



The Effects of Negative and Harsh Parenting Behavior on Childhood ADHD Over Time

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Background

Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)

- Childhood disorder
 - Abnormal patterns of inattention, hyperactivity and impulsivity



Negative and Harsh Parenting

- Previous literature has found that negative parenting behaviors can exacerbate child ADHD symptoms (*Kaiser et al., 2011*)



Research Question

Does more negative and harsh parenting behaviors cause more child ADHD symptoms at a later time, even after accounting for the child's ADHD originally?

Participants

Time 1

- N=210 participants recruited as kindergarteners ($M_{age}=6.02$ years, $SD=0.43$)
 - 56.7% boys
 - 82.4% white
 - 20.2% met criteria for ADHD diagnosis

Time 2

- N=56 participants ($M_{age}=8.14$ years, $SD=0.42$)
 - 55.4% boys
 - 89.3% white
 - 16.4% met criteria for ADHD diagnosis
- On-going data collection

Measures

ADHD Symptoms (*Dependent Variable*)

- Diagnostic Interview Schedule for Children (DISC-IV) – *Time 2*
 - ADHD total symptom count
 - Time 1 was included as covariate

Negative & Harsh Parenting Behavior (*Independent Variables*)

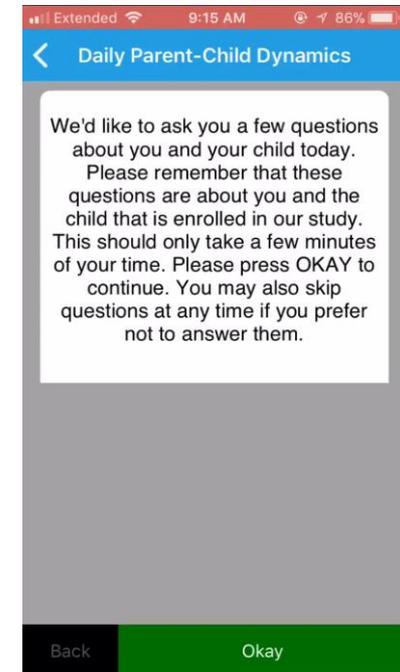
- Alabama Parenting Questionnaire – *Time 1*
 - 43 items
 - Poor monitoring/supervision, inconsistent discipline and corporal punishment subscales → global negative score

