



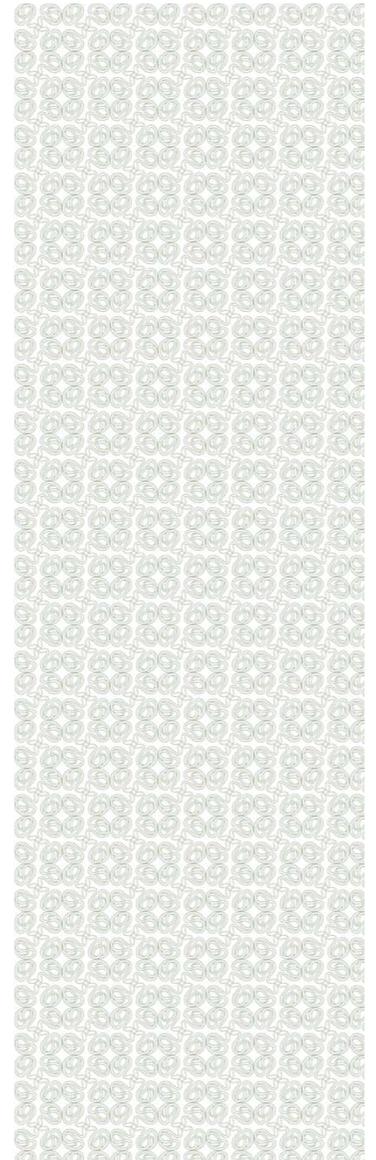
The meeting will begin in a
few moments

*New Directions in Child Abuse and
Neglect Research*

Communications Webinar

INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE *AND*
NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES



New Directions in Child Abuse and Neglect Research

Communications Webinar

March 25, 2014



NEW DIRECTIONS IN CHILD ABUSE
AND NEGLECT RESEARCH

INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE AND
NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL
OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES

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Welcome and Introductions

Abbey Meltzer

Director of Communications

Institute of Medicine

INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE AND
NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL
OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES



Today's Agenda

- Furthering the Impact of the Report
Dori Sneddon, Children's Bureau
- Reviewing Report Findings
Mary Dozier, PhD, University of Delaware
Joan Levy Zlotnik, PhD, ACSW, National Association of Social Workers
- Spreading the Message and Utilizing Report Findings
Abbey Meltzer, IOM
- Understanding and Using New Materials
Sharon Reis, GYMR Public Relations



Furthering the Impact of the Report

Dori Sneddon, MSW

Child Welfare Program Specialist, Office on Child Abuse and Neglect

Children's Bureau



Furthering the Impact of the Report

- Impact of the report on the field
- Integral need to further the findings of the report
- Important key findings distilled in communication products to serve as a tool to extend the reach of the report in your work



Reviewing Report Findings

Mary Dozier, PhD

Amy E. DuPont Chair of Child Development

University of Delaware



Consensus Study: *New Directions in Child Abuse and Neglect Research*

The Committee was tasked to:

- **Build** on the review of literature and findings from the evaluation of research on child abuse and neglect;
- **Identify** research that provides knowledge relevant to the programmatic, research, and policy fields; and
- **Recommend** research priorities for the next decade, including new areas of research that should be funded by public and private agencies and suggestions regarding fields that are no longer a priority for funding.



Expert Committee

Anne Petersen, PhD (Chair) – University of Michigan

Lucy Berliner, MSW – University of Washington

Linda Burton, PhD – Duke University

Phaedra Corso, PhD – University of Georgia

Deborah Daro, PhD – Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago

Howard Davidson, JD – American Bar Association

Angela Diaz, MD, MPH – Mount Sinai School of Medicine

Mary Dozier, PhD – University of Delaware

Fernando Guerra, MD, MPH – University of Texas

Carol Hafford, PhD – NORC at the University of Chicago

Charles Nelson, PhD – Harvard University

Ellen Pinderhughes, PhD – Tufts University

Frank Putnam Jr., MD – Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center

Desmond Runyan, DrPH, MD, MPH – Kempe Center, University of Colorado

Cathy Spatz Widom, PhD – John Jay College

Joan Levy Zlotnik, PhD, ACSW – National Association of Social Workers



Risk Factors

Certain factors elevate the risk for child abuse and neglect, but none of these individual or contextual factors has been shown to “cause” child abuse or neglect.

