

Poly Kids - a parent training program to support parents of preschool children with developmental delay

Submission date 05/11/2015	Recruitment status No longer recruiting	<input type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered
Registration date 23/11/2015	Overall study status Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
Last Edited 09/04/2021	Condition category Mental and Behavioural Disorders	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Results
		<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data

Plain English summary of protocol

Background and study aims

Being a parent is full of challenges and dealing with a child with behaviour problems can be stressful. It is well recognized, however, that there is an association between positive parenting strategies and positive child outcomes. Many studies indicate that group parent training programs for parents of children with developmental delay can lead to reduction of child behavior problems and parental stress, as well as improvement in child development. The Poly Kids program is a parent training program for parents of preschool children with developmental delay. It consists of 16 weekly sessions for parents of children with developmental delay, equipping them with the skills and knowledge in improving their relationship with their child and managing their behavior, as well as develop strategies to promote their child's learning, language, fine and gross motor (movement) skills.

Who can participate?

Parents of children aged between 2 years, 9 months to 4 years, 6 months identified as not developing at what would be considered a normal pace.

What does the study involve?

Participants are randomly assigned to two groups, one of which is then immediately offered the Poly Kids program (intervention group). The other group (waitlist control group) is offered the Poly Kids program once the intervention group have completed the program. The Poly Kids program is made up of 16 weekly sessions for parents. Each session lasts for two hours and includes a lecture on a particular topic, role play and homework. The participants' children are tested on their learning, language, fine and gross motor skills by educational psychologists, speech therapists, occupational therapists and physiotherapists before the program begins and after it ends. Participants are also asked to complete questionnaires on their children's behavior and their parenting stress before and after the program.

What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?

Participation in the study will enable parents to gain knowledge and strategies to improve the relationship with their child, manage their child's behavior and promote their child's learning,

language, fine and gross motor skills. The results of the study can also provide important information on effective services for families with children with development delay. There is no known physical, psychological or social risk associated with participation in the program. The program content and the assessment used have been used previously with children and family. All assessment information will be kept confidential and only group results will be reported.

Where is the study run from?

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (Hong Kong)

When is the study starting and how long is it expected to run for?

March 2015 to June 2017

Who is funding the study?

Food and Health Bureau (Hong Kong)

Who is the main contact?

Professor Cynthia Leung

Contact information

Type(s)

Scientific

Contact name

Prof Cynthia Leung

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Contact details

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

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Additional identifiers

Protocol serial number

N/A

Study information

Scientific Title

Poly Kids – a multi-disciplinary parent training program to support parents of preschool children with developmental delay

Study objectives

At post-intervention, the intervention group will report improvement in child learning, language skills, fine and gross motor skills, and decrease in child behavior problems and parenting stress

Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University Human Subjects Ethics Application Review System, 03/11/2015, ref: HSEARS20141107001-02

Study design

Single-centre intervention study using randomized controlled trial design

Primary study design

Interventional

Study type(s)

Treatment

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Developmental delay

Interventions

The intervention program (Poly Kids program) consists of 16 weekly parent training sessions on understanding and accepting child condition, parent-child relationship, child management such as increasing appropriate behavior and management of inappropriate behavior, developmental milestones in language, communication, fine and gross motor functions, strategies to promote child learning, preschool concepts and language skills.

Under the supervision of the investigators, the program will be designed and delivered by a project team of professionals including educational psychologists (EP), speech therapists (ST), physiotherapists (PT) and occupational therapists (OT). Each session lasts for two hours and consists of revision of previous session's content and homework, mini lecture on the topic to be covered, explanation and demonstration of homework of the week and role play on the homework of the week. Parents are supplied with homework activities to work with their children at home during the week. In two of the sessions, the children will attend together with the parents and the professionals will coach the parents in skills on working with their children on preschool concepts, language, fine and gross motor skills.

The control group is a waitlist control group. While the intervention group is attending the intervention program, the waitlist control group is not offered any service though they can access available services in the community provided by the government and other non-governmental organizations. The waitlist control group will be offered the Poly Kids program upon the completion of the program by the intervention group.

Both groups will be assessed on child learning, child behavior, child language skills, child fine and gross motor skills, and parenting stress before the after program completion by the intervention group.

Intervention Type

Behavioural

Primary outcome(s)

1. Child behavior by parent report questionnaire
2. Child learning by standardized assessment
3. Child language skills by standardized assessment
4. Child fine motor skills by standardized assessment
5. Child gross motor skills by standardized assessment

Key secondary outcome(s)

Parenting stress by parent report questionnaires

Completion date

30/06/2017

Eligibility**Key inclusion criteria**

1. Parents of children with global developmental delay (between 1 to 2 standard deviations below the mean on developmental assessment)
2. Children should be aged between 2 years 9 months to 4.5 years at the commencement of the program
3. Children and parents should be Cantonese-speaking or can understand Cantonese
4. Parents and children should be normally living in HK
5. Parents should be living with the target children

Participant type(s)

Carer

Healthy volunteers allowed

No

Age group

Adult

Sex

All

Total final enrolment

218

Key exclusion criteria

1. Parents of children with significant physical, hearing, or vision impairment
2. Parents of children with confirmed diagnosis of autism or autistic features with severe disruptive behaviour

Date of first enrolment

01/05/2015

Date of final enrolment

30/09/2016

Locations

Countries of recruitment

Hong Kong

Study participating centre

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Hung Hom

Kowloon

Hong Kong

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Sponsor information

Organisation

Food and Health Bureau

ROR

<https://ror.org/03qh32912>

Funder(s)

Funder type

Government

Funder Name

Food and Health Bureau

Alternative Name(s)

Food and Health Bureau of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, ,
FHB

Funding Body Type

Government organisation

Funding Body Subtype

National government

Location

Hong Kong

Results and Publications

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

IPD sharing plan summary

Not expected to be made available

Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
Results article		10/10/2019	13/05/2020	Yes	No
Participant information sheet	Participant information sheet	11/11/2025	11/11/2025	No	Yes