



Teresa (Terry) Bennett, MD, FRCP(C), PhD



HEALTH SCIENCES
Psychiatry & Behavioural
Neurosciences

Research Work

My research covers two overarching subjects within child mental health and development: Prevention and longitudinal follow-up studies. We currently have two prevention studies ongoing – the first is a targeted community-based randomized controlled trial of “the Family Check-Up”, a brief family management intervention aimed at prevention mental health problems in children aged 2-4 years old. In the second, we are testing the feasibility of the Family Check-Up, with potential adaptations, for families of school-aged children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD), aimed at reducing behaviour problems, improving family well-being and preventing the onset of emotional and behaviour difficulties during the adolescent years. I also work with a McMaster and Canada-wide team of researchers on the “Pathways in ASD” study – the largest cohort study of its kind to follow children with ASD diagnosed at a young age into their adolescent years. We are investigating risk and protective factors for health and developmental outcomes to see what helps children and youth with ASD and their families grow and thrive.

Engagement Opportunities

Introductory Level

- Assist postdoctoral fellows as a second reviewer for systematic reviews involving parenting interventions (20-50 hrs)
- Assist with data entry (20-50 hrs)
- Occupying and playing with children (participants and siblings) during assessments or to support clinicians offering the Family Check-Up within home (10+ hrs)
- Helping with recruitment for FCU study (20 hrs)
- Conduct a systematic literature search for relevant articles (10 hours)

Intermediate Level

- Conducting the assessments for clinic-based FCU studies (videotaped parent-child tasks) (50 hrs)
- Coding parent-child videotaped interactions (assessing parenting skills and child behaviour) – (50 hrs)
- Writing a section of a research paper (10-20 hrs)
- Aiding with qualitative interviews of clinicians and participants (20 hrs)
- Become trained and administer observational caregiver sensitivity tasks – (100 hrs)

Advanced Level

- Analyze Pathways data for paper (35 hrs)
- Perform secondary data analysis and write manuscript (100 hrs)
- Complete systematic review and write-up (100 hrs)

If you are interested in learning more, please leave your contact information with the Research Office and/or contact Dr. Bennett at bennett@hhsc.ca