CORA Cork Open Research Archive
Cartlann Taighde Oscailte Chorcaí

Title	Practice Links [Issue 50, December 2012]
Publication date	2012-12-01
Original Citation	Burns, Kenneth and Cuskelly, Kerry (eds.) 2012, December, "Practice Links", [Online]. http://www.ucc.ie/en/appsoc/aboutus/activities/pl/
Type of publication	Other
Link to publisher's version	http://www.ucc.ie/en/appsoc/aboutus/activities/pl/
Download date	2026-11-01 08:37:21
Item downloaded from	https://hdl.handle.net/10468/1223

UCC
University College Cork, Ireland
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh

Practice Links

Issue 50, December 2012



Inside

Continuing Professional Development

Pgs. 2-6

New publications and policy reports

Pgs. 7-8

Practice signposts: data sources to support your practice

Pgs. 9-10

Research briefs - Systematic reviews

Pgs. 11-13

Web links and electronic publications

Pgs. 14-16

Podcasts

Pgs. 17-18

About Practice Links/Submissions/Subscriptions

Pg. 20

Practice Links

reaches 50 editions / 10 years and is still a free publication!

Next edition: February 2013

Continuing Professional Development

School of Applied Social Studies Annual Public Lecture

5 December 2012, 6pm-8pm, West Wing 5

THE TYRANNY OF THE GIFT - The Trouble with Transplant in the Post-Humanist Era -
Nancy Scheper-Hughes, Professor of Medical Anthropology at the University of California, Berkeley

Discussant: Philip Watt, chairperson of Irish Donor Network and CEO of Cystic Fibrosis Association of Ireland

Seminar open to all.

BAPSCAN - INNOVATIONS IN APPROACHES TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND ABUSE: MOVING PRACTICE FORWARD

10 December 2012- Friends House, Euston Road, London

'Adopting Change: The Future of Adoption Law and Practice in Ireland'

Thursday 17th January 2013

Aula Maxima, UCC, 5.30 - 8pm

Hosted jointly by the School of Applied Social Studies and the Faculty of Law, University College Cork

Speakers include: Justice Catherine McGuinness (Former Supreme Court Judge), Catherine Mullin (BAAF NI), Dr. Fergus Ryan (Head of School of Law, DIT), Dr. Aisling Parkes (Lecturer in Child & Family Law), Dr. Simone McCaughren (Lecturer in Adoption Practice & Social Work). The event will be chaired by Dr. Geoffrey Shannon (Chair of the Adoption Authority of Ireland).

This seminar will address, for the first time, the most recent constitutional and legal changes affecting adoption law, policy and practice in Ireland. It will provide an opportunity for attendees to debate these changes and any issues of concern to them. It will be interdisciplinary and of a comparative nature and will aim to address some of the more significant and current legal, ethical and practical challenges affecting Irish adoption law, policy and practice which have not been affected by the changes.

The seminar will encourage contributions from Irish Accredited Adoption bodies, the Adoption Authority of Ireland, Social Work/Social Care Professions, Legal Practitioners and other critical stakeholders in the process. This seminar will present a unique and invaluable opportunity to bring together important figures in the field of Irish adoption law and practice.

CPD points will be available for attendees. Fee: €50
Please contact Aisling (a.parkes@ucc.ie) or Simone (s.mccaughren@ucc.ie) for further information.

Continuing Professional Development

THE 3rd EUROPEAN CONFERENCE FOR SOCIAL WORK RESEARCH

Jyväskylä, Finland 20-22 March 2013

The conference, previously held at Oxford and Basel, will bring together researchers and research users across Europe and internationally to exchange research ideas, findings, developments and applications. The main theme of the conference is transforming welfare policies, social work and social care practices with the aim to analyse both ongoing changes in welfare policies and their societal and human consequences on all levels in various parts of Europe and elsewhere.

Please, find further information: http://www.jyu.fi/ecswr2013

Social Care Ireland 2013 Annual Conference: Change, Challenge, Opportunity?

Social Care Ireland 2013 annual conference will take place in The Strand Hotel Limerick on March 20th & 21st 2013. A full and varied programme is being planned with every effort made to improve on what a very successful 2012 conference. Further details from mid January next. See website for further details and booking information: www.socialcareireland.ie

Campbell Colloquium 2013: Call for Proposals Now Open!

The annual Campbell Collaboration Colloquium will be back May 21st - 23rd, 2013! Our venue this year is in beautiful, downtown Chicago just one block from the Magnificent Mile at Loyola University Chicago. Come enjoy the sights and sounds of the big city while engaging with reviewers from around the globe!

Call for proposals now open!

Unlike previous Colloquia, this year we will be reviewing proposals to present papers at a dedicated session. The deadline for submitting a proposal is 15 December 2012.

Visit the Colloquium's website for more details. More information about registration, plenary speakers, and presentations are upcoming. We look forward to seeing you in Chicago!

3rd International Public Health & Palliative Care Conference

Limerick, 25th - 27th April 2013 on the theme of: "Death, Dying, Loss & Care: Social Experiences or Medical Events?"

A public health approach to palliative care places the community at the centre of supporting those affected by death, dying, loss and care. The conference website has further details, flyer and booking details: www.publichealthpalliativecare.org

Continuing Professional Development

DISORGANISED ATTACHMENT AND CHILD PROTECTION
New Ways of Assessing Risk and Helping Children and Families

Thursday 21 March 2013, Thistle City Hotel, Birmingham

The morning will include presentations by David Shemmings on different aspects of contemporary theory and research relating to child protection practice. Professor Shemmings will facilitate interactive sessions in the afternoon.

