

# NAVIGATING RISK IN HOME VISITATION: AN EXAMINATION OF THE PREDICTIVE VALIDITY OF THE HEALTHY FAMILIES PARENTING INVENTORY

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# AGENDA

FROM A TO Z

1. Motivation and approach
2. Overview of findings
3. Implications for practice
4. Next steps...

# BACKDROP OF HOME VISITATION

## HARNESSING MEASUREMENT TO EXPAND CAPACITY

- National maltreatment trends suggest prevention efforts should target families with young children facing issues of neglect<sup>1</sup>
- Home visitation programs are an avenue through which a considerable number of at-risk families interface with social service programs
- Families in home visitation programming often present with wide variation in risk level, however there is limited capacity to classify families by level of future risk<sup>2,3,4</sup>



# FINDING THE SIGNAL IN THE NOISE

## RISK ASSESSMENT IN HOME VISITATION: WHAT WE KNOW (AND WHAT WE DON'T)

- Using assessment instruments to understand future risk began in the public child welfare system, however instruments used for this purpose are not uncommon in home visitation programs
- There is wide variation in the use of outcome measures in home visitation programs, creating complications for practitioners in determining clinically relevant indicators, predicting a family's level of risk for future abuse and neglect, and difficulty in judging the effectiveness of these programs<sup>5</sup>
- In home visitation programs the practitioner must be able to easily decipher the signal from the noise among a large case load of at-risk families. Using measurements that can predict risk can help

# HFPI CHARACTERISTICS

TOTAL SCORE, SUBSCALE DOMAINS, RISK AND PROTECTIVE FACTORS

HFPI Domain

*Social Support*

5 Items

*Problem Solving*

6 Items

*Depression*

9 Items

*Personal Care*

5 Items

*Mobilizing Resources*

6 Items

*Role Satisfaction*

6 Items

*Parent-Child Interaction*

10 Items

*Home Environment*

10 Items

*Parenting Efficacy*

6 Items

63 Items

Cronbach's  
Alpha  
.76-.92

7  
Red Flag  
Indicators

10  
Strength  
Indicators

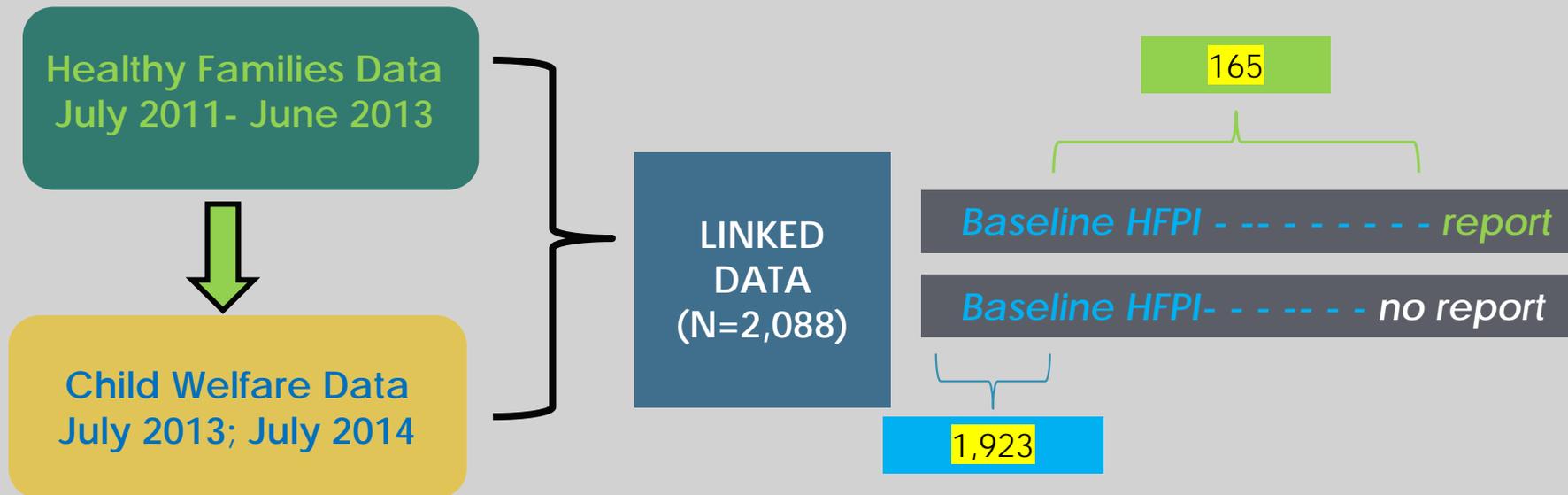
# RESEARCH AIMS

## CUMULATIVE RISK AND SUBSCALE EXPLORATION

- Predictive validity of the HFPI total composite score and risk levels
- Predictive validity of the 9 subscales of the HFPI
- Predictive validity of the red flag and strength indicator items of the HFPI

