

Research Roundup

Read some of the latest research findings from the fields of home visiting and early childhood!

[Adaptation of an Evidence-Based Parenting Intervention for Integration into Maternal-child Home-visiting Programs: Challenges and Solutions](#)

Peacock-Chambers, E., Moran, M., Clark, M. C., Borelli, J. L., Byatt, N., Friedmann, P. D., Suchman, N. E., & Feinberg, E. (2023). Adaptation of an evidence-based parenting intervention for integration into maternal-child home-visiting programs: Challenges and solutions. *Implementation Research and Practice, 4*, 1-9.

This study examined the implementation and integration of a parenting intervention for mothers in home visiting programs who are in substance use recovery. An advisory panel identified challenges related to participant recruitment, screening, enrollment, matching, and delivery of the intervention. Two themes emerged that cut across all of these categories: mistrust in the community and difficulty initiating and sustaining engagement. Suggested solutions included adapting intervention delivery to prioritize families' psychological safety, partnering with community organizations trusted by families, and using culturally appropriate, non-stigmatizing language.

[The Effect of Dads Matter—HV on Father Engagement in Home Visiting Services](#)

Bellamy, J. L., Banman, A., Harty, J. S., Mirque-Morales, S., Jaccard, J., & Guterman, N. B. (2023). The effect of Dads Matter-HV on father engagement in home visiting services. *Prevention Science, 24*(1), 137–149.

This study examined the effects of the Dads Matter-HV intervention on engaging biological fathers in home visiting. Delivered as a complement to evidence-based home visiting models, the intervention focuses on a co-parenting approach that engages fathers early by sharing content geared toward the unique challenges that fathers experience. Findings suggest that the impact of the intervention was dependent on when services were initiated. When initiated postnatally, the intervention increased the involvement of fathers; when initiated prenatally, father engagement decreased. These findings contradict other studies that found prenatal service initiation to be more beneficial. The authors offer some possible explanations, including the premise that having a baby may feel too abstract before the child is born, or that prenatal home visiting services primarily focus on the mother, leaving the father feeling unwelcome.

[The Effect of Mothers' Nutritional Education and Knowledge on Children's Nutritional Status: A Systematic Review](#)

Prasetyo, Y. B., Permatasari, P., & Susanti, H. D. (2023). The effect of mothers' nutritional education and knowledge on children's nutritional status: A systematic review. *International Journal of Child Care and Education Policy*, 17(1), 11.

This study examined the research literature on the effects of nutrition education on mothers' nutritional knowledge and children's nutritional status. Interventions included printed materials, lectures, and demonstrations. Findings showed that nutrition education positively impacted both mothers and children, with mothers expanding their knowledge and parenting skills around nutrition. Effects on children included increased birth weight, reduced stunting, greater appetites, and weight gain.

[Virtual Home Visiting During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Lessons Learned for Research, Practice, and Policy](#)

Hadley, A., Hayes, J., Pai-Samant, S., & Stern, F. (2023). *Virtual home visiting during the COVID-19 pandemic: Lessons learned for research, practice, and policy*, OPRE Report # 2023-005, Washington, DC: Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Health Resources and Services Administration and the Administration for Children and Families held a series of listening sessions with home visiting staff, families, model developers, and others to learn about the advantages and disadvantages of virtual home visiting. Participants appreciated the flexibility of virtual visits but also identified several challenges. These included difficulty building rapport and maintaining privacy, collecting data, and equity concerns such as limited access to technology among some participants.