

TABLE 1
LIST OF MEASURES USED IN THE 14-MONTH CHILD AND FAMILY ASSESSMENTS
EARLY HEAD START NATIONAL EVALUATION

Construct	Measures	Data Collection Method	Rationale
Parenting and the Home Environment			
Knowledge of child health and development	Knowledge of Infant Development Inventory (KIDI; 14 items from 12 month version) (Macphee 1981)	Parent Interview	Showed treatment effects in IHDP (24-month version)
Parental distress Parent-child dysfunctional interaction	Parenting Stress Index-Short Form (Parenting Stress and Parent-child Dysfunctional Interaction subscales) (Abidin 1995)	Parent Interview	Has shown treatment effects (K. Barnard, personal communication)
Quality of the home environment Reading and language activities	Home Observation for Measurement of the Environment (HOME) (Bradley and Caldwell 1984)	Parent Interview and Interviewer Observation	Related to child outcomes in large number of studies; comparability with many other child development studies
Parent-child activities (activities to encourage language development, literacy, physical activities and experiences of outside world)	Selected items adapted from the Adult Literacy Study (Snow 1991), Family Routines Questionnaire (Boyce et al. 1983) and MacArthur Communicative Development Inventory (gestures subscale) Whether family celebrates national holidays, religious holidays, and/or cultural holidays Whether family celebrated child's first birthday	Parent Interview	Important dimensions of parenting that EHS may affect
Separations from child	Ever separated overnight; number of separations lasting a week or more, total time separated, where child stayed, and reasons for separations	Parent Interview	Important mediator; may affect the parent-child relationship
Parental discipline--use of reasoning and developmentally appropriate approaches	Selected items adapted from the HOME (Bradley and Caldwell 1984), Infant Health and Development Program evaluation (Brooks-Gunn et al. 1995), and Hispanic HOME (Brooks-Gunn et al. 1996); vignettes and incidence of spanking in previous week	Parent Interview	Important dimensions of parenting that EHS may affect
Television viewing	Number of hours the television is on during a typical weekend day	Parent Interview	Important dimension of parenting that EHS may affect

TABLE 1 (continued)

Construct	Measures	Data Collection Method	Rationale
Parent-Child Relationship			
Parental sensitivity or insensitivity	Coded from videotaped child-mother tasks. Tasks include free play with 3 bags of toys, a teaching task, and one challenge task (high chair)	Videotaped/child-parent tasks.	Improving the parent-child relationship is a major focus of EHS programs and an important outcome measure.
Dyadic mutuality			
Child’s positive affect, negative affect, and anger toward parent			
Parent’s quality of assistance and supportive presence			
Parent’s Characteristics			
Parent’s depression	Center for Epidemiological Studies-Depression Scale (CES-D; Radloff 1977)	Parent Interview	Depressive symptoms is a mediator of child outcomes.
Parent’s mastery	Pearlin Mastery Scale (Pearlin et al. 1981)	Parent Interview	Previous research has found intervention effects and ability to distinguish among intervention groups (J. Robinson, personal communication).
Parent’s literacy	Selected items adapted from Adult Literacy Study (Snow 1991) on reading and degree of difficulty reading in English and home language	Parent Interview	Important mediator
Parent’s health	Medical outcomes study- health status	Parent Interview	Important mediator

TABLE 1 (continued)

Construct	Measures	Data Collection Method	Rationale
Relationship with Father (Or Other Parent)^a			
Demographic characteristics of father	Biological father's age at child's birth; father's current economic activity; father's education level.	Parent Interview	Important moderator
Biological father's involvement with pregnancy and birth	When biological father was informed of the pregnancy; whether father was present at birth; whether father visited the baby in the hospital; whether the father discussed the pregnancy with the mother, attended prenatal doctor visits, or attended childbirth classes.	Parent Interview	Important mediator and outcome of EHS
Relationship between mother and father	Mother's current relationship with biological father and father-figure Extent to which biological father and father-figure helps mother care for child on a typical day Whether mother has had contact with nonresident biological father since child was born How often mother talks to nonresident biological father about child How much influence nonresident biological father has in major decisions about the child Degree of conflict between mother and nonresident biological father about where child lives, how child is raised, how mother and father spend money on child, father's visits, and child support payments.	Parent Interview	Important mediator and outcome of EHS
Contact between child and father	Whether father lives with child and/or in household with mother and child How long father has lived with mother since child's birth Whether father has had any contact with child since birth How often child saw father in first three months of life How often child has seen father in previous three months How many miles away father lives How often father looked after child while mother did other things in past month.	Parent Interview	Important mediator and outcome of EHS
Child's activities with father	How frequently father has engaged in activities with child (reading, feeding, eating a meal, going outside, playing at home)	Parent Interview	Important mediator and outcome of EHS

TABLE 1 (continued)

