Positive Impact of Education Class for Parents with Adverse Childhood Experiences on Child Behavior

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What Is the Problem?

• Adverse childhood events (ACEs) are a risk factor for a variety of poor health and developmental outcomes.
• There is little information on low-cost interventions that help to ameliorate the impact of ACEs on childhood outcomes.
• The importance of family resilience in overcoming ACEs is well-known.
• Community education classes may provide a way to build parenting skills among parents with children at risk for poor developmental outcomes and potential ACEs exposure.

What Are the Findings?

• Children of parents who participated in a series of community educational classes showed improvement in their psychosocial development as measured by the ASQ:SE 2.
• This improvement was independent of parental ACEs scores.
• Screening for ACEs in the community setting was feasible and acceptable to class participants.

Who Should Care Most?

• School districts and other community education providers.
• Health care professionals.
• Policymakers.
• Nonprofit organizations.
• Grant providers.

Recommendations for Action

• Consider designing additional community educational interventions aimed at families and children who have been exposed to ACEs and are at risk of poor health and developmental outcomes.
• Consider screening for ACEs outside the office setting.