

Table 5
Influence of Intervening Variables

Variable	No. Studies		Direction of findings
	With significant difference in impact	Total	
Age of child			
At assessment	7	10	Other children were more symptomatic in five studies
At onset	1	3	Not clear
Sex of child	5	8	Patterns of symptoms differed for boys and girls
Penetration / severity	6	10	Oral, anal, of vaginal penetration was related to increased symptoms
Frequency	4	6	Higher frequency was related to increased symptoms
Duration	5	7	Longer duration was related to increased symptoms
Perpetrator	7	9	Symptoms were increased when perpetrator had close relationship with child
No. perpetrators	1	3	Not clear
Lack of maternal support	3	3	Lack of support was related to increased symptoms
Force	5	6	Use of force was related to increased symptoms
Time elapsed since last abusive incident	1	3	Not clear
Child's attitudes and coping style	2	2	Negative outlook and coping style were related to increased symptoms