



Parenting Stress of Taiwanese Parents of Children Receiving Early Intervention and Associated Factors

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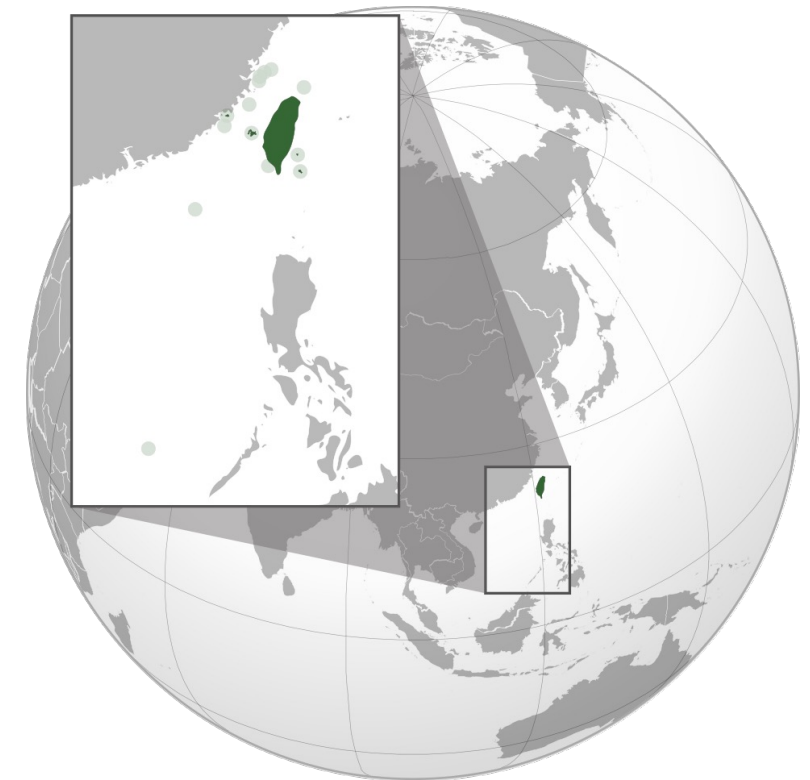
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The introduction of Taiwan: location & population

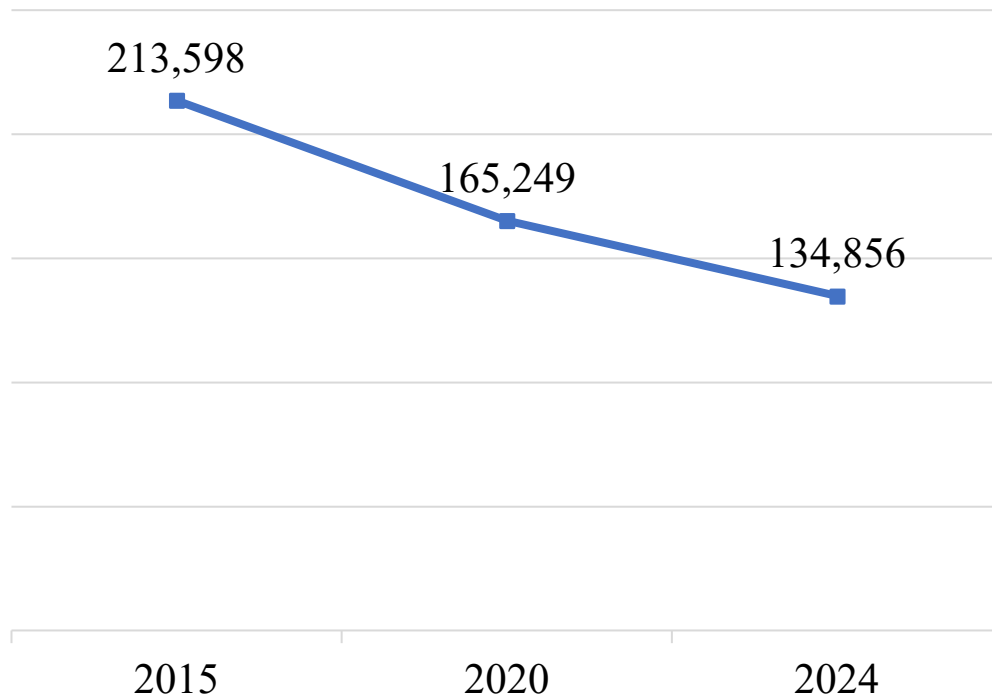
Taiwan	
Total population	23,605,244 (persons)
Population rank	23 rd in Asia
Population density	731.7 (per sq kilometer)
Population density rank	8 th around the world



