

The early years: child well-being and the role of public policy

The British Academy
10-11, Carlton House Terrace, London, SW1Y 5AH

9 and 10 June 2016

Day 1

- 9.00 Registration
9.20 Orazio Attanasio (UCL & EDePo@IFS), Norbert Schady (IDB):
Introduction
9.35 Maggie Snowling (St John's College, Oxford): *Welcome and opening
the conference*

Session 1: Parenting 1

- 10:00 Sally Grantham-McGregor (UCL): *“Early Childhood Interventions:
Issues when planning to go to scale”*
10:30 Karen Macours (Paris School of Economics): *“Text messages,
behavioral changes, and spillovers in early childhood”* (joint with
Oscar Barrera, Patrick Premand and Renos Vakis)
11:00 Scott Rozelle (Stanford) *“With the One-Child Policy gone, does China
need a 50 million child policy? Nutrition, parenting and cognition of
rural infants and toddlers”* (joint with Sean Sylvia)
11:30 Discussant & questions: Alan Stein (Oxford)

12:00 Lunch

Session 2: Early Schooling 1

- 13:00 J. Lawrence Aber (NYU): *“Quality preschool for Ghana: Advancing
research methods to support policy change”* (joint with Jere
Behrman and Sharon Wolf)
13:30 Sonya Krutikova (EDePo@IFS): *“Improving the quality of centre-
based care in Colombia”* (joint with Alison Andrew, Orazio
Attanasio, Raquel Bernal and Marta Rubio-Codina)
14:00 Norbert Schady (IDB): *“Peer effects in early education”* (joint with
Pedro Carneiro and Yyannu Cruz-Aguayo)
14:30 Discussant & questions: Sarah Cattan (IFS)

15:00 Coffee

Session 3: Parenting 2

- 15:15 M. Caridad Araujo (IDB): *"Home visiting at scale: The evaluation of Peru's Cuna Mas program"* (joint with Marta Rubio-Codina, Fabiola Lazarte, and Norbert Schady)
- 15:45 Pedro Carneiro (UCL & EDePo@IFS): *"Measuring impacts of a large scale parenting program in Chile"* (joint with Paula Bedregal, Miguel Cordero, Emanuela Galasso, and Italo Lopez Garcia)
- 16:15 Costas Meghir (Yale & EDePo@IFS): *"Estimating the production function for human capital: Results from a randomized control trial in Colombia"* (joint with Orazio Attanasio, Sarah Cattan, Emla Fitzsimons, and Marta Rubio-Codina)
- 16:45 Discussant & questions: Pamela Jervis Ortiz (UCL)
- 17:15 Break**
- 17:30 Samuel Berlinski (IDB): *"Early childhood development in Latin America and the Caribbean"*.
- 18:00 Drinks & buffet dinner for all participants**

Day 2

Session 4: Early health and nutrition

- 09:00 Janet Currie (Princeton): *"Lead poisoning and juvenile delinquency"* (joint with Anna Aizer)
- 09:30 Gabriella Conti (UCL & EDePo@IFS): *"Before birth: prenatal investments and early development"*
- 10:00 Prashant Bharadwaj (UC San Diego): *"The effects of birth weight: what we (may) know and don't know"*
- 10:30 Discussant & questions: Jere Behrman (University of Pennsylvania)
- 11.00 Break**

Session 5: Early Schooling 2

- 11:15 Hiro Yoshikawa (NYU): *"Evaluation of dosage, implementation and continuous quality improvement in public preschool education in Chile"*. (joint with Mary C. Arbour)
- 11:45 Yyannú Cruz-Aguayo (IDB): *"Teacher quality and learning outcomes in kindergarten"* (joint with M. Caridad Araujo, Pedro Carneiro, and Norbert Schady)
- 12:15 Raquel Bernal (University of Los Andes): *"The aeioTU randomized trial: the effect of high-quality center-based care"* (joint with Milagros Nores)

12:45 Discussant & questions: Leon Feinstein (Early Intervention Foundation)

13:15 Lunch

Session 6: Measurement session

14:15 Flavio Cunha (Rice): *“Measuring the quality and the quantity of early investments in children”* (joint with Jennifer Culhane, Irma Elo, and Zoe Pham)

14:45 Marta Rubio-Codina (EDePo@IFS): *“Concurrent and predictive validity of short tests to measure early childhood development: evidence from Colombia and Ecuador”* (based on joint work with M. Caridad Araujo, Orazio Attanasio, Sally Grantham-McGregor, and Norbert Schady)

15:15 Discussion chaired by Essi Viding (UCL)

15:50 Break

16:00 Final Panel: *What’s next? Lessons for policy and key evidence gaps*
Chaired by Ian Diamond

Speakers: Orazio Attanasio (UCL & EDePo@IFS), Norbert Schady (IDB), Hiro Yoshikawa (NYU), Janet Currie (Princeton) and Lizzie Smith (DFID).

The closing session will draw on the material presented over the course of the conference and the expertise on the panel to highlight the main lessons from existing research and identify key evidence gaps hindering effective ECD policy design.

17:20 Closing remarks

17:30 Finish

Follow the conference on twitter as it happens at [@TheIFS](#) using hashtags [#EDePO](#) and [#EarlyYears](#). Selected videos and presentations will be posted over the two days.



We thank the British Academy for hosting this event.