual searches in title and abstract fields. Used search mode: “Type phrase or use AND/OR/NOT.” Applied “peer reviewed” and “English language” limiters. Searches combined with AND in search history. No date filter.	6-12-2025	Concept 1 (DE(“Health Care Seeking Behavior” OR “Health Care Utilization” OR “Mental Health Care Utilization” OR “Help Seeking Behavior” OR “Primary Health Care”) OR XB(“health seeking” OR “health-seeking” OR “healthcare seeking” OR “healthcare-seeking” OR “health behavior” OR “health behaviors” OR “health behaviour” OR “health behaviours” OR “health service” OR OR “health-service” OR “health-services” OR “health-services” OR “healthcare utilization” OR “health care utilization” OR “utilization of health care” OR “mental health seeking” OR “mental health-seeking” OR “mental health care seeking” OR “mental healthcare seeking” OR “medical utilization” OR “seeking healthcare” OR “using healthcare” OR “primary health care” OR “primary healthcare”)) Concept 2 (DE(“Childhood Adversity” OR “Child Sexual Abuse” OR “Complex Trauma” OR “Developmental Trauma” OR “child abuse” OR “child neglect”) OR XB(“ACE” OR “ACEs” OR “adverse childhood experience” OR “adverse childhood experiences” OR “child maltreatment” OR “child mistreatment” OR “childhood abuse” OR “child sexual abuse” OR “childhood sexual abuse” OR “child abuse” OR “nonsexual child mistreatment” OR “abuse during childhood” OR “childhood trauma” OR “childhood adversity” OR “childhood adversities” OR “adverse childhood circumstances” OR “adverse childhood circumstance” OR “developmental trauma” OR “complex childhood trauma” OR “cumulative trauma” OR “family adversity” OR “interpersonal trauma” OR “household stressors”)) Concept 3

			(AG (“young adulthood”) OR DE (“Emerging Childhood” OR “Adult Development” OR “Late Adolescence”) OR XB (“young adult” OR “young adults” OR “emerging adult” OR “emerging adults” OR “late adolescent” OR “late adolescents” OR “transition-age youth” OR “transition-age youths” OR “young people” OR “young person” OR “postsecondary student” OR “postsecondary students” OR “aged 18-25” OR “college student” OR “college students” OR “university student” OR “university students” OR “early adulthood” OR “millennial” OR “millennials” OR “Gen Z” OR “Generation Z” OR “NEET youth” OR “age 20-63” OR “adult health care” OR adulthood OR “US adults” OR “abuse histories” OR “lifelong health impacts” OR “individuals with a history of ACEs” OR “adult survivor of child abuse” OR “adult survivors of child abuse”))
MEDLINE via PubMed	None	6-12-2025	Concept 1 (“Patient Acceptance of Health Care”[Mesh] OR “Student Health Services”[Mesh] OR “health seeking”[tiab] OR “health-seeking”[tiab] OR “healthcare seeking”[tiab] OR “healthcare-seeking”[tiab] OR “health behavior”[tiab] OR “health behaviors”[tiab] OR “health behaviour”[tiab] OR “health behaviours”[tiab] OR “health service”[tiab] OR “health-service”[tiab] OR “health-services”[tiab] OR “health-services”[tiab] OR “healthcare utilization”[tiab] OR “health care utilization”[tiab] OR “utilization of health care”[tiab] OR “mental health seeking”[tiab] OR “mental health-seeking”[tiab] OR “mental health care seeking”[tiab] OR “mental healthcare seeking”[tiab] OR “medical utilization”[tiab] OR “seeking healthcare”[tiab] OR “using healthcare”[tiab] OR “primary health care”[tiab] OR “primary healthcare”[tiab]) Concept 2 (“Adverse Childhood Experiences”[MeSH] OR “Child Abuse”[MeSH] OR “Psychological Trauma”[MeSH] OR “ACE”[tiab] OR “ACEs”[tiab] OR “adverse childhood experience”[tiab] OR “adverse childhood experiences”[tiab] OR “child maltreatment”[tiab] OR “child mistreatment”[tiab] OR “childhood abuse”[tiab] OR “child sexual abuse”[tiab] OR “childhood sexual abuse”[tiab] OR “child abuse”[tiab] OR “nonsexual child mistreatment”[tiab] OR “abuse during childhood”[tiab] OR “childhood trauma”[tiab] OR “childhood adversity”[tiab] OR “childhood adversities”[tiab] OR “adverse childhood circumstances”[tiab] OR “adverse childhood circumstance”[tiab] OR “developmental trauma”[tiab] OR “complex childhood trauma”[tiab] OR “cumulative trauma”[tiab] OR “family adversity”[tiab] OR “interpersonal trauma”[tiab] OR “household stressors”[tiab]) Concept 3 (“Young Adult”[Mesh] OR “Student Dropouts”[Mesh] OR “Adult Survivors of Child Abuse”[Mesh] OR “young adult”[tiab] OR “young adults”[tiab] OR “emerging adult”[tiab] OR “emerging adults”[tiab] OR “late adolescent”[tiab] OR “late adolescents”[tiab] OR “transition-age