Parental/Caregiver

- Early Child Bearing
- Substance Abuse
- Antisocial Personality Disorder

Contextual

- Single-Parent Household
- Stressful Environment
- Social Isolation
- Poverty
- Violence

Research Priorities

- High-quality qualitative and quantitative studies; longitudinal studies
- Innovative experimental studies that will allow tests of causality
- Ecological model: individual, community, family, cultural factors

Consequences

BRAIN DEVELOPMENT



- Changes in the prefrontal cortex of the brain
- Changes to the stress response system

RELATIONAL SKILLS



- Poor peer relations
- Difficulty at work
- Aggression

PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH



- Depression
- Posttraumatic stress disorder
- Heightened anxiety

RISK BEHAVIORS



- Alcoholism
- Early sexual activity

Consequences

- Individual differences
- Resilience



Research Priorities

- Enhance understanding of separate and synergistic consequences of abuse and neglect
- Improve understanding of mechanisms
- Abuse and neglect have pernicious effects but research demonstrates that change is possible



Reviewing Report Findings

Joan Levy Zlotnik, PhD, ACSW

Director, Social Work Policy Institute

National Association of Social Workers



Interventions and Service Delivery Systems

Significant advances have been achieved in the development of evidence-based prevention and treatment interventions

Professional Practice Reforms
Trauma-Focused Therapies
Family and Parent Engagement
Public Awareness To Support Prevention
Home Visiting
Parenting Programs
Differential Response



Research Priorities

- **Implementation** of proven programs with **fidelity** in the systems where children receive care
- **Sustainability** (including funding)
- **Cultural adaptations** of evidence-based programs for understudied populations
- **Research** on interventions designed to strengthen **protective factors** and promote **resiliency**
- Strategies for better **reaching, engaging, and retaining target populations**, especially those at highest risk and facing the greatest challenges
- **Programmatic cost analyses** or **economic evaluations**

Child Welfare System

*Expected Outcomes:
Safety, Permanency, Well-Being*

Recent System-Level Reforms

- Differential Response
- Privatization
- Parent and Family Engagement
- Practice Models

Major Categories of Services

- Child Protection Investigation
- Family-Centered Services and Supports
- Foster Care
- Adoption

Child Welfare System

Multisystem coordination is critical to child welfare system performance and outcomes for children

Child welfare systems must have **capacity to implement** service improvements

Improved **empirical data** provides a greater understanding of the experience of children involved with child welfare

Multidisciplinary and multi-method experience and expertise is essential

Research Priorities

- Support and undertake rigorous evaluations of effective service models
- Research highly effective delivery systems
- Study how to implement evidence-based practices in complex system

Spreading the Message and Utilizing Report Findings

Abbey Meltzer

Director of Communications

Institute of Medicine



Spreading the Message and Utilizing Report Findings

Activities and results to date:

- Media coverage
- Presentations by committee members
- Report materials



Spreading the Message and Utilizing Report Findings

Goal: *Develop resources that promote actionable information from the report to accelerate progress and research on child abuse and neglect.*

Key focus areas for communications:

- Research gaps
- Interventions
- Child neglect

Spreading the Message and Utilizing Report Findings

Report resources and materials available on toolkit page:

www.iom.edu/childmaltreatmentresources

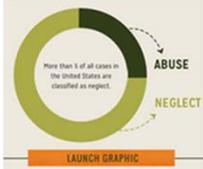
Dissemination Toolkit: New Directions in Child Abuse and Neglect Research

Building on research findings gleaned during the past 20 years, the 2013 Institute of Medicine and National Research Council report [New Directions in Child Abuse and Neglect Research](#) highlights the significant progress that has been achieved in child abuse and neglect research and stresses the need for additional research to respond to this public health challenge. Below are materials developed to help disseminate the important messages that came out of the study. Share these resources to further the report's impact.

