Integrated Early Childhood Program Participation, Parenting and Child Development Outcomes: The Toronto First Duty Project Sejal Patel, Ph.D.

This study examined predictors of program participation and, in turn, the effects of participation 'dosage' on child development in five school sites offering integrated preschool services as part of the Toronto First Duty (TFD) project. In the TFD model a variety of services for young children and their families are integrated by using the school as a hub for service delivery. Core service elements at every site include childcare, kindergarten and parenting support programs. Other services include public health, counselling, library and other community resources (Corter et al., 2007). In the TFD context, multiple services offer a 'menu' of services to appeal to diverse parental interests (Patel, Corter, & Pelletier, 2008).

Despite sound conceptual arguments for