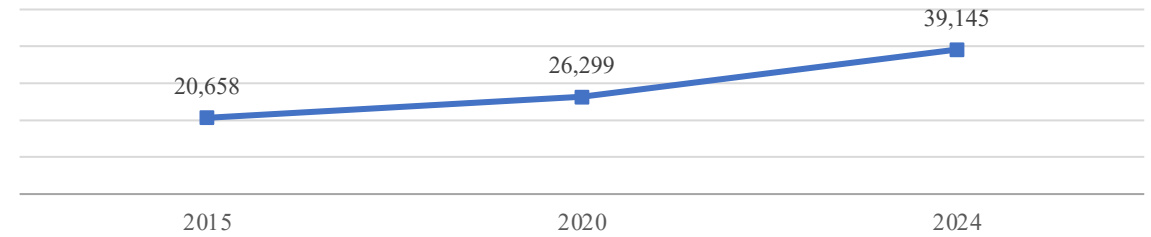
By KOKUYO - Own work。參考禁止、限制水域地圖。 , CC BY-SA 4.0,
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The need for early intervention in Taiwan

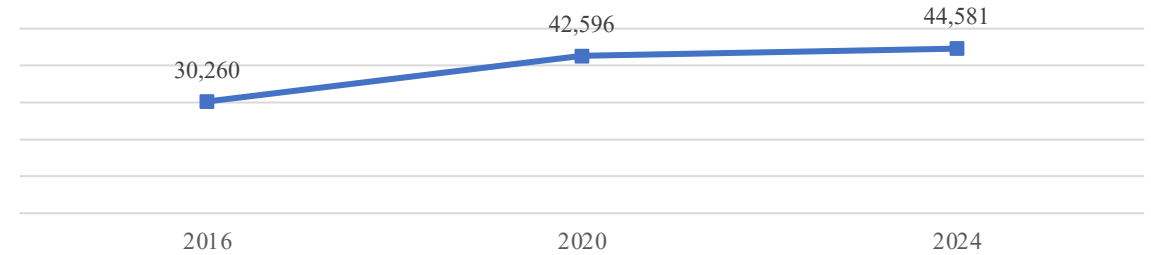
The number of birth in Taiwan



Reporting numbers of children suspected of developmentally delayed in Taiwan

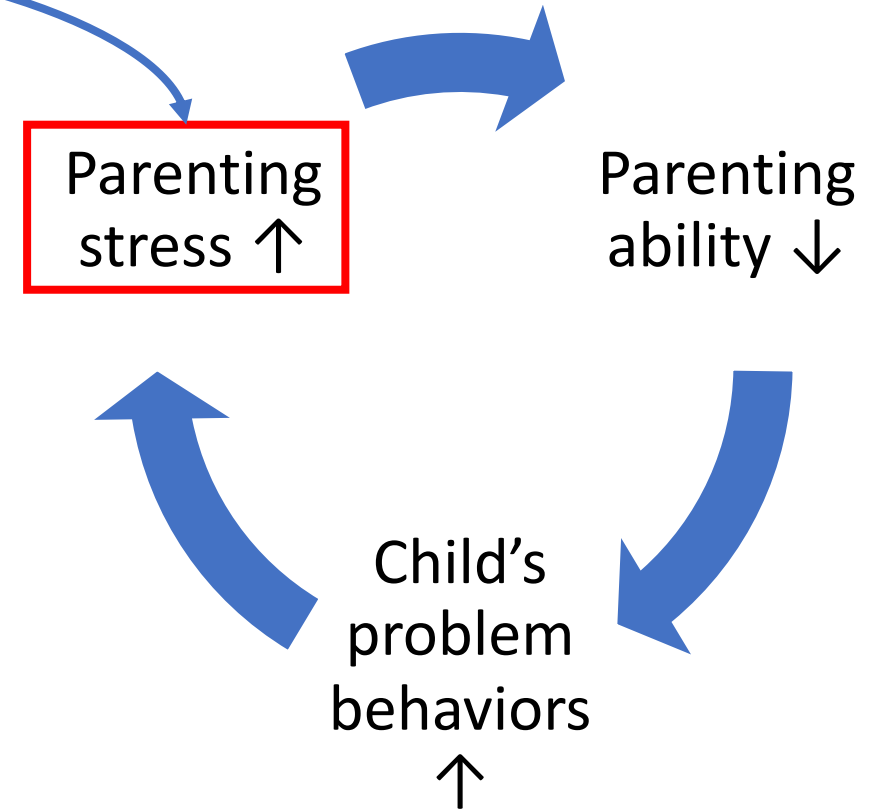


