Effects of Sexual Orientation D-sxo on the Relationship Between R-rel Victimization Experiences and Smoking Status B-use Among US Women D-gen . Introduction This study examined the relationships between R-rel experiences of childhood and adulthood victimization and current smoking B-use among heterosexual D-sxo and sexual minority D-sxo . The main hypothesis was that victimization experiences would predict women **D-gen** current smoking B-use status. Further, we hypothesized that the effect of childhood victimization on smoker status would be mediated by adult D-age victimization. Methods Data are from two studies M-mth conducted in the United States L-loc that used similar methods and questionnaires M-mth in order to conduct a comparative analysis M-mth of women D-gen based on sexual orientation D-sxo . Data from Wave 1 ( 2000â€"2001 **B-tme** of the Chicago L-loc Health and Life Experiences of Women D-gen (CHLEW) study and from Wave 5 ( 2001 B-tme ) of the National Study of Health and Life Experiences of Women D-gen (NSHLEW) study were used in these analyses. Results Twenty-eight percent M-sts of the sample M-mth reported current smoking B-use . Victimization experiences were common, with 63.4% of participants reporting at least one type of victimization in childhood and 40.2% reporting at least one type in adulthood. Women **D-gen** who identified as heterosexual **D-sxo** were less likely to **R-rel** be victimized during childhood than were women D-gen who identified as lesbian **D-sxo** or bisexual **D-sxo** . Adult **D-age** victimization had a significant effect on current smoker status, and the effect of childhood victimization on smoker status was mediated by adult **D-age** victimization. When examined by sexual orientation D-sxo, this indirect relationship remained significant only among bisexual sample M-mth . Conclusions Study findings make a valuable contribution to the D-sxo women **D**-gen in the literature on victimization and health risk B-pcp behaviors such as smoking. Given the negative and long-term impact of victimization on women D-gen , strategies are needed that reduce the likelihood of victimization and subsequent engagement in health risk B-pcp behaviors such as smoking. Implications The study findings make a valuable contribution to the literature on sexual minority **D-sxo** women **D-gen** â€<sup>™</sup>s health on the influence of victimization on health risk **B-pcp** behaviors. With the goal of reducing the likelihood of adult D-age victimization and subsequent engagement in health risk B-pcp behaviors, programs and policies aimed at preventing victimization of women D-gen are warranted. Providers and community health agencies should assess and target physically and sexually abused sexual minority **D-sxo** youth **D-age** for mental health intervention **P-trt** with the goal of interrupting the progression from childhood victimization to adult **D-age** victimization and subsequent engagement in health risk **B-pcp** behaviors.nan