# Triple P Research New Zealand Perspectives

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# Overview

- About the Parenting Research Group
- Key Research Findings
- Work in Progress
- Future Directions

# The Parenting Research Group

- History:
  - Began August 2008 as the Triple P Research Group
- What we do:
  - Conduct research into the role of parenting and family-based interventions in the prevention and treatment of social, emotional, educational and health problems in children and adolescents
  - Special interest and expertise in research relating to the Triple P-Positive Parenting Programme

### The Parenting Research Group Who we are

#### Staff

- Professor Matthew Sanders
- Dr Louise Keown
- Dr Pat Bullen
- Dr Jenny Vaydich

#### Associate Researchers

- Dr Erana Cooper
- Dr Cassy Dittman
- Dr Sue Farruggia

#### Doctoral Students

- Joanna Chu
- Tenille Frank
- Nike Franke
- Melanie Palmer

# **Research Themes and Projects**

Key Themes: Features of the Triple P Model	Key Projects	
Flexible delivery	◆Triple P Online	
<ul> <li>Using consumer preference data to tailor programmes effectively</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Father engagement</li> </ul>	
Programme variants to meet the needs of different parents	Teen Triple P for parents of teens	
Cost-effective programmes that reach many parents	Topic-specific parent discussion groups	
✤Cultural relevance	Triple P for Māori Whānau	

## **Theme: Flexible Delivery Modalities**

- Several levels of Triple P can be delivered in a variety of formats
- This flexibility allows families to participate in ways that suit their circumstances
- E.g. Self-directed programmes
  - Triple P Online
  - Every Parent's Self-Help workbook

# The benefits of self-directed programmes



Own home, own pace

No logistical barriers

Reduce stigma of accessing support

They work!

Is Triple P Online as effective as the Every Parent's Self-Help workbook?

### New Zealand Triple P Online Trial

- Comparison of the new Triple P Online with the existing Every Parent's Self-Help Workbook
- RCT comparing effects on child behaviour and parenting
- Participants
  - *N* = 192 (TPOL = 97, Workbook = 95)
  - Recruited from around New Zealand
- Target child
  - 3 to 8 years (mean = 5.64 years)
  - 87% with clinical level conduct problems

### The self-directed options

#### Every Parent's Self–Directed Workbook

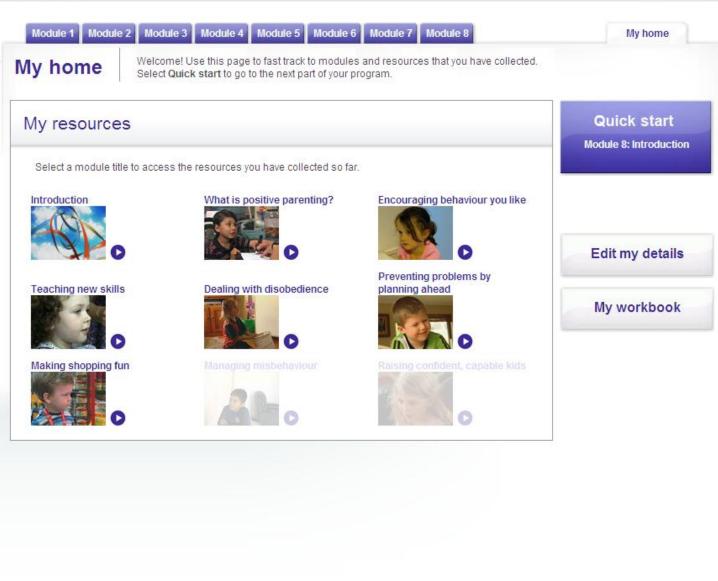
 10-module programme involving readings, exercises, and structured practice sessions

#### Triple P Online

- Designed to be highly interactive and engaging
- User-friendly interface and navigation
- Audiovisual presentation of information and strategies
- Goal-setting and exercises for checking mastery
- Downloadable tip sheets, monitoring forms, podcasts
- Customisable and printable parent workbook
- Review and reminder strategies

#### Welcome Cassy





Log out

# **Key Findings**

Triple P Online is equivalent in its effectiveness to the Every Parent's Self-Help Workbook

#### > Both groups showed

Significant decreases in child behaviour problems and dysfunctional parenting practices

Comparable effectiveness of both programmes = choice for parents and services

# **Key Findings**

- What predicts TPOL outcomes?
- Best predictor of child behaviour and parenting outcomes was number of TPOL sessions completed
  - Points to the importance of identifying and testing strategies to maximise retention
    - Possible strategies:
      - Adjunctive professional support (e.g., by telephone, Skype, or online messaging)