This conference will be particularly relevant to practitioners at all levels including their supervisors and managers in all key agencies and organisations working in the safeguarding children arena.

This Conference was first held in Newport and Bournemouth in 2011 and York in July 2012 and due to the success and excellent reviews from delegates we are now repeating the event in Birmingham. The cost of attending BASPCAN conferences was reduced in 2012 and these prices are held for 2013. Members rate is £130, Non-members rate is £180 and Joining members rate is £195, this gives 2013 membership and a full years subscription to the journal, Child Abuse Review.If you would like to attend any event please visit our website to book on line at http://www.baspcan.org.uk/booking.php

ISPCAN (International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect) Conference to be held in Dublin 15th - 18th September 2013

Fáilte! [welcome] It is our great pleasure to invite you to Dublin for the 13th ISPCAN European Regional Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect. We look forward to welcoming you to Dublin where we can assure you of both a full and exciting scientific programme and a venue that is rich in history, culture and heritage. Delegates will have opportunities to discuss the current state of research and interventions on CAN in Europe and internationally, discuss new challenges and emerging topics and help shape national and international responses.

The organising committee is made up of clinicians, practitioners and academics drawn from across the island of Ireland and Europe. Dublin last hosted an ISPCAN event (the 11th International Congress) in 1996 and we look forward to this return visit.

Our conference theme is **"Protecting Children in a Changing World"** and includes the following sub-themes:

- Prevention of child abuse and neglect through early and sustained involvement
- Interventions and programmes for children and families experiencing adversity
- Addressing children's rights and participation
- Reforms in child protection and welfare policy
- Children in out of home care
- Building the evidence base
- Contemporary issues

Dublin is a vibrant and modern capital city with a unique literary, cultural and historical legacy. The city is compact and easy to explore for visitors and is also close to stunning natural scenery and historic sites in nearby counties. Dublin is well served by direct flights from dozens of European cities. Further details on the call for abstracts and the scientific and social programmes will appear at: http://www.ispcan.org/event/Dublin2013.

Advance Notice: 4th Biennial Child Protection and Welfare Social Work Conference

Friday 25th October, 2013, University College Cork, Ireland.
See http://swconf.ucc.ie for further details and for videos of last years conference.
This conference series is a joint partnership between the Social Work Development Unit UCC, Child Protection and Welfare Teams in the HSE South and the IASW Southern Branch.

Continuing Professional Development

Creating sustainable futures: defeating the politics of austerity

This year's Social Work Action Network (SWAN) Conference is in London for the first time.

Social Work Action Network

FRIDAY 12th & SATURDAY 13th APRIL 2013

London South Bank University. Elephant & Castle



Against the backdrop of increasing cuts and rising inequality social workers, service users, carers, care workers, social work students and educators are coming together to fight back. The Social Work Action Network (SWAN) promotes a model of social work and care practice which is rooted in the value of social justice.

The 8th SWAN National Conference will debate how we can resist cuts to social work and care services and other attacks on the welfare state including the abolition of disability living allowance, increased workfare and the closure of youth services. SWAN is delighted to announce that this year's conference will be held in London, the first time a national conference has been held in the city.

The conference will bring together activists from all parts of the UK and from around the world to discuss the fight against austerity and to develop collective, sustainable alternatives. In particular, it will provide workers, service users and carers with an opportunity to share strategies in the struggle against cuts and marketisation of services, and to challenge the hardship these create.

More conference details will follow soon - sign up to the SWAN newsletter list at www.socialworkfuture.org/resources/newsletter-sign-up or follow our Twitter feed. For more information please contact swanconf2013@gmail.com our specific conference email address.

www.socialworkfuture.org

@swansocialwork

Social Work Action Network (SWAN)

Continuing Professional Development



CORU, the regulatory body for health and social care professionals, is putting in place a framework to regulate the 12 professions who come under the Health and Social Care Professionals Act 2005. Regulation aims to protect the public through fostering high standards of professional conduct, professional education, training and competence among those registered.

31 May 2013 is the end of the grandparenting period and Social Workers who have not applied for registration by that date will not be able to continue to work using the protected title "Social Worker".

All Social Workers are urged to take steps now to make sure they make a complete application for registration before the 31 May 2013 deadline. For existing practitioners applying to get onto the register now, the initial fee will cover registration until 31 May 2014.

Please note that an incomplete application will delay your registration. Please make sure you provide all of the information requested in the application form. For more information please visit www.coru.ie

Mareeda Tracey, CORU.

New publications and policy reports

Updated Barnardos' Domestic Violence Assessment Tool (DVRIM)

The Munro review of Child protection has recently reported and amongst its recommendations stated that systems must be more fully focused on the needs of individual children, using assessment processes that enable professional judgment to be exercised.

Domestic abuse is a consistent feature of child protection cases and serious case reviews. It therefore continues to be a priority and Barnardo's and the London Board have worked with London Boroughs and responded to their needs in assisting practitioners in identifying and assessing the impact of domestic abuse on children. Following feedback taken by London Councils from boroughs, the DVRIM has been updated and includes new indicators, such as the abuse through texting or social networking sites. It is also interactive, enabling anyone to use the matrix on their computer and store the information for each child or family in pdf format.