Measures

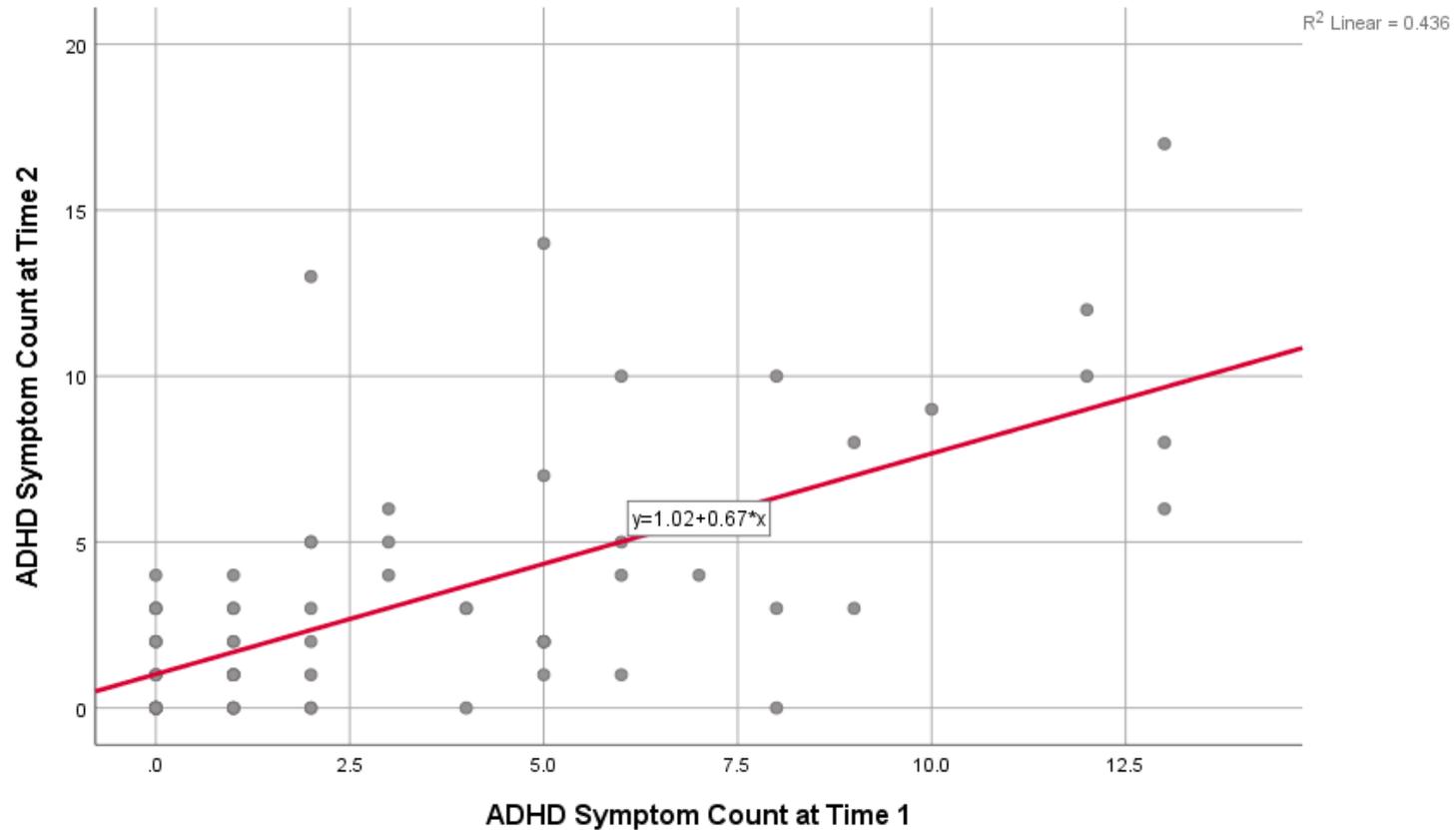
- Dyadic Parent-Child Interaction Coding System (DPICS) – *Time 1*
 - Code for occurrences of commands, questions, praise and negative talk
 - % negative talk from total positive and negative speech



- Smartphone-Based Behavioral Assessment – *Time 1*
 - Ecological momentary assessment (*Li & Lansford, 2018*)
 - Measure day-to-day variations in parenting behaviors for 1 week
 - MSSD for aggressive parenting