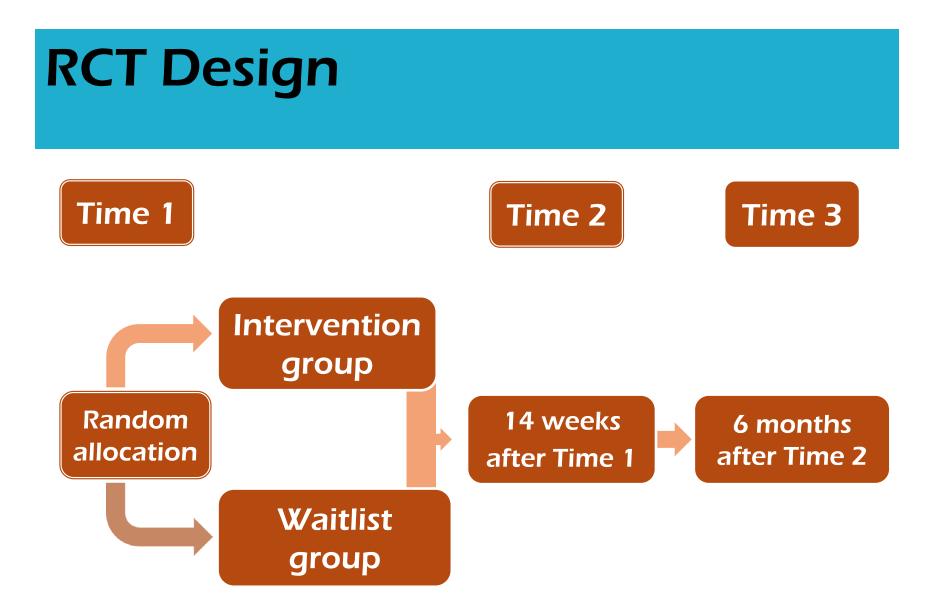
### New Triple P Online Study

 Triple P Online for parents of hyperactive/inattentive pre-schoolers

# An RCT of Triple P Online for parents of hyperactive/inattentive pre-schoolers

Franke, Keown & Sanders (in progress)

- Hyperactive/inattentive behaviour problems in children can lead to parenting stress and negative parent-child interactions
- No self-help parenting programme has been tested in this population
- Investigating the effectiveness of Triple P Online in reducing child hyperactive/ inattentive behaviour; decreasing parenting stress and dysfunctional parenting
- Two telephone consultations are included to maximise retention



New Zealand wide recruitment. 65 families sought

# Theme: Using consumer preference data

- Father engagement in Group Triple P
  - Example of using consumer preference data to tailor programme content

# An RCT of Group Triple P for fathers and mothers

Frank, Keown, Sanders (in prep)

- Behavioural family interventions (BFIs) produce lasting improvements in child conduct problems and associated family risk factors
- Low rates of father participation in BFIs
- When fathers are included, there are inconsistent findings for programme effectiveness and satisfaction, and adherence is often problematic

# Group Triple P for fathers and mothers

- This study took extra steps to engage fathers
  - Consumer-informed advertising and programme content
    - Father survey and focus group data
- Improved on past research
  - Included both parents in all aspects of the programme and data collection
    - E.g. Screening interviews, group and phone support sessions
  - Included a wait-list comparison group, collected 6month follow-up data

# An RCT of Group Triple P for fathers and mothers

Parents of children with conduct problems (42 families)

	Post Intervention Improvements	Maintained 6 months later
Parenting Practices (PS) Fathers	✓	$\checkmark$
Mothers	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
Father-rated child behaviour (ECBI)	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
Mother-rated child behaviour (ECBI)	$\checkmark$	

High programme attendance and satisfaction for both parents

# Group Triple P for fathers and mothers: Lessons learned

Findings highlight the potential benefits of efforts to engage both fathers and mothers for programme adherence, satisfaction, and effectiveness



# Theme: Programme variants to meet the needs of different parents Parents of teens

### Teen Triple P

- Small amount of research shows that parenting programmes can bring about positive changes in adolescent behaviour, parenting, and the parent-adolescent relationship (Ralph et al.)
- More evidence needed to support large-scale implementation of parenting programmes for parents of adolescents.
- Multi-informant approach: Few studies include adolescent reported outcomes. This study collected data from parents and teens.

