

**Dec, 2019
newsletter**



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- Project & presentation updates
- Recent findings
- Project overview, timeline, & training results

◀ Rewind - 2017

In 2017, we received a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Partnership Development Grant (SSHRC-PDG) and partnered with community agencies across Canada to bridge the knowledge-to-practice gap and implement an observational tool that can be used in applied settings with families at high social risk to detect problematic parenting behaviors. We successfully refined the AMBIANCE (Bronfman, Madigan, & Lyons-Ruth, 2002), making a more feasible tool, the AMBIANCE-brief, for use in community agencies (Madigan, Bronfman, & Lyons-Ruth, 2018).

Project Timeline

- 1 Refine and assess the validity of the AMBIANCE-brief tool 
- 2 **Spring** - pilot test brief version and assess its feasibility for use with partnering agencies. 
Fall- broadly roll out two-day training sessions
- 3 Develop software to facilitate training

2-Day training session with community agencies

- Overview of AMBIANCE-brief and it's functions.
- Review each of the 45 behavioural items in the AMBIANCE-brief.
- Describe how to determine the overall rating of disrupted caregiving behaviour

Phase 2 Training Protocol

1

Participants code 8 AMBIANCE-brief reliability videos and their ratings are compared to expert coders ratings.

2

Obtain feedback from participants regarding the AMBIANCE-Brief measure

3

We conducted three, 2-Day AMBIANCE-Brief Trainings across Ontario

- 46 community service providers from 6 child and family service agencies participated in the training

Phase 2 Training Details

89%

Phase 2 Training Results

of participants were reliable in the use of the AMBIANCE-brief measure

The AMBIANCE Project

100%

of participants indicated that they would **recommend the training** to their colleagues

86%

of participants reported the AMBIANCE-Brief measure would be useful or very **useful in their clinical practice**

Phase 2
Training
Results

56%

believed parents would find the AMBIANCE-Brief measure acceptable or **very acceptable for integration into intervention**

These findings support the **feasibility** and **acceptability** of the AMBIANCE-Brief screening tool in **community settings**

The AMBIANCE-Brief observational assessment tool can aid family services with **intervention planning, staff training,** and **risk screening activities**, to help identify caregiving behaviors that may be putting children at risk for disorganized attachment

Thank you to Dr. Elisa Bronfman for her assistance with the development of the AMBIANCE-brief, to Catherine Borland-Kerr for co-leading the trainings with Dr. Madigan, to Yvonne Bohr's lab and Aisling Discoveries Child and Family Centre for their feedback during the pilot training, and to all of our community partners for participating in this project with us.

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