



Meeting: 17th Annual Meeting of the Society for Prevention Research

Tracking Id: 202029

Alternate Ids:

Name	Id
Printed Program Id	0108

Abstract Type: Organized Paper Symposium

Status: Accept - Organized Paper Symposium

Author: Thomas Simon Ph.D.
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Division of Violence Prevention
Atlanta, Georgia United States 30341
Entered By, Primary Author, Presenting Author

Title: Effects of a Multisite Violence Prevention Trial: Findings for GREAT Schools and Families

Text: A key question for administrators and for policy development is whether school-based violence prevention programs should emphasize universal interventions that aim to change group-level behavior directly or selective interventions that try to change group-level risk for violence by providing more intensive programming to high-risk students who are directly or indirectly contributing to much of the violence within the school. Recent trials of school-based programs have also indicated that outcomes from violence prevention programs can differ substantially by students' baseline levels of risk for violence. The GREAT Schools and Families Program was developed from prior efficacious interventions to test the relative impact, based on school-level random assignment of 37 schools to four conditions, of universal, selective, and combined interventions and a no-intervention control. Four teams of investigators from the University of Illinois at Chicago, Duke University, University of Georgia and Virginia Commonwealth University, and CDC staff collaborated to conduct a randomized trial on two cohorts of students at four sites. Two samples of 6th grade students were obtained for each cohort, including a "cohort-wide" sample of approximately 80 randomly selected students from each school, and a "targeted" sample (at least 5% of students in 6th grade) selected based on teachers' reports that they were aggressive and influential among their peers. This is one of the largest random assignment tests of violence prevention efforts to date. This symposium will provide a description of the most recent results from the evaluation, including a

summary of how universal and selective intervention effects on the cohort-wide and targeted samples were moderated by students' baseline scores on a risk factor index, and the relevance of family factors as mediators of the selective intervention effects on the targeted sample. Results suggest some modest effects on primary outcomes (aggression) with important differences by intervention condition and baseline risk. The pattern of results has intriguing implications for ecological understanding of violence prevention efforts and the advancement of middle school violence prevention programs. Dr. Ken Dodge will act as discussant for the symposium.

Theme Groups: 6 Efficacy Trials

COS Abstract Management System