Abstract Information

Abstract Title:
A series of systematic reviews to support national guidelines on child abuse and neglect

Format:
Symposium

Themes:
An evidence based approach to service development for a better world.

Authors:
Esther Coren MSc. Canterbury Christchurch University, Canterbury, UK
Carina Gustafsson PhD Institute for Evidence-based Social Work Practice (IMS), Stockholm, Sweden
Jenny Rehnman (PhD), Institute for Evidence-based Social Work Practice (IMS), Stockholm, Sweden
Jemeela Hutchfield, MSc. Canterbury Christchurch University, Canterbury, UK

Abstract:
The Swedish National Board of Health and Social Welfare is developing national guidelines for practice related to child abuse and neglect – an evidence based approach to service development for a better world. To collect evidence for this guideline, the Swedish National Institute of Evidence Based Social Work (IMS) is undertaking three co-registered Cochrane/Campbell reviews addressing the effect of parent training in reducing risk of child abuse and neglect for parents with particular vulnerability: parents with substance misuse problems, mental health problems and intellectual disabilities. Parents in these groups have needs and experience challenges generic to all parents. However, research also suggests that children of such parents are at increased risk of neglectful care and maltreatment, (Kumpfer & Bayes, 1995; Leonard, 2002) poorer relationships with their children (Joseph et al., 1999; Mullick et al., 2001; Nicholson et al, 2001; Nicholson et al, 1998), of developing psychosocial problems such as depression and anxiety (van Steinhausen, 1995) and other negative outcomes (e.g., Barrera, Rogosch & Chassin, 1993; Chen & Weitzman, 2005; Canino et al., 1990; Larson et al., 2000; Oyserman et al., 2000; Rutter & Quinton, 1984; Feldman, 2002a ). Research suggests that parent-training and other supportive interventions can have a positive effect on parenting skills for these groups (Kumpfer & Fowler, 2007; Alakus et al., 2007; Beardslee et al., 2007; Fraser et al., 2006; e.g., Feldman, 1994; Llewellyn et al, 2003). The three reviews will assess the effectiveness of interventions for improving parenting skills, home safety and child development outcomes, with various subgroups within each review intended to assess differential effectiveness for different types of participants and methods of delivery (eg individual or group based interventions, self administered or facilitated.) This symposium will present emerging findings from all three reviews as well as outlining the process of incorporating the review findings into the guideline development process. The process of policy and practice impact of the guidelines will also be addressed. Note to assessors (not to be included in programme book if abstract accepted). A full list of references used will be available to all participants at the symposium and included in the presentation, if accepted. The abstract word limit combined with the breadth of the topic, precludes them being included here, but the assessors may contact the abstract author for a full list if required.