Resources

- [Report Page >>](#)
- [Report Brief](#)
- [Activity Page >>](#)
- [New Directions for Research](#)
- [Interventions for Child Abuse and Neglect](#)
- Webinar PPT Slides (Forthcoming)

Infographic



Videos



Archived Webinar (March 25th, 2014) – Forthcoming

The archived video of the webinar will be available here, on March, 20th, 2014.

Using New Materials

Sharon Reis

Partner

GYMR Public Relations



Using New Materials

UNDERSTANDING CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT

Child abuse and neglect is an important societal concern in the United States that is affecting the health and well-being of children and families nationwide. Further understanding the problem can prevent future child abuse and neglect and improve the health and well-being of the children and families involved.

6 MILLION CHILDREN ARE INVOLVED IN REPORTS TO CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES, AND MANY MORE GO UNDETECTED.

DEFINING CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT is defined as an act or failure to act by a parent, caregiver, or other person who has a duty to provide for a child's physical abuse, neglect, medical neglect, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, or mental health abuse in the U.S.

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RISK FACTORS

A complex interplay of factors, including those associated with the parent or caregiver, as well as individual risk factors, contribute to child abuse and neglect.

INDIVIDUAL/CHILD	CONTEXTUAL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DEPRESSION LATE CHILD BEHAVIOR SOBERING UP ANTISOCIAL PERSONALITY DISORDER 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CRIMINAL PAST OR RECORD STRESSFUL ENVIRONMENT SOCIAL ISOLATION POVERTY WITNESS

THE BIG PICTURE

More than 3 out of 4 children in the United States are classified as ABUSE or NEGLECT.

THE LASTING IMPACT

Child abuse and neglect have affected the lifetime health and well-being of not only the children, but also the adults they become. Early exposure to abuse, and a child's personal characteristics and family and social context, as well as the severity, frequency and timing of the abuse or neglect can affect outcomes.

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SOMETHING NEEDS TO BE DONE

A coordinated, comprehensive approach to child abuse and neglect research is required to inform policy and practice decisions that ultimately will improve the well-being of children.

1. IMPROVE NATIONAL SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS
2. IMPROVE NATIONAL SURVEILLANCE RESEARCH PRACTICES
3. DEVELOP STRATEGIES NECESSARY TO IMPROVE QUALITY RESEARCH
4. IMPROVE RESEARCH TO IDENTIFY EFFECTIVE INTERVENTIONS

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WWW.IOM.EDU/CHILDABUSEANDNEGLECT

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NEW DIRECTIONS: QUESTIONS TO GUIDE FUTURE CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT RESEARCH

INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE AND NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES

Research has revealed strong evidence indicating that sexual abuse has declined substantially in the past 20 years, the report calls for a systems approach to child abuse and neglect research and highlights the importance of adopting a critical stratification lens in considering the impact of social and economic factors on child abuse and neglect.

Addressing these public health problems will require an expanded research response that is grounded in the complex environments and systems within which child abuse and neglect occur (see figure pg. 2). The purpose of this document is to guide researchers toward new directions in child abuse and neglect research.

TRENDS

Research has revealed strong evidence indicating that sexual abuse has declined substantially in the past two decades, as well as a decline in physical abuse, especially the more common and less severe forms. There is no evidence, however, that neglect is declining overall. These disparate trends and their causes currently are not well understood. Future research in this area could focus on the following questions:

- What accounts for the declines in the rates of sexual abuse and the most common forms of physical abuse (areas for study might include the development and availability of effective prevention interventions, the decline in intimate partner violence, or successful public awareness campaigns)?
- What explains the inconsistent trends across types of child abuse and neglect?
- What explains significantly different rates of neglect across states in terms of whether they are increasing, decreasing, or remaining constant (e.g., variations in definitions of neglect, differences among data sources used for analysis, or real differences in rates related to availability of resources)?