Reporting numbers of early intervention service cases in Taiwan

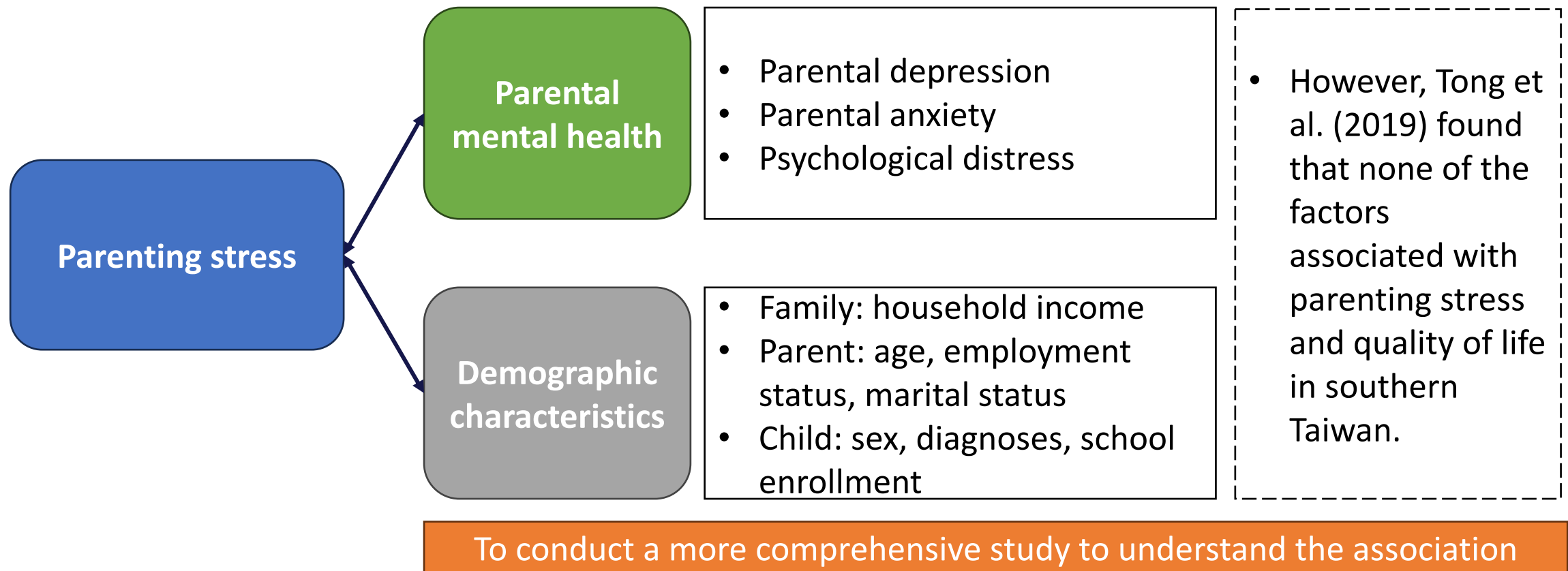


The challenges of parents raising developmental delay (DD) children

- 17% to 42% of parents raising DD children in Taiwan experienced a significantly higher level of parenting stress.
- It led to an increased risk of both parents' physical and mental health.



