

FURTHER VALIDATION OF THE ORSPI: AN OBSERVATIONAL RATING SCALE OF PARENTAL INTERACTIONS WITH THEIR INFANTS

H. Daynes¹, C. Beer¹, S. Johnson², A. Mitchell¹, C. Glazebrook¹

¹Psychiatry, University of Nottingham, Nottingham, ²Health Sciences, University of Leicester, Leicester, UK

Background and aims: The quality of early mother-infant interaction predicts infant developmental outcomes and is an important target for intervention. This study aims to further establish the reliability and validity of the Observational Rating Scale of Parental Interactions (ORSPI) as a measure of mother-infant interaction.

Method:

(I) Videos of 23 mothers interacting with their term-born three month old infant were rated using the ORSPI. Scores were compared to a matched group of 23 mothers with very preterm (VP; < 32 weeks) infants.

(II) For 43 mother VP infant dyads, neonatal data were collected at discharge and mother-infant interactions were rated using the ORSPI at 3 months corrected age (CA). Infants' motor (PDI) and cognitive (MDI) development at 2 years CA was assessed using the Bayley Scales of Infant Development-II. Thirteen interactions were re-rated by a second rater to establish inter-rater reliability for the ORSPI.

Results:

(I) Term dyads' ORSPI scores (median=10) were higher than VP dyads' (median=8) ($p=0.03$).

(II) ORSPI scores significantly correlated with MDI ($r=0.40$) and PDI scores ($r=0.62$). Regression analyses found infant health (number of days ventilated) ($p=0.03$) and ORSPI scores ($p=0.001$) accounted for 40% of variance in PDI scores. Days ventilated ($p=0.001$) and ORSPI scores ($p=0.07$) accounted for 35% of variance in MDI scores. Inter-rater agreement was high (Intraclass Correlation = 0.86).

Conclusions: The ORSPI has good criterion-related validity, predicting developmental outcomes and discriminating between term and pre-term infants. Inter-rater reliability was excellent supporting its strengths as a simple measure of early mother-infant interaction.