1. Stratification such as the ranking of people based on their social and economic traits.

NEW DIRECTIONS: WHAT WE'VE LEARNED ABOUT STRATEGIES AND INTERVENTIONS FOR CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE AND NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES

New Directions in Child Abuse and Neglect Research, a report from the Institute of Medicine (IOM) and National Research Council (NRC), regards child abuse and neglect as serious public health issues involving 6 million children in the United States every year. Building on research findings gleaned during the past 20 years, the report highlights the significant progress that has been achieved in developing and testing strategies and interventions to reduce child abuse and neglect, ameliorate its consequences, and improve parental capacity.

The potential public health benefits of these strategies and interventions will be severely limited or unrealized if they are not implemented and sustained effectively in usual-care practice settings. Currently, a wide gap exists between available strategies and interventions and effective methods for their dissemination, implementation, and sustainability. The availability of model programs is uneven across communities and populations, leaving many of the most vulnerable children and families without adequate services. Improving outcomes for a greater proportion of victims and those at risk of child abuse and neglect will require a greater focus on issues such as cultural relevance, replication fidelity, and how proven models can be taken to scale in the complex environments and systems within which children and families receive care.

APPROACHES, PRACTICES, AND STRATEGIES WITH EVIDENCE FOR EFFECTIVENESS

Interventions, regardless of their target populations or primary outcomes, appear to benefit from a set of "core ingredients." These generally include:

- BUILDING ON A STRONG THEORETICAL FOUNDATION THAT LINKS INTENDED OUTCOMES TO A CLEARLY ARTICULATED THEORY OF CHANGE
- OFFERING THE PROGRAM AT A SUFFICIENT DOSAGE AND DURATION TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO ACHIEVE THE INTENDED OUTCOMES
- STAFFING THE PROGRAM WITH INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE THE KNOWLEDGE AND COMPETENCIES TO WORK WITH PARTICIPANTS TO ACHIEVE THE DESIRED OUTCOMES
- OPERATING WITHIN A SYSTEM OF QUALITY ASSURANCE TO ENSURE THAT THE PROGRAM IS DELIVERED PROPERLY AND THE DESIRED OUTCOMES ARE ACHIEVED

The IOM/NRC report describes the current evidence base for many widely used and evaluated programs. It is important to note that none of the approaches has been evaluated across all communities or populations, and approaches often do not reach, engage, or sustain their full target population. However, the report finds the progress in child abuse and neglect interventions to be impressive. Strategies and interventions discussed in the report include the following:

DIFFERENTIAL RESPONSE

Differential response systems offer multiple pathways for addressing the needs of children and families referred to child welfare services. These strategies have been shown to be effective with a range of outcomes, including improvements in child safety, fewer removals from home, increased access to services, and higher levels of family satisfaction.

FAMILY AND PARENT ENGAGEMENT

Child welfare systems have expanded their efforts to engage families, especially parents, more fully as part of the service planning and intervention process. Evidence suggests that family and parent engagement models contribute to reductions in child abuse and neglect.

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Using New Materials: Research Gaps

Report findings reveal what still

needs to be better understood.

Research questions brief looks to:

- Synthesize research questions by topic
- Identify gaps in knowledge and areas at greatest need for research
- Provide foundation and priorities for future research projects

Core audience: research and funder communities

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Using New Materials: Interventions

Report details progress in developing interventions to reduce child abuse and neglect, ameliorate consequences, and improve parental capacity. Fact sheet outlines:

- Key elements of successful interventions
- Approaches, practices, and strategies with evidence for effectiveness
- Information for determining potential models of intervention
- Factors to consider in implementation

Core audience: child welfare professionals, administrators, national associations, federal/state agencies

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Using New Materials: Child Neglect

Report notes that cases of physical and sexual abuse are declining, but neglect is not.

Video on child neglect:

- Emphasizes need for attention to this issue
- Defines types of neglect
- Outlines long-term effects and factors impacting risk and resilience
- Includes call to action

Core audience: general public



Using New Materials: Child Neglect



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Using New Materials

Putting into Practice:

- Share widely to help draw attention to these areas
- Use and have available at conferences and speaking engagements
- Post materials on your organization's website
- Promote via social media



New Directions in Child Abuse and Neglect Research

For more information and to download the report, please visit:
www.iom.edu/childmaltreatment

Toolkit resources available at:
www.iom.edu/childmaltreatmentresources

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