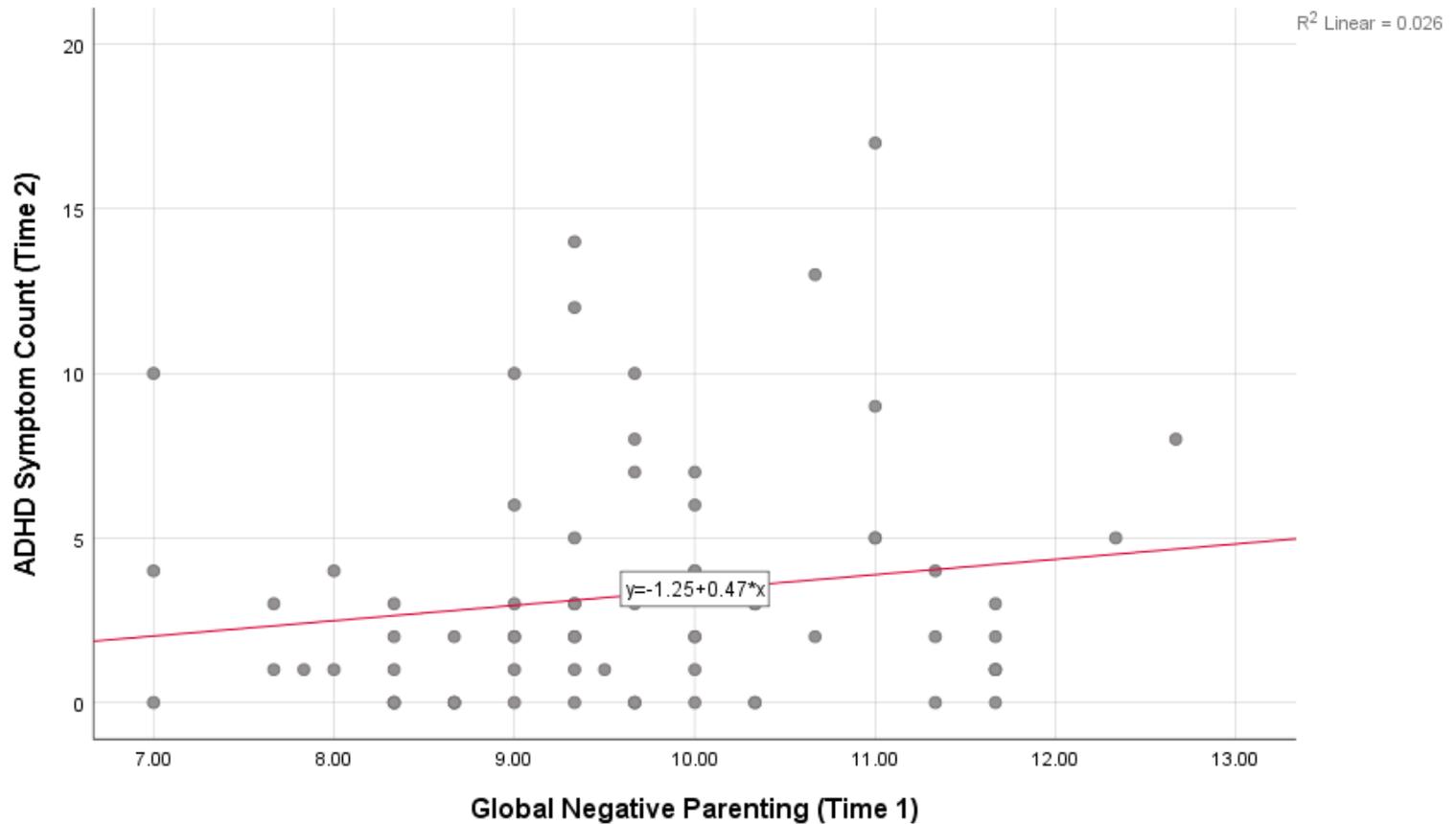


Preliminary Results



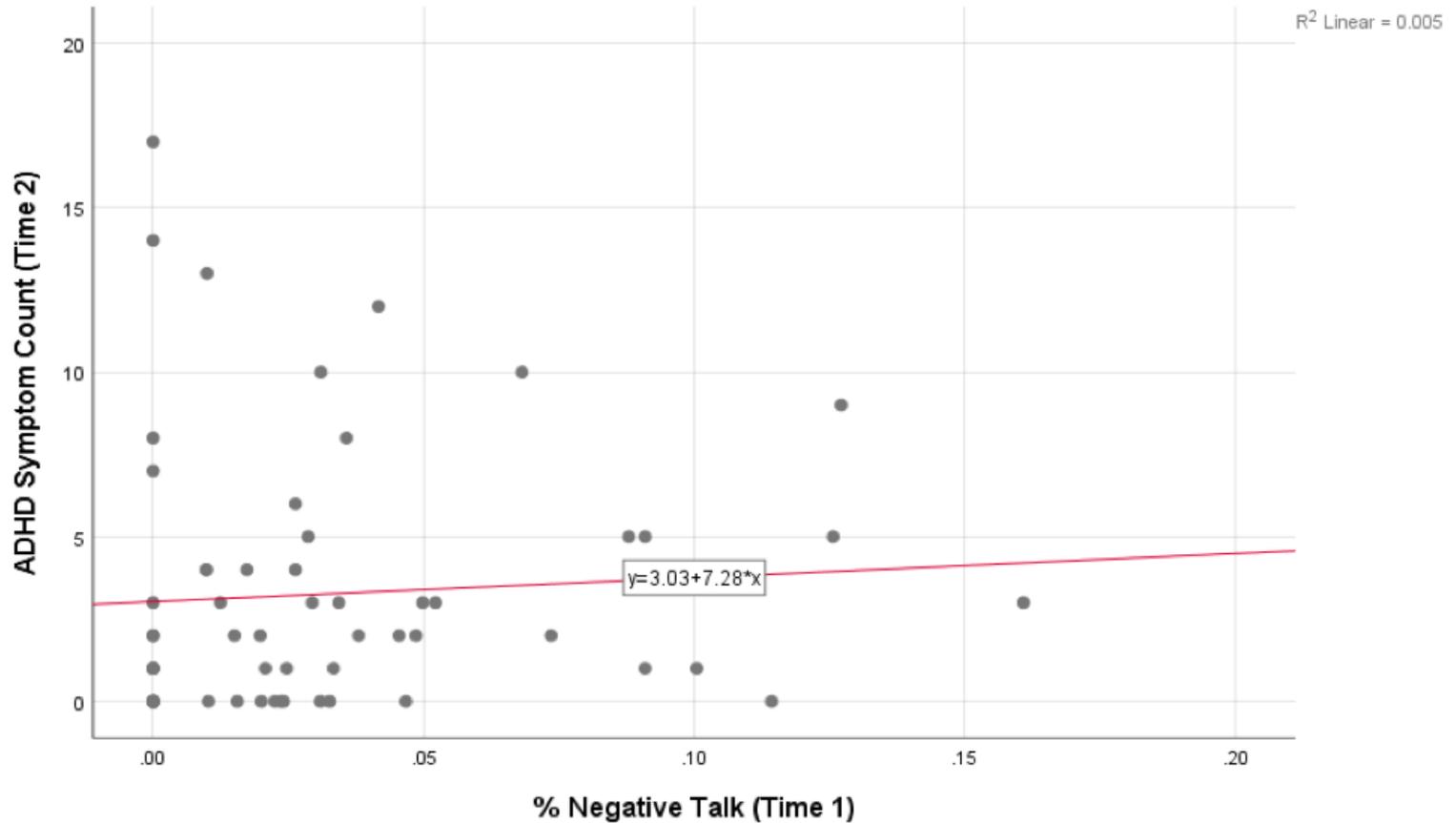
Significant association of child ADHD at time 1 → child ADHD at time 2

