Reviewer's report

Title: The feasibility of a randomised controlled trial of Dyadic Developmental Psychotherapy

Version: 2 Date: 14 July 2014

Reviewer: Majed Ashy

Reviewer's report:

This paper provides a very good model for studying the feasibility of randomized control trials (RCT) of dyadic developmental psychotherapy (DDP). It demonstrated widespread support and engagement among child psychotherapists regarding an RCT. The diversity of its data collection methods, qualitative and quantitative, provided detailed valuable data for analyses. Its sufficient consideration of the various types of DDP and MAPP and the role of the care givers as co-therapists add to the value of the findings of this study. It also emphasizes the complexity and diversity of psychotherapy and the difficulties associated with various outcome measures and studies. Furthermore, it provides unique analyses of the relationship between therapy and various types of change. The investigators in this study worked on facilitating multiple points of engagement between the researchers and participants in this study that enabled fostered good relations with the participants ahead of an RCT. In addition to its important contribution, this study provides an excellent example of a research model that can be studied further.

1. Is the question posed by the authors well defined?
   Yes.

2. Are the methods appropriate and well described?
   Yes. The samples and the measures are well described.

Discretionary Revisions:

NA

3. Are the data sound?
   Yes.

4. Does the manuscript adhere to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition?
   Yes.

5. Are the discussion and conclusions well balanced and adequately supported by the data?
   Yes.

6. Are limitations of the work clearly stated?
   Yes.
Yes.
7. Do the authors clearly acknowledge any work upon which they are building, both published and unpublished?
   Yes
8. Do the title and abstract accurately convey what has been found?
   Yes.
9. Is the writing acceptable?
   Yes

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**
I declare that I have no competing interests