Construct	Measures	Data Collection Method	Rationale
Nonresident biological father's support for child	How often father has helped buy toys, clothes, or presents for child; paid for medical insurance or care; or given the mother extra money to help out How often someone in the father's family has helped in ways specified above Whether the mother has a legal, an informal, or no child support agreement and date of agreement Monthly amount father is supposed to pay, and number of times father has paid under formal agreement	Parent Interview	Important mediator and outcome of EHS
Family Functioning			
Number of adults and children in family, and their relationship to focus child	Items developed by MPR	Parent Interview	Measures stability of child's environment and supports calculation of poverty status of household
Family routines around the child's bedtime (routine adherence and routine endorsement)	Selected items adapted from the Family Routines Questionnaire (Boyce et al. 1983), TPD, HOME, and Family Environment Scale (Moos) surrounding the child's bedtime routines.	Parent Interview	Routines important for children and developing economic self-sufficiency; EHS may affect this as it works with families.
Family conflict	Family Environment Rating Scale (Moos and Moos 1976)	Parent Interview	Important mediator
Stressful life events	Selected items adapted from the Stressful Life Events scale (Belsky and Crnic 1990) and stressful life experiences scale used in JOBS evaluation	Parent Interview	Important mediators.
Social support	Whether mother's parents were present when the child was born and whether they visited the baby in the hospital	Parent Interview	Important mediator.
Proximity of family members and sources of social support	Whether close family members live nearby or outside the US	Parent Interview	Important mediator

TABLE 1 (continued)

Construct	Measures	Data Collection Method	Rationale
Child Care Use			
Type of child care currently used	Selected items adapted from the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (NLSY), National Child Care Survey 1990 (NCCS), Interactions and Developmental Processes study (MPR/Columbia study), and the evaluation of the Job Opportunities and Basic Skills (JOBS) program	Parent Interview	Quality and stability of child care are a major focus of EHS; also important mediators for children
Age of current caregiver			
Age child began current child care arrangement			
Length of time in nonparental child care per week			
Stability (Number of different child care arrangements currently used)			
Cost of current nonrelative provider			
Parent's relationship with current nonrelative provider	Perceived Relationship Scale (caregiver-parent relationship subscale) (Elicker; Howes et al. 1995)	Parent Interview	Important focus and outcome of EHS
Child Care Quality			
Quality of the caregiving environment	Infant-Toddler Environmental Rating Scale (ITERS; Harms et al. 1990)	Caregiver interview and interviewer observations	Key measures used in many studies; can benchmark this study
	Family Day Care Rating Scale (FDCRS; Harms and Clifford 1989)		
Stability of the child care setting (child care centers)	Turnover of providers in the child's classroom; number of adults child interacts with in a typical week; number of different classrooms child has been in; amount of time main provider has cared for child	Center director interview	Important dimension of quality and is related to child's ability to develop strong attachment to main caregiver
Caregiver's education, training, earnings from child care, and commitment to the child care profession	Items developed by MPR	Caregiver interview	Key structural measures of quality
Caregiver's relationship with parents	Perceived Relationship Scale (Parent-Caregiver subscale) (PRS; Elicker; Howes et al. 1995)	Caregiver interview	Important focus and outcome of EHS
Caregiver's sensitivity, harshness, and detachment	Arnett Scale of Caregiver Behavior (Arnett 1989)	Interviewer observations	Caregiver attributes strongly linked with quality of care

TABLE 1 (continued)

Construct	Measures	Data Collection Method	Rationale
Child's Socioemotional Functioning			
Orientation toward parent; engagement Orientation toward examiner; engagement	Bayley Behavioral Rating Scale	Interviewer observations	Important outcome of EHS
Emotional regulation	Bayley Behavioral Rating Scale	Interviewer observations	Important outcomes of EHS
Temperament (sociability, emotionality)	Emotionality, Adaptability, and Sociability Inventory (Emotionality and Sociability subscales) (EASI-II; Buss and Plomin 1984)	Parent Interview	Provides consistent measure of temperament that correlates with later behavioral problems ratings
Child's Cognitive and Language Development			
Cognitive functioning	Bayley Scales of Infant Development-II (Mental Development Index)	Child assessment	Important outcome of EHS; needed for growth curve analysis
Receptive language Expressive language	MacArthur Communicative Development Inventories (simple gestures subscale and vocabulary short form) (Fenson et al.)	Parent Interview	Important outcome of EHS
Child's attention/arousal during assessment	Bayley Behavioral Rating Scale	Interviewer observation	Important outcome of EHS
Child's Physical Health			
Child's health status	National Health Interview Study	Parent Interview	Important mediator
Hospitalizations for accidents, injuries, jaundice, dehydration, and pneumonia	Selected items adapted from the National Health Interview Study (NHIS; Kaplan and Camacho 1983) and National Longitudinal Survey of Labor Force Behavior-Youth Cohort (NLSY)	Parent Interview	Important outcome of EHS
Use of safety precautions to reduce risk of accidents and unintentional injury	Items developed by MPR	Parent Interview	Important outcome of EHS
Child's health today	Respiratory infections, sleeping (items developed by MPR)	Parent Interview	Child's health can affect performance on Bayley and videotaped tasks
Motor development	5 key motor milestones from NLSY	Interviewer observation.	Motor milestones in the first year indicate physical development and accompany development in other domains

TABLE 1 (*continued*)

"The series of questions about fathers and father-figures has been adapted to cover mothers and mother-figures when the father is the child's primary caregiver. We use the term father in these tables for simplicity.

SOURCE Mathematica Policy Research, Inc., and Columbia University, June 18, 1996. Updated September 22, 1997.