

Group based parenting programmes for improving parental psychosocial health and the health of their children

Research Question(s)

- **What are the effective* group-based parenting programmes for improving parental psychosocial health and the health of their children?**
 - **Population:** Parents and carers with children under the age of 18. The programme is particularly interested in the following groups: parents of children under 5 years, or adolescents; fathers; parents who may be less likely to access and engage in parenting programmes. Particular groups of parents may be studied, chosen according to demographics, make-up of families, wellbeing or other relevant characteristics.
 - **Intervention (non-NHS):** Parenting programmes, including behavioural, cognitive-behavioural and multimodal interventions.
 - **Comparator:** Non provision/usual practice.
 - **Outcomes:** Measures of both parental and child health related to psychosocial health of parents and the health of their children. Differential engagement and effectiveness is of interest, for example, related to parent or family characteristics.
 - **Duration of follow up:** Researchers to specify and justify. Researchers should indicate how long term impact will be assessed.
 - **Impact on inequalities:** Research should consider the impact of the intervention on health inequalities.
 - **Design:** Primary research, including a health economic evaluation, where relevant.
 - **Setting:** Researchers to specify and justify.
 - **Public engagement:** Proposals should incorporate a mechanism for public involvement.

*'Effectiveness' in this context relates not only to the size of the effect, but it also takes into account any harmful or negative side effects, including inequitable outcomes.

Background to commissioning brief:

Parental psychosocial health can have a significant effect on the parent-child relationship, with consequences for the later psychological health of the child. Barlow *et al.* (2014) conducted a systematic review which supports the use of parenting programmes to improve the short-term psychosocial wellbeing of parents. However, research is needed that explicitly addresses the benefits for fathers, and that provides evidence of the effectiveness of different types of programme across the diversity of parents.

Barlow J, Smailagic N, Huband N, Roloff V, Bennett C. Group-based parent training programmes for improving parental psychosocial health. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Internet]. 2014; (5). Available from: <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/14651858.CD002020.pub4/abstract>

Remit of Call:

All proposals submitted under this call must fall within the remit of the Public Health Research programme. Please go to www.nets.nihr.ac.uk/programmes/phr/remit for details.

General Notes:

The PHR programme evaluates public health interventions, providing new knowledge on the benefits, costs, acceptability and wider impacts of non-NHS interventions intended to improve the health of the public and reduce inequalities in health. The scope of the programme is multi-disciplinary and broad, covering a range of interventions that improve public health delivered in a non-NHS setting.

Notes to Applicants

The NIHR Public Health Research programme is funded by the NIHR, with contributions from the CSO in Scotland, Health and Care Research Wales, and HSC R&D, Public Health Agency, Northern Ireland. Researchers in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland are eligible to apply for funding under this programme.

Applicants are recommended to seek advice from suitable methodological support services, at an appropriate stage in the development of their research idea and application. It is advisable to make contact at an early a stage as possible to allow sufficient time for discussion and a considered response.

The NIHR Research Design Service

(<http://www.nihr.ac.uk/research/Pages/ResearchDesignService.aspx>) can advise on appropriate NIHR programme choice, and developing and designing high quality research grant applications.

Clinical Trials Units are regarded as an important component of many trial applications however, they are not essential for all types of studies to the PHR programme. The CTUs can advise and participate throughout the process from initial idea development through to project delivery and reporting. NIHR CTU Support Funding (http://www.netscc.ac.uk/supporting_research/CTUs) provides information on units receiving funding from the NIHR to collaborate on research applications to NIHR programmes and funded projects. In addition, the UKCRC CTU Network (<http://www.ukcrc-ctu.org.uk>) provides a searchable information resource on all registered units in the UK, and lists key interest areas and contact information.

Transparency agenda

In line with the government's transparency agenda, any contract resulting from this tender may be published in its entirety to the general public. Further information on the transparency agenda is at:

<http://transparency.number10.gov.uk/>

http://www.ogc.gov.uk/policy_and_standards_framework_transparency.asp

<http://www.contractsfinder.businesslink.gov.uk/>