#### Teen Triple P

Parent and Adolescent Effects of a Universal Group Program for Parenting Adolescents (Chu, Bullen, Farruggia, Dittman, & Sanders, under review)

#### Aim

- To compare the effectiveness of the Group Teen Triple
   P (GTTP) with a Care as Usual (CAU) control condition
- Sample
  - 69 families with concerns about the behaviour of their adolescent (12-15 years)
- Random assignment to either
  - Care as Usual (CAU)
    - Receive their usual services
  - Group Teen Triple P (GTTP)
    - 8 week programme (5 x 2-hour group session, 3 x 15minute telephone sessions)

# Teen Triple P

	Post Intervention Improvements	Maintained 6 months later
Mother-reported outcomes		
<ul> <li>Family relationships</li> </ul>	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
Parenting practices	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
Adolescent problem behaviour	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
Adolescent-reported outcomes		
<ul> <li>Family relationships</li> </ul>	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
<ul> <li>Perceived parental monitoring</li> </ul>	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$

# **Key Contribution**

The study provides empirical support for the efficacy of Group Teen Triple P as a universally offered intervention for parents who have concerns about the behaviour and adjustment of their adolescent

# Theme: Cost-effective programmes that reach many parents

- Low intensity programmes, such as brief discussion groups, are a cost effective way of meeting the needs of parents with specific concerns about their child's behaviour
- Topic-specific parent discussion groups have been developed
- This study is investigating the question:
  - How many discussion group sessions are sufficient for behaviour change?
    - One-off discussion group vs a series of four discussion groups

### Brief discussion groups

Palmer, Keown, Sanders, Henderson (work in progress) Brief group parenting interventions: How many group sessions are sufficient for behaviour change?

- Level 3 Triple P intervention
- > 2-hour discussion group session
- Target audience = Parents with a child aged between 5 and 8 years showing elevated levels of conduct problems
  - 39 families have participated. More families to be recruited.

### Intervention conditions

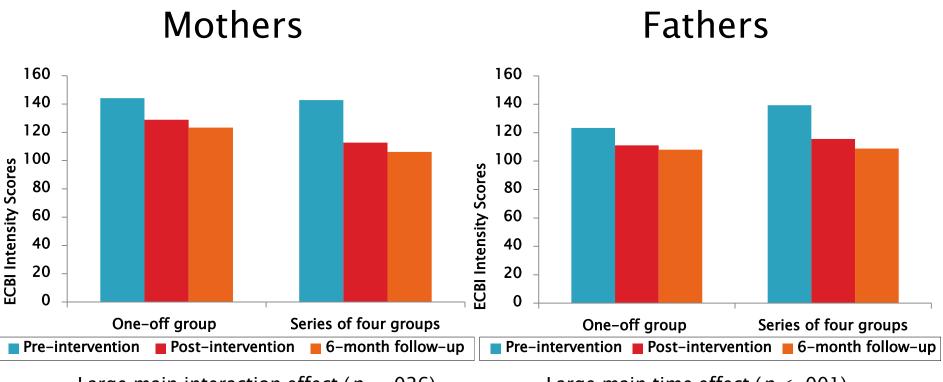
#### One-off group condition

 'Dealing with Disobedience' group

# Series of four groups condition

- 'Dealing with Disobedience' and 'Being a Positive Parent' groups
- Choose two out of the following three groups to attend:
  - 'Fighting and Aggression'
  - 'Building Self–Esteem'
  - 'Doing Chores'

# Effects on child behaviour



Large main interaction effect (p = .026)

Large main time effect (p < .001)

# Preliminary Trends

- A one-off discussion group appears to be just as beneficial as a series of group sessions for improving parenting style and parenting self-efficacy
- Attending a series of groups may have added benefits for reducing child behaviour problems

### Theme: Cultural relevance

 Seek consumer input to ensure the cultural relevance and acceptability of the Triple P Positive Parenting Program

# Cultural relevance and acceptability

- Work with Māori partner to assess the cultural acceptability of Primary Care Triple P to Māori whānau (Cooper, Sanders, Keown, Bullen et al.)
- Aim: Adapt Primary Care Triple P to better reflect tikanga and Māori values where indicated
  - Methods: Focus group work to assess acceptability to Māori mothers, fathers, and whānau of:
    - The core parenting principles and specific strategies
    - Methods of engagement and delivery used in Primary Care Triple P

Funded by the Ministry of Health

# Cultural relevance and acceptability

- Focus group work to assess acceptability of methods of delivery used in Primary Care Triple P to service providers working with Māori whānau
- Evaluate the efficacy of a culturally adapted trial version of Primary Care Triple P with 100 Māori parents of children in the 3-7 year age range

# Cultural acceptability of the Triple P Positive Parenting Programme

- Korean immigrant families
  - Mixed methods approach
    - Survey and focus groups
  - To gain information on specific parenting challenges, parent-child relationships, and acculturative stress
  - To obtain feedback on the cultural acceptability, usefulness of the parenting strategies, and potential barriers to accessing the Triple P Positive Parenting Program
  - Information gained may used to tailor programme content to better meet the needs of these parents

# Future Research Directions

- New Teen Triple P Online Programme
- An evaluation of the effectiveness of a comprehensive multi-component homeschool-based intervention to reduce bullying victimisation and to increase mental health and academic outcomes for New Zealand primary school children
  - Resilience Triple P Program
  - Teacher and parent components to reduce bullying and build resilience in children

# Thank you for your attention

Further information about the Parenting Research Group: www.prg.auckland.ac.nz