			youth”[tiab] OR “transition-age youths”[tiab] OR “young people”[tiab] OR “young person”[tiab] OR “postsecondary student”[tiab] OR “postsecondary students”[tiab] OR “aged 18-25”[tiab] OR “college student”[tiab] OR “college students”[tiab] OR “university student”[tiab] OR “university students”[tiab] OR “early adulthood”[tiab] OR “millennial”[tiab] OR “millennials”[tiab] OR “Gen Z”[tiab] OR “Generation Z”[tiab] OR “NEET youth”[tiab] OR “age 20-63”[tiab] OR “adult health care”[tiab] OR adulthood[tiab] OR “US adults”[tiab] OR “abuse histories”[tiab] OR “lifelong health impacts”[tiab] OR “individuals with a history of ACEs”[tiab] OR “adult survivor of child abuse”[tiab] OR “adult survivors of child abuse”[tiab])
CINAHL via EBSCOhost	Used advance search to do three individual searches (limiting to title/abstract fields), using search mode “find all my search terms”. Applied “peer reviewed” limiter. When three searches are combined, the database automatically adds the following expanders. Edited combined search to remove pre-set query filters. No date filter.	6-12-2025	Concept 1 (MH(“Health Seeking Behavior” OR “Health Behavior” OR “Attitude to Health” OR “Patient Participation” OR “Decision Making, Patient” OR “Cultural Values” OR “Health Beliefs”) OR XB(“health seeking” OR “health-seeking” OR “healthcare seeking” OR “healthcare-seeking” OR “health behavior” OR “health behaviors” OR “health behaviour” OR “health behaviours” OR “health service” OR “health-service” OR “health-services” OR “health-services” OR “healthcare utilization” OR “health care utilization” OR “utilization of health care” OR “mental health seeking” OR “mental health-seeking” OR “mental health care seeking” OR “mental healthcare seeking” OR “medical utilization” OR “seeking healthcare” OR “using healthcare” OR “primary health care” OR “primary healthcare”)) Concept 2 (MH(“Adverse Childhood Experiences” OR “Child Abuse” OR “Psychological Trauma” OR “Stress Disorders, Post-Traumatic” OR “Life Change Events” OR “Student Abuse”) OR XB(“ACE” OR “ACEs” OR “adverse childhood experience” OR “adverse childhood experiences” OR “child maltreatment” OR “child mistreatment” OR “childhood abuse” OR “child sexual abuse” OR “childhood sexual abuse” OR “child abuse” OR “nonsexual child mistreatment” OR “abuse during childhood” OR “childhood trauma” OR “childhood adversity” OR “childhood adversities” OR “adverse childhood circumstances” OR “adverse childhood circumstance” OR “developmental trauma” OR “complex childhood trauma” OR “cumulative trauma” OR “family adversity” OR “interpersonal trauma” OR “household stressors”)) Concept 3 (MH(“Young Adult” OR “College Students” OR “Students, Undergraduate” OR “Child Abuse Survivors”) OR XB(“young adult” OR “young adults” OR “emerging adult” OR “emerging adults” OR “late adolescent” OR “late adolescents” OR “transition-age youth” OR “transition-age youths” OR “young people” OR “young person” OR “postsecondary student” OR “postsecondary students” OR “aged 18-25” OR “college student” OR “college students” OR “university student” OR “university students” OR “early adulthood” OR “millennial” OR “millennials” OR “Gen Z” OR

			“Generation Z” OR “NEET youth” OR “age 20-63” OR “adult health care” OR adulthood OR “US adults” OR “abuse histories” OR “lifelong health impacts” OR “individuals with a history of ACEs” OR “adult survivor of child abuse” OR “adult survivors of child abuse”)
Education Database via ProQuest	Used advance search to do three individual searches in title and abstract fields. Applied “peer reviewed” limiter. Combined searches in the search history. No date filter.	