

**00366 The Influence of Parenting Behaviours and Antenatal Enrolment Into a Home Visitation Programme on Child Development in Low Income Families**

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**Aims:** Kids Integrated Development Service (KIDS) 0-3 is a preventive early intervention home visitation program for low income families from pregnancy till the child reaches 3 years of age. It aims to optimise child development via intervention strategies based on neuroscientific evidence that 'serve and return' interactions within safe, stable and nurturing environments have positive impact on early brain development. This study aims to investigate the factors—in particular, parenting behaviours—that may influence early developmental outcomes.

**Methodology:** Pregnant women, as well as mothers of infants up to 1 week of age, were recruited into the KIDS 0-3 programme. Children who have reached 24 months of age were assessed for their developmental outcomes using the Bayley Scales of Infant and Toddler Development®, Third Edition. Parent-child interactions in 50 parent-child dyads were video recorded. Parenting behaviours supportive of child development—Affection, Responsiveness, Encouragement, and Teaching—were assessed using the tool "Parenting Interactions with Children: Checklist of Observations Link to Outcomes". Multiple regression analyses were performed to identify factors influencing child developmental outcomes.

**Result:** Results showed that higher levels of Teaching was significantly predictive of better cognitive development ( $p = .01$ ). The combination of higher levels of Teaching and recruitment during the antenatal period compared to postnatal intake was significantly predictive of better language and motor development ( $p < .01$ ).

**Conclusion:** Our small sample analysis provides promising support for neuroscientific evidence regarding the importance of positive caregiver-child relationships and systemic supports on child development in the early years. KID 0-3 strives to translate such evidence into service delivery by fostering positive parenting behaviours to improve parent-child interactions. In addition, to optimise child developmental outcomes in low income families, we recognise that it is important to encourage early engagement with healthcare and community professionals who provide systemic care services in a collaborative manner.