# METHODOLOGY

## PROSPECTIVE STUDY DESIGN WITH RETROSPECTIVE DATA



# PREDICTIVE VALIDITY

EXPANDED PREDICTIVE VALIDITY OF THE HFPI COMPOSITE SCORE, RISK CLASSIFICATION AND SUBSCALE DOMAINS

Logistic Regression	Odds Ratio	P-Value
Model 1: HFPI Total Score	1.01	<.05
Model 2: HFPI Risk Classifications	1.64	<.01
Model 3: HFPI Subscale Domains		
Personal Care	1.07	<.05
Parenting Efficacy	1.07	<.05
Model 4: Risk Factor Subscale	1.01	<.01
Model 5: Strength Factor Subscale	1.04	<.01

# LIMITATIONS

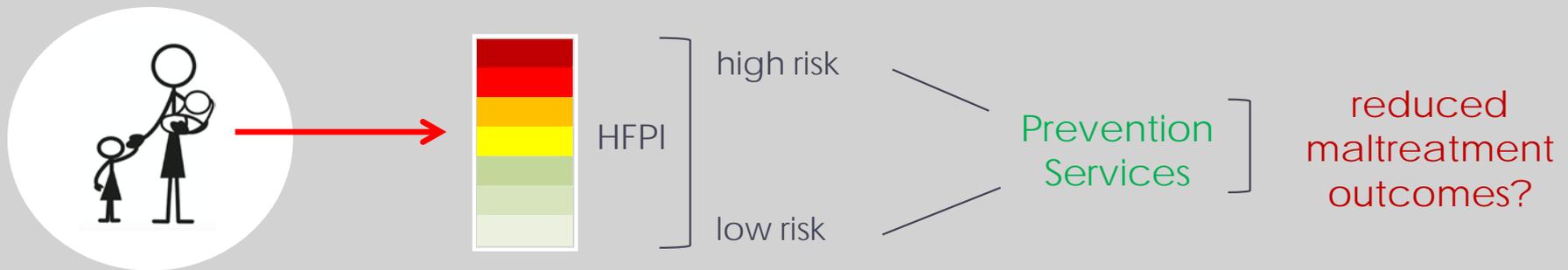
## SECONDARY DATA, INTERVENTION EFFECTS, AND OUTCOME MEASUREMENT DRIVE STUDY LIMITATIONS

- Sampling strategy limited generalizability of findings across diverse families
- Secondary data limited questions that could be asked and analytic strategies
- Measurement of a report of maltreatment limits our full understanding of the occurrence of maltreatment among at-risk families
- Potential for treatment effects given enrollment in a home visitation intervention

# IMPLICATIONS FOR PRACTICE

CAN WE USE RISK LEVEL TO DETERMINE WHO GETS WHAT?

- The findings demonstrate that the HFPI can be used to predict a family's risk of future child maltreatment with the potential to assist home visitors in using data to drive practice and better understand outcomes by risk level



- Opportunities for building evidence in child welfare interventions across the field by focusing on how we use measurement in practice to support home visitors and accurately measure outcomes during examination of programmatic outcomes

# FUTURE DIRECTIONS

## FURTHER VALIDATION EFFORTS AND EXPANSION OF RISK ASSESSMENT IN HOME VISITATION

- Further HFPI investigation to identify areas of support for home visitors
- Conduct outcome evaluations for children at various levels of risk receiving targeted services
- Experimentation with variation in intervention dosage and service provision by risk level



QUESTIONS?

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# REFERENCES

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- <sup>2</sup> Duggan, A., Caldera, D., Rodriguez, K., Burrell, L., Rhode, C., & Crowne, S. (2007). Impact of a statewide home visiting program to prevent child abuse. *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 31(8), 801-827.
- <sup>3</sup> Sweet, M. A., & Appelbaum. (2009). Is home visiting an effective strategy? A meta-analytic review of home visiting programs for families with young children. *Child Development*, 75(5), 1435-1456.
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- <sup>5</sup> Ogles, B. M., Lambert, M. J., & Fields, S. A. (2002). *Essentials of outcome assessment*. New York, NY: Wiley.