It is not necessary to have training on the DVRIM. However, there are undoubted advantages of training in that multi-agency professionals get the opportunity to meet and share their understanding and experiences of domestic abuse, develop a shared language and greater consistency when it comes to communicating intra and inter-agency about domestic abuse and the impact on a child. The DVRIM was developed to assist in this process and is particularly useful for workers having first contact with adults, children and young people in universal services, at thresholds one and two. The DVRIM is being used to screen for domestic abuse by health visitors in Northern Ireland as well as being used there and here, by social care practitioners to 'threshold' individual cases. This echoes with recent government reports on the importance of early intervention and identification of children with additional needs who are living in families with domestic violence.

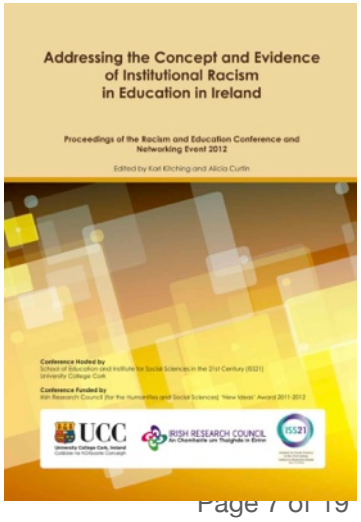


http://www.londonscb.gov.uk/domestic_violence/ (click on domestic abuse on the left and DVRIM tool is PDF on the centre of the page).

Racism and Education

This is a story of the Racism and Education Conference and Networking Event, held in UCC in February 2012. The initiative was funded by the Irish Research Council's 'New Ideas' Scheme 2011-2012.

The document focuses largely on the compulsory school period, but will also be of interest to those working and learning in higher education and the pre-school and early childhood sector. Please circulate to colleagues, parents, activist groups and other interested parties where possible. http://www.ucc.ie/en/education/bodytext-181877-en.html



New publications and policy reports

Beyond Diagnosis – the transformative potential of the arts in mental health recovery



Minister Kathleen Lynch T.D., Minister of State with responsibility for Mental Health, Disability, Equality, and Older People will launch a new research report, Beyond Diagnosis, which examines the transformative potential of the arts in mental health recovery, Millennium Hall, Cork, 1.30pm, Monday October 8.

In her foreword for the report, Minister Lynch writes "Beyond Diagnosis, clearly highlights that engagement with the arts, can enhance mental health service users opportunities for participation, inclusion, collaboration, communication, creativity and contribution. It can facilitate service users to develop new and existing skills, and potentially find a way to live a fulfilling life alongside and beyond diagnosis."

The Minister went to say that the arts have " the potential to be a vital and revitalising component, of a good quality and progressive, recovery orientated mental health service."

Beyond Diagnosis was commissioned by Arts + Minds and written by Lydia Sapouna and colleague, Rudie Pamer, School of Applied Social Studies, University College Cork. Arts + Minds is a HSE mental health staff initiative, supported through the HSE Cork Arts and Health Programme.

Aidan Warner, Principal Community Worker, HSE Cork South, and Manager of the HSE Cork Arts and Health Programme, said " the CAHP recognises the very valuable and innovative work of the Arts + Minds group. The development and production of this important research work is significant for both the health service, and the arts and health agenda, it is very welcome."

The report author, Lydia Sapouna said "Beyond Diagnosis highlights the need for mental health services to see people beyond their diagnosis, and to provide opportunities for people to write their own story. A meaningful partnership between the arts and mental health requires a radical shift in understanding, responding to and engaging with human distress."

Arts + Minds aim to enhance the health and wellbeing of mental health service users through engagement with the arts. The group work in partnership with service users, health and arts professionals to challenge the stigma that is faced by many people with mental ill health, and to facilitate service users to participate fully in the cultural life of their community. Arts + Minds also aim to provide and promote high quality arts experiences for mental health service users. To date, the group has worked across seven mental health settings, and delivered almost 100 projects in arts, community and mental health venues.

Arts + Minds are currently working in six mental health settings in Cork city and county; St. Stephen's Hospital; Cúnamh Day Hospital/Day Centre; South Lee Mental Health Unit, CUH; Togher / Ballyphehane Community Mental Health Service; Mahon / Blackrock Community Mental Health Service and St. Michael's Unit, Mercy University Hospital. Full report available from: http://artsandmindscork.com

Practice signposts: data sources to support practice



Practice signposts are new permanent pages that will appear in every edition of *Practice Links*. The aim of this page is to provide sign posts to high quality research-informed databases. Some of the databases at a quick glance may seem too medical/health orientated, but also contain great resources to support social work and social care practice also.

Campbell Collaboration

The Campbell Collaboration (C2) helps people make well-informed decisions by preparing, maintaining and disseminating systematic reviews in education, crime and justice, and social welfare. Access to the database in the Republic of Ireland is free as the government of Ireland has purchased a license. http://www.campbellcollaboration.org/

Cochrane Collaboration

The Cochrane Collaboration, established in 1993, is an international network of more than 28,000 dedicated people from over 100 countries. We work together to help health care providers, policy makers, patients, their advocates and carers, make well-informed decisions about health care, based on the best available research evidence, by preparing, updating and promoting the accessibility of Cochrane Reviews. Our work is internationally recognised as the benchmark for high quality information about the effectiveness of health care.
http://www.cochrane.org/

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) - NHS UK

The National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) provides guidance, sets quality standards and manages a national database to improve people's health and prevent and treat ill health. http://www.nice.org.uk/ . Videocasts: http://www.nice.org.uk/newsroom/videocasts/videocasts.jsp. Podcasts: http://www.nice.org.uk/newsroom/podcasts/index.jsp