Preliminary Results



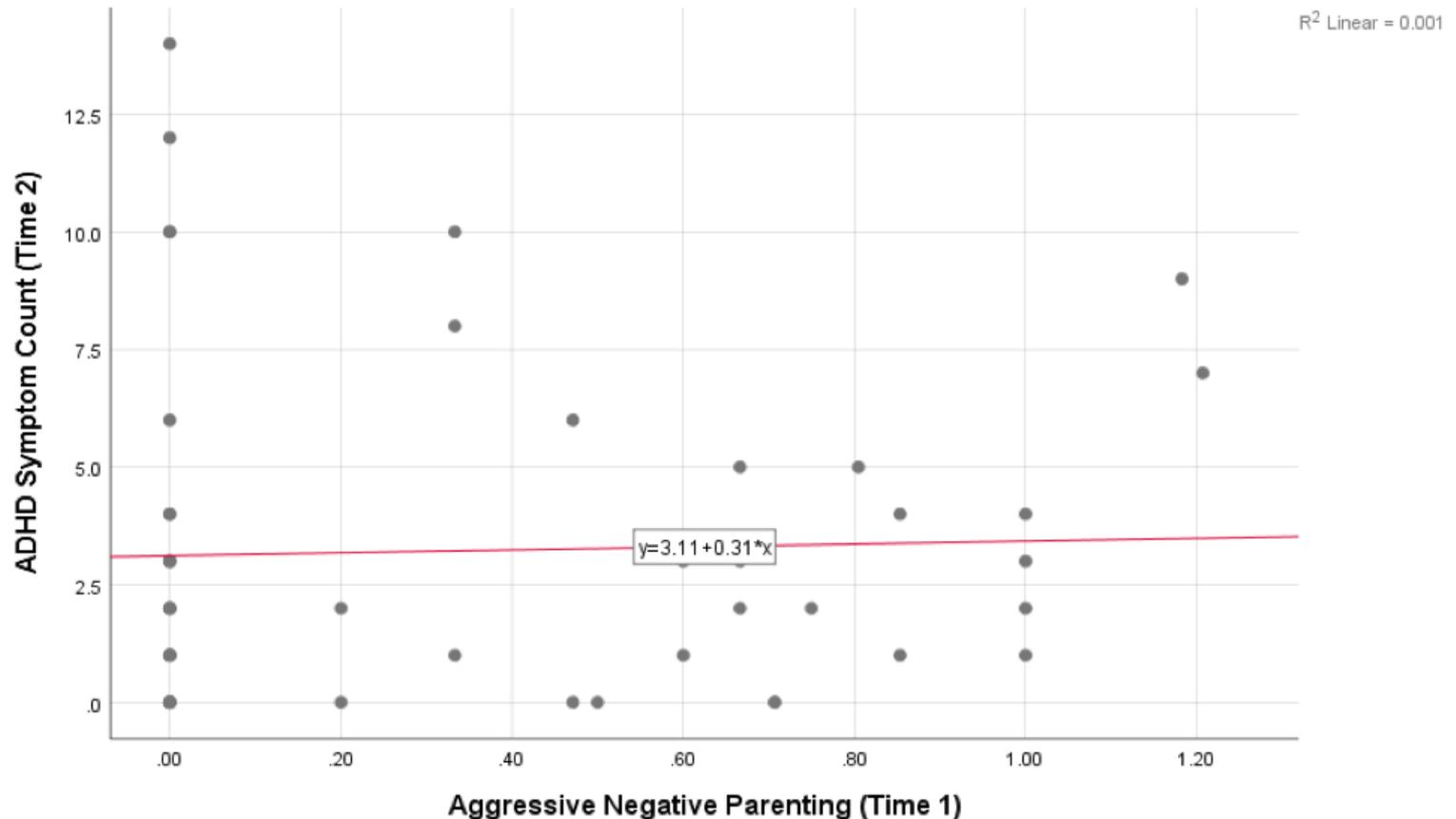
No significant association of global negative parenting at time 1 → ADHD symptoms at time 2

Preliminary Results



No significant association of observational negative talk at time 1 → ADHD symptoms at time 2

Preliminary Results



No significant association of aggressive parenting variability (smartphone) at time 1 → ADHD symptoms at time 2

Discussion

Overall, negative parenting at time 1 does not predict child ADHD symptomology at time 2, over and above the effects of the child's ADHD at time 1

- Consistent across all modes of measuring negative parenting

Limitations

- Small sample size due to ongoing data collection
- Reliable coding of negative talk in DPICS

Strengths

- Multi-modal approach
- Longitudinal

Future Directions

Results from this study can provide insight into key targets in ADHD intervention and treatment

- Interactions between parental stress and negative parenting
- Effect of child ADHD symptomology on parenting
 - Bidirectional relationship?



Acknowledgements

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Thank you.