

The Healthy Families Parenting Inventory (HFPI): Developing a multi-use tool for guiding services and measuring outcomes in Home Visitation Programs

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Abstract

The Healthy Families Parenting Inventory (HFPI) responds to the need for an outcome tool for home visitation programs that is relevant to the intervention, sensitive to change, culturally appropriate, and that produces data that are immediately useful in practice. This poster will present on the development of the HFPI, as well demonstrate its utility through the experience of two statewide home visitation programs using the HFPI in Florida and Arizona.

Introduction

- The Healthy Families Parenting Inventory (HFPI) is designed specifically for use in home visitation programs to detect individual change related to mitigating risks and increasing protective factors.

- HFPI is a 63-item outcome measurement tool
- 9 parenting related subscales:

Social Support
Problem Solving
Depression
Personal Care
Mobilizing Resources
Role Satisfaction
Parent/Child Interaction
Home Environment
Parenting Efficacy

- HFPI-P for prenatal families
- Available in English and Spanish
- FREE

Methods

- Construct validity
We developed a series of hypotheses to predict how each item should correlate with its total subscale score, with the other items on the subscale, and with the total scores of different subscales
- Factorial Validity
Exploratory factor analysis
Initial sample:
337 ethnically diverse mothers
Mean age=23
Average annual income=\$13,500
Additional validation samples:
6 samples and other states use the HFPI (e.g., Florida, Arizona, Indiana) as their outcome measurement tool

Results

- Developed the measure with input from home visitors, supervisors, and experts
- Conducted focus groups with FSS staff to get their opinions of what family change looks like
- the HFPI went from 67 items to 63 items and from 10 to 9 subscales
- Reliability: ranged from .76 to .86

Social support $r = .84$
Problem solving $r = .92$
Depression $r = .79$
Personal care $r = .76$
Mobilizing resources $r = .86$
Accepting the parent role $r = .76$
Parent child interaction $r = .87$
Home environment $r = .84$
Parenting efficacy $r = .87$

How we can use the HFPI?

- Measuring outcomes: outcomes to assess the outcome of treatment
- Monitoring outcomes: using outcome assessment data to track progress
- Managing outcomes: using outcome monitoring data to modify treatment as necessary
- In working with staff: in supervision coaching staff

Using the HFPI in Florida

Using the HFPI in Arizona

Subscale	Proportion of items shifting significantly from entry to 6 months	Standardized effect size entry to 6 months <i>N</i> = 408	Proportion of shifting items from entry to 1 yr	Standardized effect size entry to 1 year <i>N</i> = 213
Social Support	20.0%	.05	0.0%	.05
Problem Solving	33.3%	.27	16.7%	.27
Depression	22.2%	.14	0.0%	.20
Personal Care	20.0%	-.14	20.0%	-.04
Mobilizing Resources	100%	.28	83.3%	.41
Commitment to Parental Role	0.0%	.10	50.0%	.15
Parent/Child Behavior	50.0%	.17	20.0%	.16
Home Environment	60.5%	.33	60.0%	.49
Parenting Efficacy	50.0%	.14	33.3%	.16
Total Score	41.3%	.23	31.2%	.30

Note. Effect sizes are Cohen's *d* and are generally interpreted as small for less than .2, medium .5, and large .8 and higher (Cohen, 1988).

Using the HFPI in Multiple Settings

Some criteria to consider in selecting an outcome measure

- Does the measure capture the program goals?
- Have stakeholders been involved in the selection?
- Have resource needs and availability been considered?
- Has the source of information been considered (e.g., participant vs. home visitor)?
- Has the nature of the population been considered?

Using the HFPI: Strengths

- Unlike most measures, *Personal strengths* are included in the HFPI.
- When parents are scored low on these items more strength based models can be put into place.
- Items such as "I feel others care about me," "I remain calm when new problems come up," "I have organized my home for raising a child," can be used to assess strengths.

Using the HFPI Results with Parents

- Confidential process
- No right or wrong answers
- Describe what the score seems to say and check with parent's perceptions
- Explore red flag items
- Discuss and identify goals for ISFP or focused intervention

Using the HFPI in Supervision

- Review scoring
- Discuss red flags and low scores and discuss intervention options
- Discuss the FSS observations from home visits that may support or contradict the findings of the HFPI
- Role play how FSS will share the results with the family and broach difficult subjects
- Examine implications for developing goals and actions for the IFSP.

What Info can the HFPI give you?

Assess severity of concerns

- Assess *overall severity*—this will give us a "red flag" for people that need additional services/attention/follow up. Seven items are shaded to highlight items that should be discussed with the supervisor if rated severe.

Some examples:

- "I feel drained dealing with my child."
- "I feel trapped by all the things I have to do for my child"
- "I have so many problems I feel overwhelmed by them"

Identify Critical Needs

- Assess *critical needs*—the measure can be used to draw attention to critical needs by examining individual items.

For example,

- "If I have trouble, I feel there is someone I can turn to for help."
- "I read to my child a lot" (scored low).

- Scores suggest specific actions to meet needs.

Create treatment targets

- Identification of *treatment targets*—a real advantage of the measure is that changeable factors like social support, coping, depression, parenting competence are identified. Low scores on any scale would suggest home visitors need to specifically address these areas.

- HFPI training teaches what home visitor activities are likely to impact the area of concern (i.e. the desired outcomes).

Training

- HFPI Core Training

- HFPI TOT Training

- An additional module on types of activities home visitors could use when certain scales are out of range

For More Info

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- Talk to us about training options

- Grab a free copy of the HFPI