Factors associated with increased parenting stress



Research aim

1. To investigate the association between parenting stress and other parental mental health indicators in the EI parents
2. To explore whether parental mental health status is differentiated by socio-demographic variables

Methods: research location & data collection

Recruiting parents from a medical center in southern Taiwan

Socio-demographic variables

- Both parents' and children's data

Parenting stress

- The Parenting Stress Index, Fourth Edition Short Form (PSI)

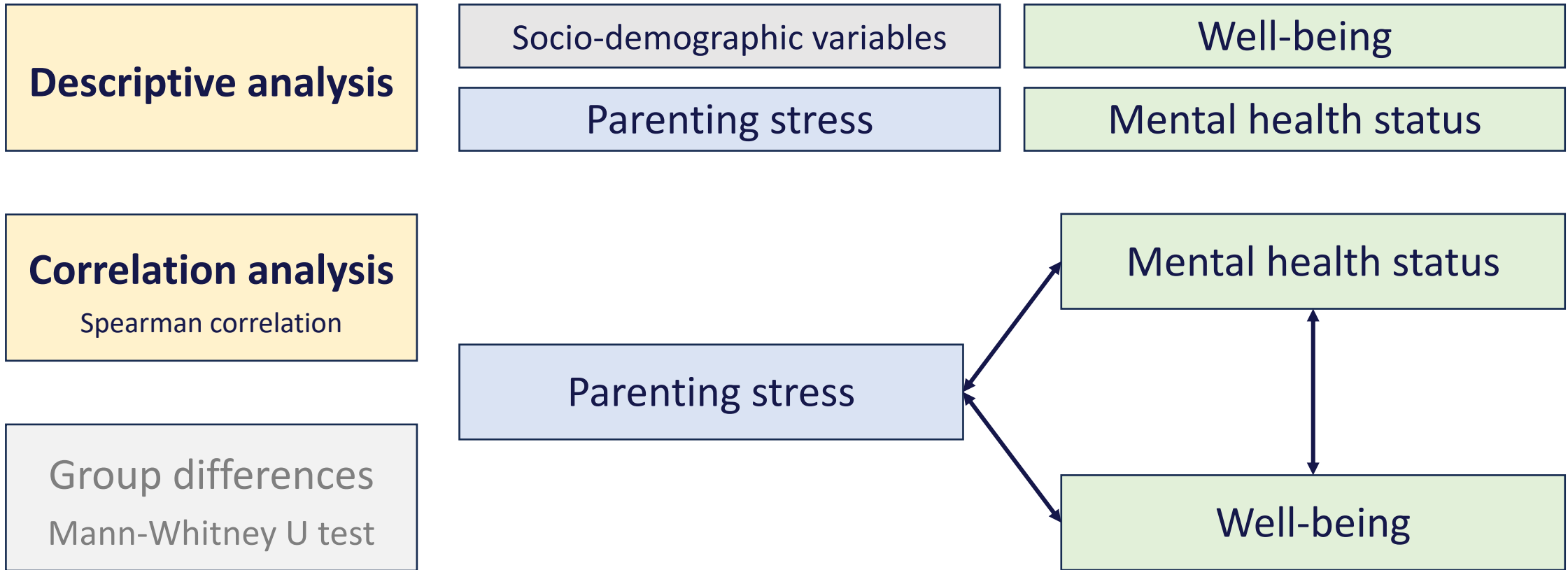
Mental health status

- Five-Item Brief Symptom Rating Scale (BSRS)

