

## **Symposium: The Toddler Care Index**

Chaired by Philip Hazell and featuring Jane King, Renate Doppel and Karen Raine

Philip Hazell is Conjoint Professor of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Sydney Medical School and Director of Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services for the Sydney Local Health District (Australia). Professor Hazell current research focuses on adolescent development, the longitudinal course of disorders such as ADHD and bipolar disorder, and the systematic review of treatment effectiveness for autism, deliberate self harm and depression. He has been learning about the TCI as a potential research tool and as a means to broaden is clinical awareness.

### **1. The Toddler Care-Index using a Frustration Task**

#### **Presenter: Jane King**

Jane King has many years of experience as a home visitor working for families with young children. She currently works for a Family Advocacy Program for military families in the Seattle area. Jane has been studying DMM theory and assessment after seeing Dr. Patricia Crittenden present on attachment as adaptation at an NCAST conference in 2007. Ms King has since taken several assessment courses and is a trainer for the Infant CARE-Index and the Preschool Attachment Assessment. She is currently working towards completion of licensure for marriage and family therapy and plans to work as a therapist in her community specializing in attachment and family treatment. She plans to use the knowledge gained from studying DMM attachment assessments to compassionately understand the complexities of life and to consistently work towards systems change within families and in the larger communities which effect families.

### **2. Application of the Toddler Care Index with dyads in contact with child protection services.**

#### **Presenter: Renate Doppel**

Renate Doppel is head of a private institution that has a contract with the government (child protection service) In Austria. Her service works with high risk families (similar to the concept of Selma Fraiberg – counselling at the kitchen-table) in their homes to increase the parents' sensitivity. The aim is always that the children can stay in their families and develop satisfying relationships.

### **3. The Toddler Care-Index using a Frustration Task**

#### **Presenter: Karen Raine**

Karen Raine is Perinatal & Infant Program Manager with MH-Children and Young People, a division of the Mental Health and Drug & Alcohol Office within the New South Wales Ministry of Health in Australia. She has been developing her skills in the application of the TCI alongside a suite of other DMM assessment tools. Karen is presently undertaking a PhD with the University of Sydney, examining better ways to identify, during pregnancy, mothers at risk of subsequent attachment difficulties with their infants.

The Toddler Care Index (TCI) rates the videotape of a 3-5 minute naturalistic interaction between toddler and caregiver, using the classification outlined in the Dynamic Maturational Model. Recent iterations of the TCI include an instruction to the caregiver to introduce a frustration to the task or activity.

#### Objectives

1. Attendees will understand the operational aspects of obtaining a videotaped interaction suitable for rating the TCI
2. The impacts on the child, caregiver and rater of the introduction of the frustration task
3. The clinical applications of the tool