Health Intelligence Unit (HSE)

Health Intelligence is part of the Quality and Clinical Care Directorate within the Health Service Executive and is responsible for capturing and utilising knowledge to support decision-making to improve the health of the population. Website has links to HSE research, databases, facts (census etc.), publications and using evidence effectively. http://www.hse.ie/eng/about/Who/Population_Health/Health_Intelligence/

Evidence in Health and Social Care (NHS)

NHS Evidence is a service that enables access to authoritative clinical and non-clinical evidence and best practice through a web-based portal. It helps people from across the NHS, public health and social care sectors to make better decisions as a result. NHS Evidence is managed by the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE). http://www.evidence.nhs.uk/

Practice signposts: data sources to support practice



Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE)

The Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) improves the lives of people who use care services by sharing knowledge about what works. We are an independent charity working with adults, families and children's social care and social work services across the UK. We also work closely with related services such as health care and housing. We gather and analyse knowledge about what works and translate that knowledge into practical resources, learning materials and services. Our work helps to improve the knowledge and skills of those working in care services. This includes managers, frontline staff, commissioners and trainers. People and their families who use these services also use our resources. All of our work is developed in collaboration with experts - including people who use care services and their carers. http://www.scie.org.uk/

Decision Map.ie

DecisionMap.ie, the new online decision-support tool developed by Ordnance Survey Ireland and Twelve Horses. DecisionMap, currently in beta test release, combines digital mapping from Ordnance Survey Ireland, with visualisation and web delivery tools developed by Twelve Horses, and statistical data provided by the Central Statistics Office and others. It aims to provide decision makers in the public and private sectors instant access to easily-consumable, spatially-referenced data about Ireland. http://decisionmap.ie/

Growing Up in Ireland

Growing Up in Ireland is a national study of children. It is the most significant of its kind ever to take place in this country and will help us to improve our understanding of all aspects of children and their development.

The study will take place over seven years and follow the progress of two groups of children; 8500 nine-year-olds and 11,000 nine-month-olds. During this time we will carry out two rounds of research with each group of children.

The main aim of the study is to paint a full picture of children in Ireland and how they are developing in the current social, economic and cultural environment. This information will be used to assist in policy formation and in the provision of services which will ensure all children will have the best possible start in life.

Irish Qualitative Data Archive

The Irish Qualitative Data Archive (IQDA) is a central access point for qualitative social science data and provides online access to all new qualitative data generated within the Irish Social Science Platform, and to selected existing data. http://www.iqda.ie/content/welcome-iqda

North South Child Protection Hub

This hub available for use by child protection professionals (policy makers, practitioners, researchers and educators) in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

The Hub brings together research, policy and practice guidance, inspection reports, serious case reviews, court judgements, news articles and other material relevant to child protection published in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland together with material from Great Britain and other countries. Staff in the Health and Social Care Board and Trusts in Northern Ireland and in the Health Service Executive in the Republic of Ireland, will have access to the Hub but it will also be an important resource for all organisations concerned with child protection. http://www.nscph.com/

Continued on Pg. 3

Research briefs

Email for clinical communication between patients/caregivers and healthcare professionals (November 2012)

Helen Atherton, Prescilla Sawmynaden, Aziz Sheikh, Azeem Majeed, Josip Car

THE COCHRANE COLLABORATION®

Background: Email is a popular and commonly-used method of communication, but its use in health care is not routine. Where email communication has been demonstrated in health care this has included its use for communication between patients/ caregivers and healthcare professionals for clinical purposes, but the effects of using email in this way is not known.This review addresses the use of email for two-way clinical communication between patients/caregivers and healthcare professionals.

Objectives: To assess the effects of healthcare professionals and patients using email to communicate with each other, on patient outcomes, health service performance, service efficiency and acceptability.

Search methods: We searched: the Cochrane Consumers and Communication Review Group Specialised Register, Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (CENTRAL, The Cochrane Library, Issue 1 2010), MEDLINE (OvidSP) (1950 to January 2010), EMBASE (OvidSP) (1980 to January 2010), PsycINFO (OvidSP) (1967 to January 2010), CINAHL (EbscoHOST) (1982 to February 2010) and ERIC (CSA) (1965 to January 2010). We searched grey literature: theses/dissertation repositories, trials registers and Google Scholar (searched July 2010). We used additional search methods: examining reference lists, contacting authors.

Selection criteria: Randomised controlled trials, quasi-randomised trials, controlled before and after studies and interrupted time series studies examining interventions using email to allow patients to communicate clinical concerns to a healthcare professional and receive a reply, and taking the form of 1) unsecured email 2) secure email or 3) web messaging. All healthcare professionals, patients and caregivers in all settings were considered.

Data collection and analysis: Two authors independently assessed the risk of bias of included studies and extracted data. We contacted study authors for additional information. We assessed risk of bias according to the Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions. For continuous measures, we report effect sizes as mean differences (MD). For dichotomous outcome measures, we report effect sizes as odds ratios and rate ratios. Where it was not possible to calculate an effect estimate we report mean values for both intervention and control groups and the total number of participants in each group. Where data are available only as median values it is presented as such. It was not possible to carry out any meta-analysis of the data.