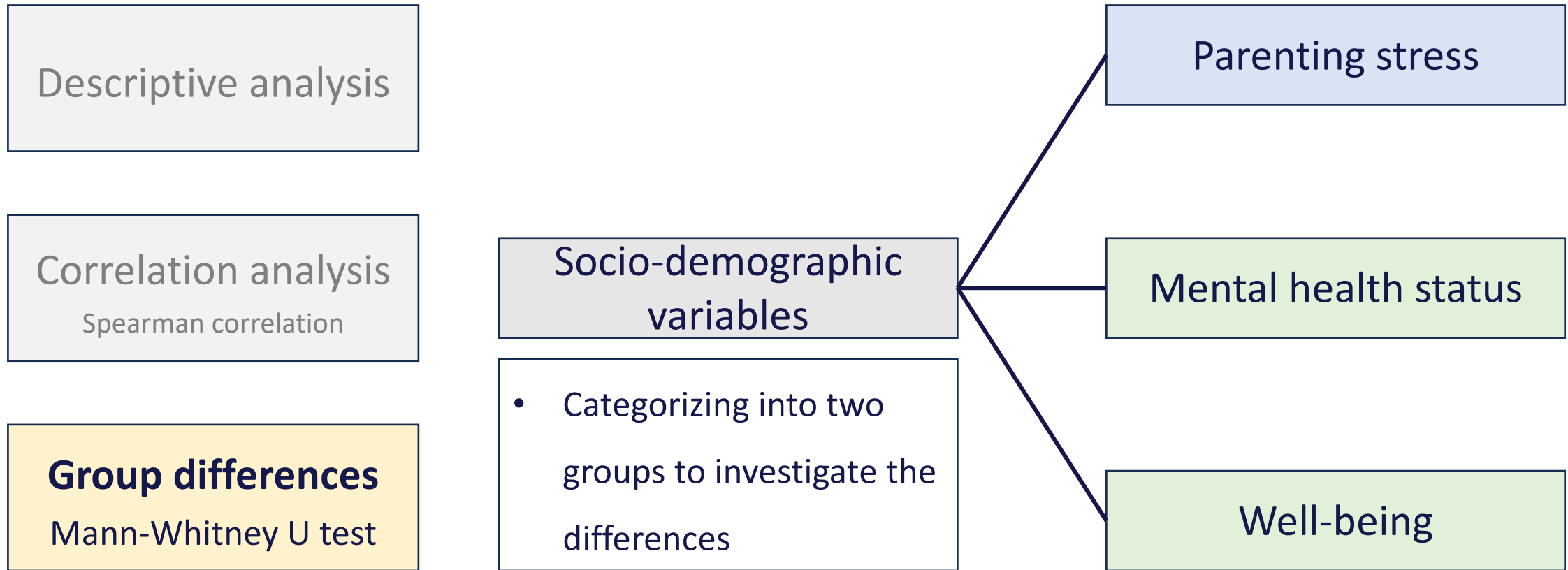
Well-being

- World Health Organization-Five Well-Being Index (WHO-5)

Methods: statistical analysis



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Characteristics of the participants

Socio-demographic variables of parents				Socio-demographic variables of children	
Mean age	40.9 (years)	Employment status		Mean age	55.78 (months)
Sex	Female=84%	Full-time	17 (53.1%)	Sex	Male=75%
Education level		Others	15 (46.9%)	Diagnosis	DD or suspected DD=93%
High school and below	5 (15.7 %)	Family type			
College and above	27 (84.3%)	Nuclear family	19 (59.4%)		
Economic status		Extended family	11 (34.4%)		
Have economic concerns	21 (65.6%)	others	2 (6.2%)		
No economic concerns	11 (34.4%)				

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Results of parenting stress and other factors

Parenting stress	
PSI_PR	n (%)
0-16	1 (3.1%)
16-84	20 (63.5%)
85-89	4 (12.5%)
>90	7 (21.9%)

Mental health status	
BSRS	n (%)
0-5	19 (59.4%)
6-9	10 (31.3%)
10-14	2 (6.3%)
≥ 15 or suicide scores ≥ 2	1 (3.1%)

Well-being	
WHO-5	
mean	54.13
SD	19.78
≥ 52	n=18 (56.3%)
<52	n=14 (43.8%)

The association between parenting stress and other factors

Spearman's ρ	PSI	PSI_PD	PSI_PCDI	PSI_DC
BSRS	.289	.565**	.112	.084
WHO-5	-.157	-.320	-.048	.033
Parent's age	.241	.298	.131	.210
Kid's age	.120	.076	-.048	.206

