Music Therapy Assessment of Parenting Competences (APC)

Parent-child interaction

Developed by Stine Lindahl Jacobsen, PhD

What is APC?

APC is a unique and innovative tool that combines structure with flexibility and measures the actual interaction between parent and child. It is an observational and improvisational based music therapy assessment model evaluating dyads of parent and child (child age range is 5-12). It only takes 2x25 minutes to complete the APC assessment.

The model is based on video analysis and a fixed assessment protocol. It produces information of parent-child interaction and parenting competencies including level of mutual attunement, nonverbal communication, indication of attachment, and level of emotional parental response. It produces information on level of concern for emotional neglect and abuse and indicate goals for further treatment for the family.

APC results include definitions of 16 different APC profiles, 4 scores, 2 quadrant graphs, and in-depth descriptions. Furthermore, APC has strong psychometric properties and provides reliable and valid results.

To further strengthen APC, a study on clinical application is currently undertaken at Aalborg University, Denmark.

Parents about APC sessions:

- It was fun and easy to follow the instructions - also for my child
- My child and I were motivated and engaged in the sessions
- It was a good experience for my child and I
- I saw aspects of my child that I hadn’t seen before

![APC Scores](chart.png)