6-12-2025	Concept 1 (SU(“Health Behavior” OR “Health Services Utilization” OR “Health care access” OR “Patient satisfaction” OR “Decision Making” OR “Health Education”) OR AB, TI(“health seeking” OR “health-seeking” OR “healthcare seeking” OR “healthcare-seeking” OR “health behavior” OR “health behaviors” OR “health behaviour” OR “health behaviours” OR “health service” OR OR “health-service” OR “health-services” OR “health-services” OR “healthcare utilization” OR “health care utilization” OR “utilization of health care” OR “mental health seeking” OR “mental health-seeking” OR “mental health care seeking” OR “mental healthcare seeking” OR “medical utilization” OR “seeking healthcare” OR “using healthcare” OR “primary health care” OR “primary healthcare”)) Concept 2 (SU(“Child Abuse & neglect” OR “Childhood Environment” OR “At risk youth” OR “Emotional Abuse” OR “Post traumatic stress disorder”) OR AB, TI(“ACE” OR “ACEs” OR “adverse childhood experience” OR “adverse childhood experiences” OR “child maltreatment” OR “child mistreatment” OR “childhood abuse” OR “child sexual abuse” OR “childhood sexual abuse” OR “child abuse” OR “nonsexual child mistreatment” OR “abuse during childhood” OR “childhood trauma” OR “childhood adversity” OR “childhood adversities” OR “adverse childhood circumstances” OR “adverse childhood circumstance” OR “developmental trauma” OR “complex childhood trauma” OR “cumulative trauma” OR “family adversity” OR “interpersonal trauma” OR “household stressors”)) Concept 3 (SU(“College Students” OR “Young Adults”) OR AB, TI(“young adult” OR “young adults” OR “emerging adult” OR “emerging adults” OR “late adolescent” OR “late adolescents” OR “transition-age youth” OR “transition-age youths” OR “young people” OR “young person” OR “postsecondary student” OR “postsecondary students” OR “aged 18-25” OR “college student” OR “college students” OR “university student” OR “university students” OR “early adulthood” OR “millennial” OR “millennials” OR “Gen Z” OR “Generation Z” OR “NEET youth” OR “age 20-63” OR “adult health care” OR adulthood OR “US adults” OR “abuse histories” OR “lifelong health impacts” OR “individuals with a history of ACEs” OR “adult survivor of child abuse” OR “adult survivors of child abuse”))

SOCIndex via EBSCOhost	Used advance search to do three individual searches (limiting to title/abstract fields), using search mode “Type phrase or use AND/OR/NOT”. Searches combined with AND in search history. Applied “peer reviewed” limiter. No date filter.	6-12-2025	Concept 1 (DE(“Help-Seeking Behavior” OR “Health Behavior” OR “Health attitudes” OR “Health education” OR “Health self-care” OR “Patient compliance” OR “Health Services Accessibility” OR “Patient Participation” OR “Social Determinants of Health” OR “Student Attitudes”) OR XB (“health seeking” OR “health-seeking” OR “healthcare seeking” OR “healthcare-seeking” OR “health behavior” OR “health behaviors” OR “health behaviour” OR “health behaviours” OR “health service” OR “health-service” OR “health-services” OR “health-services” OR “healthcare utilization” OR “health care utilization” OR “utilization of health care” OR “mental health seeking” OR “mental health-seeking” OR “mental health care seeking” OR “mental healthcare seeking” OR “medical utilization” OR “seeking healthcare” OR “using healthcare” OR “primary health care” OR “primary healthcare”)) Concept 2 (DE (“Adverse Childhood Experiences” OR “Child Abuse” OR “Abused Children” OR “Emotional Trauma” OR “Abandoned children”) OR XB(“ACE” OR “ACEs” OR “adverse childhood experience” OR “adverse childhood experiences” OR “child maltreatment” OR “child mistreatment” OR “childhood abuse” OR “child sexual abuse” OR “childhood sexual abuse” OR “child abuse” OR “nonsexual child mistreatment” OR “abuse during childhood” OR “childhood trauma” OR “childhood adversity” OR “childhood adversities” OR “adverse childhood circumstances” OR “adverse childhood circumstance” OR “developmental trauma” OR “complex childhood trauma” OR “cumulative trauma” OR “family adversity” OR “interpersonal trauma” OR “household stressors”)) Concept 3 (DE(“Young Adults” OR “Youth” OR “College Students” OR “Undergraduates” OR “Student Attitudes”) OR XB(“young adult” OR “young adults” OR “emerging adult” OR “emerging adults” OR “late adolescent” OR “late adolescents” OR “transition-age youth” OR “transition-age youths” OR “young people” OR “young person” OR “postsecondary student” OR “postsecondary students” OR “aged 18-25” OR “college student” OR “college students” OR “university student” OR “university students” OR “early adulthood” OR “millennial” OR “millennials” OR “Gen Z” OR “Generation Z” OR “NEET youth” OR “age 20-63” OR “adult health care” OR adulthood OR “US adults” OR “abuse histories” OR “lifelong health impacts” OR “individuals with a history of ACEs” OR “adult survivor of child abuse” OR “adult survivors of child abuse”))
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