Parents have a basic lack of trust, which makes the implementation of a working alliance very difficult. We will present a model of intensive treatment that we have developed at our Infant Mental Health unit, and the outcome treatment tools we are using.

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Mo-S-156

Working in a pediatrician’s group to detect mother-infant relationship problems

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When a mother is discharged from the hospital after the birth of her child, she often finds herself alone, her only point of reference, the assigned pediatrician. He begins a job that, in most cases, will accompany the growth of the baby and the family. Building a collaboration amongst pediatricians seemed to be, to the psychotherapists of the centro Benedetta D’Intino of Milan (Italy), an important way to find mothers in need of psychological help and of motivating them to seek an early psychotherapeutic consultation together with their children. During the past three years I have organized a work discussion group with a number of pediatricians. At first, they showed a strong resistance in considering the internal world. Pressed by a mountain of very concrete demand (or even impossible “magical” solutions to problems) together with their anguish at the diffusion of postpartum depression situations, the doctors became more and more appreciative of a space where they could stop to think and moved the focus of their observation towards Mother-Child relationships.

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Mo-S-157

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A mother with a newborn often feels alone with her emotional problems, since they run counter to general expectations of “happy motherhood”. This may block her communicating with the Well Baby Clinic nurse. The suffering of parent and child may be urgent and early intervention is essential. The clinical problem is how to reach these parents and infants. We will describe three models. Dr Sara Micotti, psychotherapist at the Centro Benedetta d’Intino, Milano, has group seminars with pediatricians to detect and motivate mothers needing psychological help. The pediatricians’ attitudes have shifted from apprehension to curiosity about the internal world. For parents of infants at risk because of neglect and maltreatment, Dr Miri Keren, Geha Mental Health center, Tel Aviv Univ, medical school, provides parent-infant group therapy. Another part of her population has lesser problems. Well Baby nurses detect such cases with the BITSEA questionnaire. Dr Keren meets them in groups at the Well Baby clinic to lessen resistance towards mental health help. Dr Björn Salomonsson is consultant psychoanalyst at the Mama Mia Well Baby clinic. His office at the clinic lessens geographical and psychological distances to the mothers. Weekly supervisions with nurses have raised their attention to emotional problems and courage to address the mother.

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OSE symposia

Mo-S-158

OSE: Cultural and social context influence in the placement of children in five different countries

J. Hattab, G. Pulver, Y. Yvanovna, S. Wilhelm

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