Main results: We included nine trials enrolling 1733 patients; all trials were judged to be at risk of bias. Seven were randomised controlled trials; two were cluster-randomised controlled designs. Eight examined email as compared to standard methods of communication. One compared email with telephone for the delivery of counselling. When email was compared to standard methods, for the majority of patient/caregiver outcomes it was not possible to adequately assess whether email had any effect. For health service use outcomes it was not possible to adequately assess whether email has any effect on resource use, but some results indicated that an email intervention leads to an increased number of emails and telephone calls being received by healthcare professionals. Three studies reported some type of adverse event but it was not clear if the adverse event had any impact on the health of the patient or the quality of health care. When email counselling was compared to telephone counselling only patient outcomes were measured, and for the majority of measures there was no difference between groups. Where there were differences these showed that telephone counselling leads to greater change in lifestyle modification factors than email counselling. There was one outcome relating to harm, which showed no difference between the email and the telephone counselling groups. There were no primary outcomes relating to healthcare professionals for either comparison.

Authors' conclusions: The evidence base was found to be limited with variable results and missing data, and therefore it was not possible to adequately assess the effect of email for clinical communication between patients/caregivers and healthcare professionals. Recommendations for clinical practice could not be made. Future research should ideally address the issue of missing data and methodological concerns by adhering to published reporting standards. The rapidly changing nature of technology should be taken into account when designing and conducting future studies and barriers to trial development and implementation should also be tackled. Potential outcomes of interest for future research include cost-effectiveness and health service resource use.

Continued / ...

Email for clinical communication between patients/caregivers and healthcare professionals (November 2012)

Helen Atherton, Prescilla Sawmynaden, Aziz Sheikh, Azeem Majeed, Josip Car

THE COCHRANE COLLABORATION®

Plain language summary

Using email for patients/caregivers and healthcare professionals to contact each other

Email is widely used in many sectors and lots of people use it in their day to day lives. The use of email in health care is not yet so common, although one use for it is for patients/caregivers and healthcare professionals to contact each other. This review examines how patients, healthcare professionals and health services may be affected by using email in this way. We looked for trials examining the use of email for patients/caregivers and healthcare professionals to contact each other and found nine trials with 1733 participants in total.

Eight of the trials looked at email compared with standard methods of communication. Where email was compared to standard methods of communication we found that we could not properly determine what effect email was having on patient/caregiver outcomes, as there were missing data and the results of the different studies varied. For health service use outcomes the situation was the same, but some results seemed to show that an email intervention may lead to an increased number of emails and telephone calls being received by healthcare professionals.

One of the trials looked at email counselling compared with telephone counselling. We found that it only looked at patient outcomes, and found few differences between groups. Where there were differences these showed that telephone counselling leads to greater changes in lifestyle than email counselling.

None of the trials measured how email affects healthcare professionals and only one measured whether email can cause harm. All of the trials were biased in some way and when we measured the quality of all of the results we found them to be of low or very low quality. As a result the results of this review should be viewed with caution.

The nature of the results means that we cannot make any recommendations for how email might best be used in clinical practice. Future research should make allowances for how quickly technology changes, and should consider how much email would cost to introduce and what effect it has on the use of healthcare resources. Research reports should be sure to clearly report their methods and findings, and researchers interested in carrying out research in this area should be assisted in developing ideas and put them into action.

Read the full report at: http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/14651858.CD007978.pub2/abstract

Research briefs

Behavioural and Cognitive-Behavioural Group-Based Parenting Programmes for Early-Onset Conduct Problems in Children Aged 3 to 12 Years (November 2012)

Mairead Furlong, Sinead McGilloway, Tracey Bywater, Judy Hutchings, Michael Donnelly, Susan Smith, Ciaran O'Neill



Abstract: BACKGROUND. Early-onset child conduct problems are common and costly. A large number of studies and some previous reviews have focused on behavioural and cognitive-behavioural group-based parenting interventions, but methodological limitations are commonplace and evidence for the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of these programmes has been unclear.

OBJECTIVES: To assess the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of behavioural and cognitive-behavioural group-based parenting programmes for improving child conduct problems, parental mental health and parenting skills.

SEARCH METHODS: We searched the following databases between 23 and 31 January 2011: CENTRAL (2011, Issue 1), MEDLINE (1950 to current), EMBASE (1980 to current), CINAHL (1982 to current), PsycINFO (1872 to current), Social Science Citation Index (1956 to current), ASSIA (1987 to current), ERIC (1966 to current), Sociological Abstracts (1963 to current), Academic Search Premier (1970 to current), Econlit (1969 to current), PEDE (1980 to current), Dissertations and Theses Abstracts (1980 to present), NHS EED (searched 31 January 2011), HEED (searched 31 January 2011), DARE (searched 31 January 2011), HTA (searched 31 January 2011), mRCT (searched 29 January 2011). We searched the following parent training websites on 31 January 2011: Triple P Library, Incredible Years Library and Parent Management Training. We also searched the reference lists of studies and reviews.

SELECTION CRITERIA: We included studies if: (1) they involved randomised controlled trials (RCTs) or quasi-randomised controlled trials of behavioural and cognitive-behavioural group-based parenting interventions for parents of children aged 3 to 12 years with conduct problems, and (2) incorporated an intervention group versus a waiting list, no treatment or standard treatment control group. We only included studies that used at least one standardised instrument to measure child conduct problems.

DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS: Two authors independently assessed the risk of bias in the trials and the methodological quality of health economic studies. Two authors also independently extracted data. We contacted study authors for additional information.