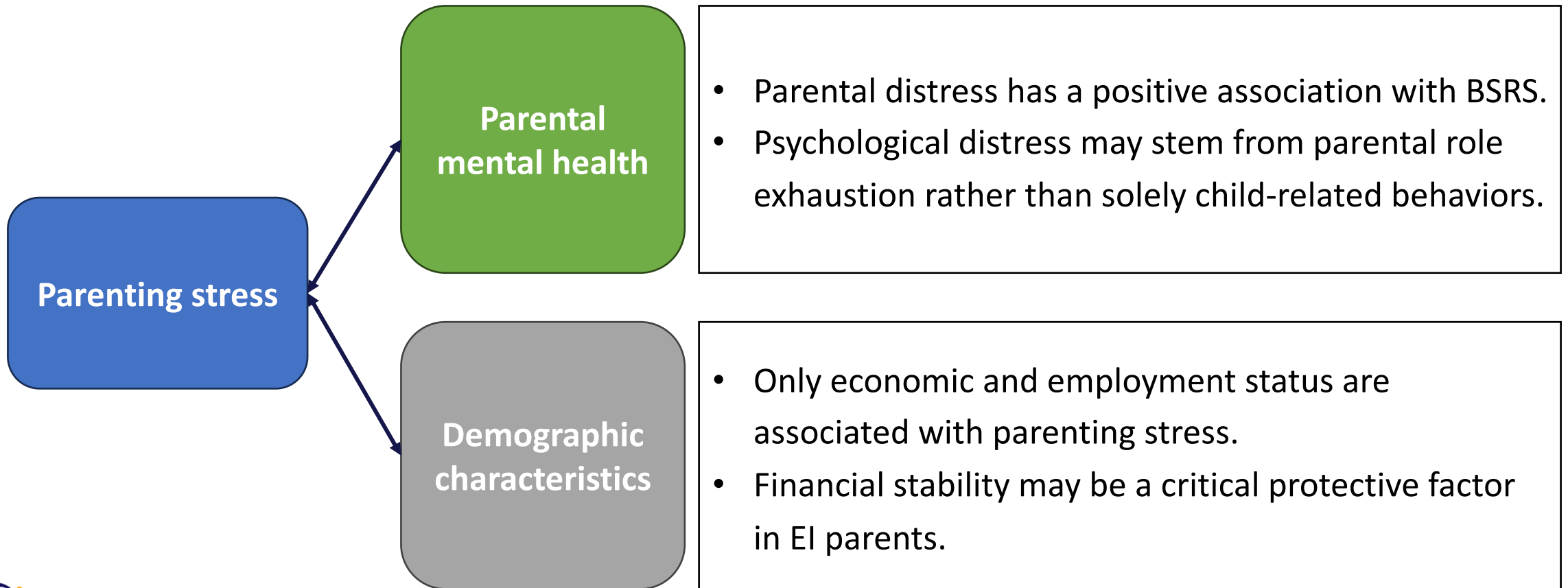
* $p < .05$, ** $p < .001$

The difference in socio-demographic variables

Mann-Whitney U test (z value)	PSI	PSI_PD	PSI_PCDI	PSI_DC
Parent's sex	-1.140	-1.238	-.666	-.972
Parent's education level	-1.298	-2.134	-.988	-.208
Economic status	-2.540*	-2.387*	-2.326*	-1.393
Employment status	-1.114	-2.650**	-.246	-.189
Family type	-.538	-1.402	-.108	-.540
Kid's sex	-.653	-.436	-.981	-.262

