Emerging Self-Regulation in Toddlers Born Preterm: Parenting, Temperament or Differential Susceptibility?

Julie Poehlmann, A.J. Schlechtem, Rebecca Skidmore, Emily Hatt, Jon-Paul Blanchard, Rachael Warnott, Brianne Friberg

Department of Human Development and Family Studies, University of Wisconsin–Madison

Department of Child Psychology, University of Minnesota

1 School of Social Work, University of Wisconsin–Madison

More than 500,000 babies were born preterm in the United States in 2004 and approximately 33% of these infants are at risk for developmental and behavioral problems. One of the goals of research is to identify the mechanisms that affect the development of self-regulation in this population. In this study, we sought to determine whether relationships between parenting and self-regulation are moderated by infant temperament.

For this report, data were drawn from 118 families recruited from 3 medical centers. Toddler self-regulation was assessed using 5 tasks adapted from SD. Sixty-one mothers completed the BSID II, which is a widely used standardized test of infant cognitive development. The BSID II was administered to 24-month old toddlers.

Bayley Scales for Infant Development (BSID II) – Mental Development Index (MDI).

The outcomes of interest (toddler self-regulation, behavior problems, and cognitive development) were assessed at 24 months via Kochanska et al.’s (2000) Parent–Child Relationship Questionnaire. At 16 months, dyads completed a laboratory visit which included the Bayley Scales of Infant Development. The outcomes of interest (toddler self-regulation, behavior problems, and cognitive development) were assessed at 24 months via Kochanska et al.’s (2000) Parent–Child Relationship Questionnaire. At 16 months, dyads completed a laboratory visit which included the Bayley Scales of Infant Development.

The outcomes of interest (toddler self-regulation, behavior problems, and cognitive development) were assessed at 24 months via Kochanska et al.’s (2000) Parent–Child Relationship Questionnaire. At 16 months, dyads completed a laboratory visit which included the Bayley Scales of Infant Development.

For infants born preterm or low birthweight, does early intervention matter? Does early intervention matter for infants born preterm or low birthweight?

For infants born preterm or low birthweight, does early intervention matter? Does early intervention matter for infants born preterm or low birthweight?

For infants born preterm or low birthweight, does early intervention matter? Does early intervention matter for infants born preterm or low birthweight?

For infants born preterm or low birthweight, does early intervention matter? Does early intervention matter for infants born preterm or low birthweight?