RESULTS: This review includes 13 trials (10 RCTs and three quasi-randomised trials), as well as two economic evaluations based on two of the trials. Overall, there were 1078 participants (646 in the intervention group; 432 in the control group). The results indicate that parent training produced a statistically significant reduction in child conduct problems, whether assessed by parents (standardised mean difference (SMD) -0.53; 95% confidence interval (CI) -0.72 to -0.34) or independently assessed (SMD -0.44; 95% CI -0.77 to -0.11). The intervention led to statistically significant improvements in parental mental health (SMD -0.36; 95% CI -0.52 to -0.20) and positive parenting skills, based on both parent reports (SMD -0.53; 95% CI -0.90 to -0.16) and independent reports (SMD -0.47; 95% CI -0.65 to -0.29). Parent training also produced a statistically significant reduction in negative or harsh parenting practices according to both parent reports (SMD -0.77; 95% CI -0.96 to -0.59) and independent assessments (SMD -0.42; 95% CI -0.67 to -0.16). Moreover, the intervention demonstrated evidence of cost-effectiveness. When compared to a waiting list control group, there was a cost of approximately $2500 (GBP 1712; EUR 2217) per family to bring the average child with clinical levels of conduct problems into the non-clinical range. These costs of programme delivery are modest when compared with the long-term health, social, educational and legal costs associated with childhood conduct problems.

AUTHORS' CONCLUSIONS: Behavioural and cognitive-behavioural group-based parenting interventions are effective and cost-effective for improving child conduct problems, parental mental health and parenting skills in the short term. The cost of programme delivery was modest when compared with the long-term health, social, educational and legal costs associated with childhood conduct problems. Further research is needed on the long-term assessment of outcomes.

Read the full report at http://www.campbellcollaboration.org/library.php

Web Links and Electronic Publications

"The Service Providers Role as Human Rights Enablers in Times of Crisis" (2012)

On Sep 19th 2012 EASPD presented this booklet at the European Parliament. Are service providers enabling human rights for persons with disabilities? The European Association of Service Providers for Persons with Disabilities has been committed to innovative service provision to implement the UN Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities since it was adopted in 2006. The services provided by EASPD members support and empower persons with disabilities to be included inclusion in society. Yet these services are now at risk because of the financial crisis and the subsequent austerity measures. This is exacerbated by the lack of explicit recognition in the European Disability Strategy 2010-2020 that, for many people, individualized forms of specialized support are preconditions for the enjoyment of rights.

A link to the full booklet can be found here: http://www.easpd.eu/Portals/easpd/Press%20Releases/booklet%2010-09_FINAL.pdf

"Literacy, Numeracy and Activation among the Unemployed" (June 2012) ESRI and NALA

It is well established in research that people with weak literacy and numeracy skills are more likely to be unemployed. Therefore, it should follow that this issue is an important consideration in labour market policy and more particularly activation policy. However, the National Adult Literacy Agency (NALA) is of the view that this has not always been the case and is concerned that unemployed adults with literacy and numeracy needs, and those with low educational attainment, are not being adequately prioritised for labour market activation. This research puts forward an argument for this to be changed.

A link to the full report can be found here: http://www.nala.ie/sites/default/files/publications/literacy_numeracy_and_activation_among_the_unemployed.pdf

Literacy and Numeracy Difficulties in the Irish Workplace: Impact on Earnings and Training Expenditures (September 2012) ESRI and NALA

The importance of literacy and numeracy in the modern workplace has drawn considerable attention from policy makers and researchers in recent years. The focus has been primarily on the acquisition of these skills during formal schooling and how to improve our school system to ensure better outcomes in this area. There has been far less concern with those already in work who have not attained the requisite levels of literacy and numeracy in their initial education. This is despite the ample international research which details the obstacles people with literacy and numeracy issues will face throughout their lives and in particular in their careers.

A link to the full report can be found here: http://www.nala.ie/sites/default/files/publications/esri_nala_report_literacy_and_numeracy_difficulties_in_the_irish_workplace.pdf

"Code of conduct for research with and for the Roma people" and Online Debate

Now available for viewing or download at the following link: http://www.livingknowledge.org/discussion/diskutiere/2012/code-of-conduct-for-the-research-with-and-for-the-roma-people/ Please tell us what do think. Do you think all research on Roma people's issues should make use of such code of conduct? Click on the link to read the guideline and leave your comment on the blog!

Web Links and Electronic Publications

"Report on the Rights of Older People" (March 2012) NCPOP

Medical advances of the past twenty years have extended life expectancy significantly across all first world countries. That extension brings with it an urgent requirement, not just to plan for the needs of older people, but to recognise that new needs will emerge because people will be living longer and because more people will live longer. This report is very timely as we see vital services for older people across the country come under attack. Older people, their families and the home help staff who care for older people are mounting a campaign across the country in order to fight to keep vital services such as home help and home care. This report can be used by social workers in our roles as agents of social change and in order to advance the fight to promote social justice in Ireland.

A link to the full report can be found here: http://www.ncpop.ie/userfiles/file/ncpop%20reports/Seanad%20Right%20of%20Older%20People%20March%202012.pdf

A link to the home help campaign facebook page can be found here: https://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/274929942626624/

"Toolkit on Structural Funds for Social NGO's" (October 2012) EAPN

This toolkit aims to support the advocacy work of National Networks and social NGOs, in order to help them to press their National Authorities to prioritise the new social targets of Europe 2020, and especially the poverty reduction target, both in the Partnership Contracts and Operational Programmes. This Toolkit pursues 3 objectives:

1. To provide a better understanding of the main characteristics of the future Structural Funds Regulations for the programming period 2014-2020.