*p < .05 , **p < .001

Discussion



Study limitation

1. Cross-Sectional Design

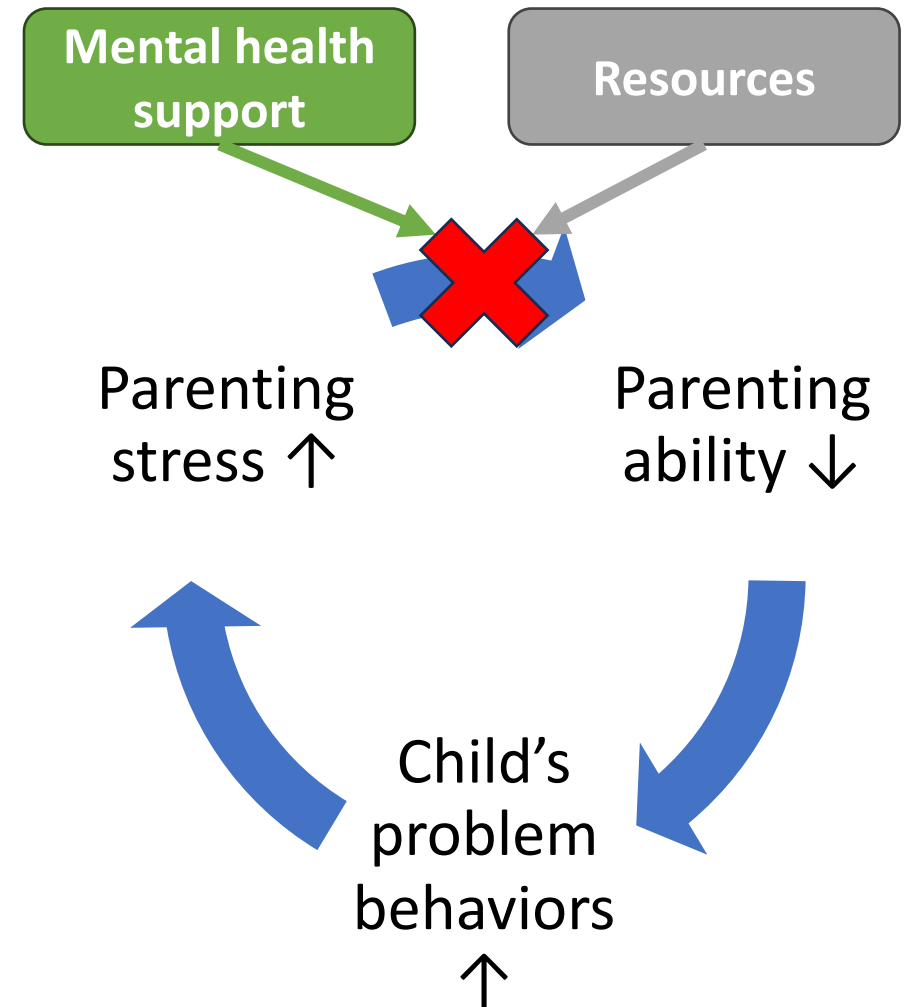
- The study can only establish association, not causal relationships.

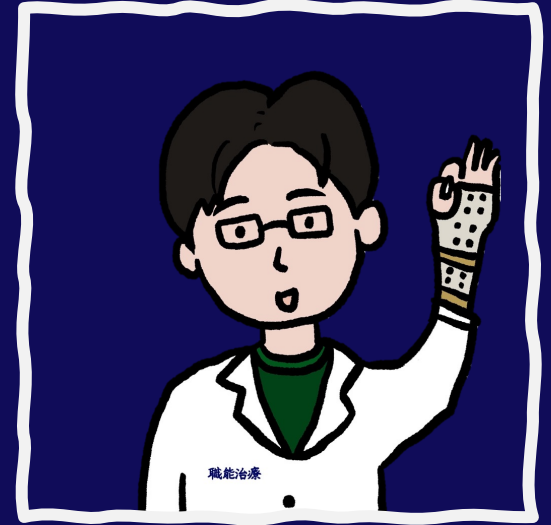
2. Small Sample Size (n=32):

- The small sample size and low cell counts limit the statistical power and generalizability of the findings to the broader population.

Conclusion

- As OTs, except for children, we should also provide parents with essential mental health support when delivering EI services.
- From a systematic view, resources should be provided to empower EI families.
- By doing so, the vicious cycle might be terminated.



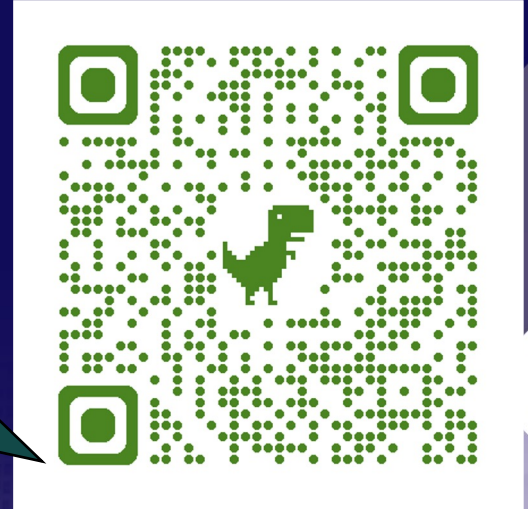


The End

Thank you!

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For further discussion and potential collaboration, please scan the QR code to stay in touch.



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