2. To support National Networks in getting involved in the Structural Funds' process, and in making the best use of the new Europe 2020 Strategy, and the poverty reduction target. This is why this Toolkit provides useful advice/tips, and showcases good practices, successfully developed by NGOs in different EU countries.

3. Ultimately, to help National Networks to be seen as key interlocutors by competent public authorities on the next programming period of Structural Funds from the beginning.

A link to the full toolkit can be found here: http://www.eapn.eu/images/stories/docs/EAPN-position-papers-and-reports/2012-Toolkit-StructuralFunds-EN.pdf

"Sixth Annual Report of the Independent Monitoring Group for A Vision for Change" Expert Group on Mental Health Policy (July 2012)

This is the 6th Annual Report of the Independent Monitoring Group for A Vision for Change (IMG) and the final report of the Second Group. It is clear to the IMG that the implementation of A Vision for Change (AVFC) to date including 2011 has been slow and inconsistent. There is a continued absence of a National Mental Health Service Directorate with authority and control of resources. The absence of a comprehensive, time lined and costed implementation plan has made it difficult to put in place a consistent framework for the development of all mental health specialities and has led to a lack of coherency in the planning and development of community based services. Existing community mental health teams are poorly populated with an estimated 1,500 vacant posts. The effects of the HSE recruitment embargo and the Public Service Moratorium have disproportionately and indiscriminately reduced the availability of professional mental health service staff and reduced the overall volume of financial resources. There is an absence of the ethos of recovery and poor development of recovery competencies in service delivery resulting in a reactive rather than proactive approach to the needs of individuals and their families.

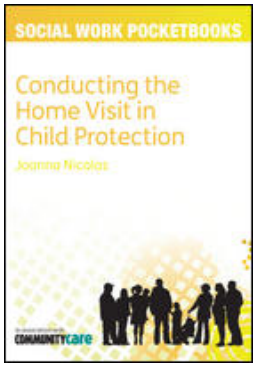
A link to the full report can be found here: http://www.dohc.ie/publications/vision_for_change_6th/hse_nat_reg/final_6th_annual_report

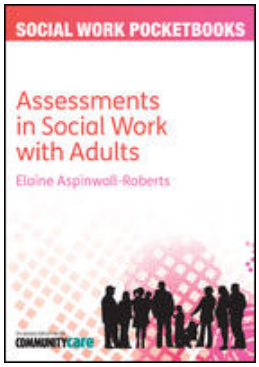
Web Links and Electronic Publications

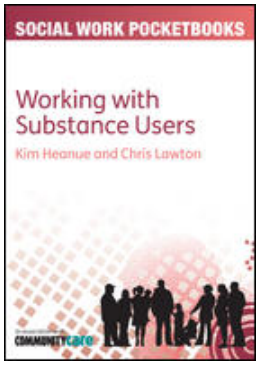
Community Care/Open University Press Social Work Pocketbook for Busy Professionals

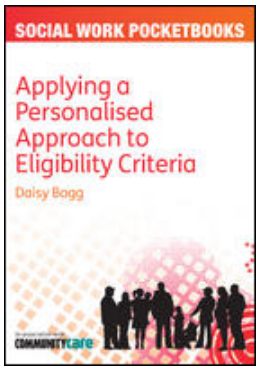
Co-published with Community Care, the Open University Press social work pocketbooks offer quick, at-a-glance, survival guides for today's busy social worker. Written by experienced practitioners who understand the realities of day-to-day modern practice, the books provide support, advice and information to help you deliver great service in challenging areas of the role.

But don't take our word for it. Click on link to find out more and read a free chapter! http://mcgraw-hill.co.uk/openup/pocketbooks/

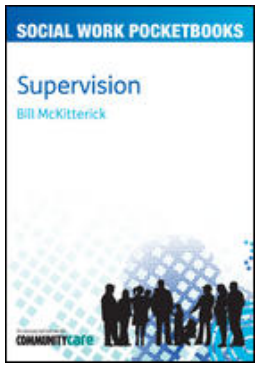






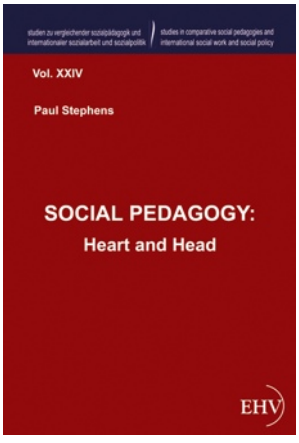




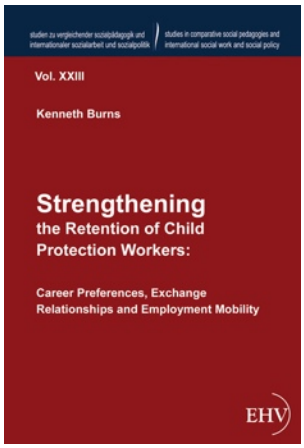


New EHV Publications

SOCIAL PEDAGOGY. Heart and Head



Strengthening the Retention of Child Protection Workers: Career Preferences. Exchange Relationships and Employment Mobility http://sozialvergleich.org/Pages/Vol%2023.htm



Podcasts

Audio & Video Podcasts

What is a Podcast ?
A multi-media file made available by the internet which can be viewed or listened to on a computer, tablet, MP3 player or CD player.

How do I listen to a Podcast?
You can listen to a Podcast straightaway on any PC which has speaker or a headphones or you can download it to listen to later. The file can also be saved to an MP3 player or USB memory stick. Some modern CD players can play Podcasts just like a music CD.

Some Podcasts are updated regularly – how do I get the latest version?
You can use iTunes or other services to check regularly to see if the Podcast has been updated. You can also subscribe using an RSS feed which will inform you when the new edition is ready. Some Smartphones can also download and update Podcasts.

For more information go to: http://www.bbc.co.uk/podcasts/help

---

Web Resources & E-Learning Website

Online resources, research articles and general information aimed at professionals working in children's services. This site hosts a vast array of tools, resources and practical based information – all of which is highly topical and well presented – all available at: http://www.c4eo.org.uk There is also a E-learning portal with modules for personnel at practitioner and managers working in areas of Child Poverty; Disability; Early Years; Safeguarding; and, Working with Vulnerable Children – it uses podcasts and video case studies - available at http://www.c4eo.org.uk/elearning/

Video Podcast: Mindfulness in Social Work Practice

University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Social Work Professor Betty Kramer, Ph.D. explains the concept of mindfulness as it relates to the practice of Social Work. Mindfulness is defines as "bringing one's complete attention to the present experience on a moment-to-moment basis" a personal skill which has a lot of relevance to social work – available at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tOg4wYFMzPc

Audio Podcast: BBC Medical Matters on Mental Health

Inside health with Dr Mark Porter and All in the Mind with Claudia Hammond. Health stories behind the headlines on Inside Health and on All in the Mind, mental health, psychology and neuroscience – available at: http://www.bbc.co.uk/podcasts/series/medmatters This channel has a range of other podcasts of relevance to social workers in all areas.

Webinar: Supporting a Young Person Who is Cyberbuillied

This is a webinar broadcast which is essentially an online seminar – from the Mental Health Professionals Network in Australia – on completion the participant will be able to At the completion of the session participants will be able to: recognise the key principles of intervention and the roles of different disciplines in assessing, treating and supporting a young person who is experiencing cyber-bullying. Also to better understand the merits, challenges and opportunities in providing collaborative care to a young person who is experiencing cyber-bullying – available at: http://www.mhpn.org.au/News/Events/tabid/201/agentType/View/PropertyID/162/Default.aspx

Podcasts

Webinar: Supporting Families Dealing with Parental Mental Illness

Another webinar (see their list of topics) from the same organisation. On the completion of the webinar participants will be better equipped to recognise the key principles of intervention and the roles of different disciplines in assessing, treating, managing and supporting families dealing with parental mental illness. Available at: http://www.mhpn.org.au/News/Events/tabid/201/agentType/View/PropertyID/160/Default.aspx

Audio Podcast: Social Work Education in Nepal

For those looking for something a little bit different this podcast episode from Griffiths University in Australia provides an overview of social work education relevant to Nepal and its societal values – available at: http://www.podsocs.com/podcast/social-work-education-in-nepal The Podsocs site also carries a number of other audio broadcasts on subjects such as Writing for Publication; Social Work Theory (from Malcolm Payne); Boundary and Ethical Issues; and, Domestic Violence – main listing at www.podsocs.com

Audio: Evidence Based-Practice vs Practice-Based Evidence

In this episode, Dr. Reginald York discusses the emerging controversy in clinical practice about how best to use evidence to inform practice – he describes two perspectives, evidence-based practice and practice-based evidence, noting their similarities and differences, and examines the evidence in support of each - http://www.socialwork.buffalo.edu/podcast/

Videos: Community Action Network on Leadership

Three videos on the work from Community Action Network (CAN) which were produced on their 25th anniversary. The videos explore the practice of community leadership and are also available for viewing on CAN's own website along with other information about the work they do at www.canaction.ie.

The three videos are available at:

Leadership in Development: http://youtu.be/y-E5Yez766o

Leadership in Action: http://youtu.be/pqAfuLSEtFU

Leadership in CAN: http://youtu.be/MLwdWAHP5zc

About Practice Links

Practice Links is a free e-publication for practitioners working in Irish social services, voluntary and non-governmental sectors. *Practice Links* was created to help practitioners in these areas to keep up-to-date with new publications, electronic publications, conferences and continuing professional development opportunities. *Practice Links* is published every other month in Adobe Acrobat (.pdf file). Distribution is by email and on the *Practice Links* website http://www.ucc.ie/en/appsoc/aboutus/activities/pl/ .

Submissions

Submission for publication should be received two weeks prior to the next publication date. Please forward submissions by email to k.burns@ucc.ie.

SWDU

Practice Links is a publication of the Social Work Development Unit, University College Cork, Ireland. http://swdu.ucc.ie

Subscriptions

To subscribe for free to the *Practice Links* email distribution list, whereby you will automatically receive each edition, click on this link http://lists.ucc.ie/lists/archives/pl-l.html and press the *Join or Leave PL-L* button. Follow the same process to unsubscribe from the list.

Disclaimer

The inclusion of an item in *Practice Links* does not represent an endorsement and items may not necessarily reflect the views of the editor and/or the University.

Practice Links is edited by

Kenneth Burns
School of Applied Social Studies
University College Cork
William Thompson House
Donovan's Road, Cork, Ireland.

T +353-21-4903151 **E:** k.burns@ucc.ie
W: http://www.ucc.ie/en/appsoc/aboutus/activities/pl/
W: http://swdu.ucc.ie

Practice Links Team

Kerry Cuskelly
Adult Mental Health Social Worker

Steven Peet
Social Worker, HSE

Kenneth Burns
School of Applied Social Studies

Photo copyright "Mukumbra" from www.flickr.com



UCC
University College Cork, Ireland
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh