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Maternal Depression, Women's Empowerment, and Parental Investment: Evidence from a Randomized Control Trial

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Abstract

We evaluate the medium-term impacts of treating maternal depression on women's financial empowerment and parenting decisions. We leverage experimental variation induced by a cluster-randomized control trial that provided psychotherapy to perinatally depressed mothers in rural Pakistan. It was one of the largest psychotherapy interventions in the world and highly successful at reducing depression. We locate mothers seven years after the end of the intervention to evaluate its longer run effects. We find that the intervention improved women's financial empowerment, increasing their control over household spending. Additionally, the intervention increased both time- and monetary-intensive parental investments.

JEL Classification Codes: I15, I30, O15

Keywords: mental health, maternal depression, women's labor supply, empowerment, early life, parenting, child development, randomized controlled trial, Pakistan

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1 Introduction

Major Depressive Disorder is the most common mental health problem and the single most important contributor to Years Lived With Disability, estimated to affect 13 percent of the global population (Vos et al., 2012). The burden of depression is about twice as high for women, for whom it is the leading source of disease burden (DeRubeis et al., 2008). Women of child-bearing age are especially at risk due to higher rates of perinatal depression, a depressive episode around the time of childbirth. Perinatal depression rates are estimated at 12-20% in OECD countries and 20-35% in poorer countries, where the condition often goes undiagnosed and hence untreated (Rahman, 2005).

We leverage experimental variation from one of the largest psychotherapy trials in the world to date to investigate the impacts of treating depression on decision-making. The intervention provided cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) to a sample of perinatally depressed women, and was shown to significantly reduce depression (Rahman et al., 2008; Baranov et al., 2017). Our analysis focuses upon follow-up data gathered 7 years after the end of the therapy to investigate its impacts on women's financial empowerment, their parenting choices, fertility, investments in children and, also, the children's developmental outcomes. In addition to providing the first causal estimates of economic impacts of treating depression, our study allows us to evaluate impacts over a longer run.

Little is known about the causal effects of depression or depression treatment on economic decision-making. Depression is characterized by symptoms including sadness, pessimism, and loss of agency, and it has the potential to impair productivity and hamper economic decision-making (Kessler and Frank, 1997; Currie and Madrian, 1999). Yet, the hypothesis that maternal depression might impact women's economic and financial empowerment has received surprisingly little attention. Women tend to have low levels of control over household spending, especially but not only in low-income settings.¹ Given evidence that increasing women's share of household income results in increased expenditure on children (Lundberg et al., 1997), perinatal depression may also disadvantage children. Parenting and child rearing responsibilities fall largely in the domain of women, and while a growing literature highlights the importance of parental investments in early childhood for later life outcomes (Blimpo et al., 2016; Lavy et al., 2016; Macours et al., 2015; Almond and Mazumder, 2013), there is no causal evidence that treating perinatal depression can influence parenting decisions.

The psychotherapy intervention, called the Thinking Healthy Program (THP), was implemented in 40 communities in rural Pakistan. All pregnant women in these communities were clinically assessed for depression, and 903 women diagnosed as depressed were included in the trial. Women in the 20 communities in the control arm received routine maternal and health services from government-funded community health workers, and women in the 20 treated communities additionally received the psychotherapy intervention. Women in both arms received 16 home visits, starting in the third trimester of pregnancy and ending when the children were 10 months old. The CBT focused on identifying and modifying cognitive

¹Several studies show that income shares impact the distribution of consumption in the household (Browning et al., 1994) and, in rich and poor countries alike, women earn a smaller share of income than men (Bertrand et al., 2015).

distortions common in depression, using techniques of active listening, collaboration with the family, and guided discovery of healthy thinking, aided by pictorial and verbal messages. The short-term follow-up of the THP showed a reduction in depression rates of 78% within the first year postpartum in the treatment group, a 33 percentage point difference with respect to the control group (Rahman et al., 2008).² The THP has been hailed as evidence that a low-cost, community-based intervention can have substantial impacts on depression, and it was recently adopted by the WHO as a model for other countries.³

Seven years after the end of the intervention, our team located 585 participants, 83% of the mother-child dyads who were last surveyed when the child was a year old. We gathered rich data with multiple indicators in each of the outcome domains related to the woman's decision-making and her child's development. In our 7-year follow-up, we also recruited 300 mother-child dyads from among the women who were excluded from the trial at baseline because they did not suffer perinatal depression. This allows us to compare the medium-term outcomes of women who were depressed in pregnancy, but treated with CBT, against the medium-term outcomes of women who were not depressed in pregnancy.

We find that the intervention had lasting positive impacts on an index of the financial empowerment of women, which we estimate was 0.29 of a standard deviation (henceforth SD) higher among treated group women. In particular, they were 9 percentage points more likely to have control over household spending, a 17% increase over the control group. We also identify a 0.2–0.3 SD improvement in indices of time- and monetary-intensive parental investments. For example, we find that the intervention led to sending the child to better quality schools and having more learning materials in the home, both objectively measured by the interviewer. We also find a 12 percentage point increase in the probability that the child was enrolled in private school.⁴ Quantile treatment effect estimates indicate that these improvements are fairly homogeneous across the distribution of investments. However, we find no discernible average differences in parenting style or fertility between women in the treated and control communities.

For the medium term outcomes modified by the intervention, treatment effects are consistently larger for mothers who were pregnant with a girl at the time of the intervention: 0.47 SD for financial empowerment, 0.48 SD for monetary investments in children and 0.24 SD for parenting style. Control group means in the 7-year follow-up reveal that mothers who were pregnant with girls are disempowered relative to mothers of boys.⁵ The estimates indicate that the intervention tends to close this gender gap.

The identified treatment effects on women's empowerment and on parental investments tend to close the descriptive gaps in these outcomes between women who were not depressed at baseline and women in the control arm who were depressed at baseline. In this sense, where

²In a companion paper, we show persistent impacts of the CBT intervention on mental health at the 7-year mark (Baranov et al., 2017). Although these impacts are much smaller than those found at the 1-year mark, this is nevertheless new evidence that CBT can have persistent impacts on mental health and important given the chronicity of depression (DeRubeis et al., 2008; Lund et al., 2010, 2011; Shi and Altshuler, 2004).

³See http://www.who.int/mental_health/maternal-child/thinking_healthy/en/.

⁴Mothers also report higher expected grade attainment. From the time-intensive index the responsive components are enrichment, family companionship, and family integration.

⁵Some recent studies document this more systematically in other contexts. Using data for India, Milazzo (2014) shows that survival rates of women without sons are lower.

it made a difference, the intervention was very effective. The findings that treatment improves women's control over household spending, and that it leads to greater investments in children line up given the evidence that additional resources in the hands of women (rather than men) tend to be directed toward children (Lundberg et al., 1997; Hoddinott and Haddad, 1995).⁶ Our finding that, amongst children, girls benefit differentially, may be rationalized in terms of son preference being stronger amongst men than women (Thomas, 1994; Dahl and Moretti, 2008).

Since the intervention increased investments in children and empowered mothers, we may have expected to find improvements in indicators of child development in treated relative to control clusters. However, we find no discernible effect on children's cognitive or socio-emotional development at age 7, and only weak evidence of improvements in physical health. We confirm that these averaged results are not concealing large effects in a particular part of the distribution, and that they are not the result of compensating investments in the control arm, nor do they appear to be the result of using measures of development that are inappropriate for the context. Comparing children of depressed women in the control arm to children of women who were not prenatally depressed reveals limited differences in outcomes for physical growth and cognitive function, indicating that these outcomes were unlikely to be affected at this age. It may be that the payoff to increased parental investments in the treated arm children will emerge at a later stage of the life cycle given that gaps in cognitive function and socio-emotional skills that emerge very early in life appear to persist and grow over time through dynamic complementarity (Heckman et al., 2006; Cunha and Heckman, 2007; Cunha et al., 2010; Conti and Heckman, 2014).

Our study contributes to four strands of the literature. First, we provide causal evidence that treating depression can have large impacts on economic decision-making and, rather remarkably, impacts that are evident seven years after the end of a one-off intervention. Previous studies show that poverty may exacerbate depression and have identified negative effects of unemployment, crime, price, and income shocks on mental health (Clark, 2003; Dustmann and Fasani, 2016; Farré et al., 2015; Adhvaryu et al., 2016; Haushofer and Shapiro, 2016). Recent research also documents how scarcity can alter cognitive function, leading individuals to make suboptimal decisions that reinforce their poverty (Shah et al., 2012; Mani et al., 2013; Mullainathan and Shafir, 2013; Dean et al., 2017; Schilbach et al., 2016).⁷ For reasons set out in section (2), it is plausible that depression might also bias decision-making, and thus contribute to aggravation of poverty and low levels of human capital investment. We provide evidence for this direction of causation. This is important because, put together with the cited evidence, it suggests that depression has the potential to create a poverty trap (Haushofer and Fehr, 2014).⁸

⁶Similarly there is evidence that women legislators are more likely to favor pro-child policies; see the literature cited in Bhalotra and Clots-Figueras (2014).

⁷Scarcity may create tunneling, or excess focus and attention on the scarce resource at the expense of attention to other dimensions. Individuals tend to become more present-biased, and executive function with respect to tasks that are not immediately related to the scarce resource becomes hindered.

⁸There is considerable evidence linking depression with financial and labor market outcomes (see Mintz et al. (1992); Lerner and Henke (2008); Kessler (2012) for a meta-analysis of evidence based on associations). A handful of randomized controlled trials show short-term effects of psychotherapy interventions on days worked or ability to perform labor (Patel et al., 2017; Buttorff et al., 2012; Bolton et al., 2003). Several studies in the economics literature

Second, this paper is related to recent studies in economics that analyze impacts of CBT-based interventions on skills (Heller et al., 2017; Blattman et al., 2017).⁹ However, these studies targeted specific populations with impulse control problems, such as crime-prone youth in Chicago and Liberia, and did not aim at improving mental health. The CBT-based interventions in these studies effectively provided a form of skills training. As these interventions did not target mental health, they would not be informative about how depression impacts decision-making.

Third, we contribute to the literature on women's empowerment (e.g. Almas et al. (2015)) by providing the first evidence that treating depression may improve women's financial empowerment in the short- and medium-term.¹⁰ Although economic development often brings empowerment of women, continuous policy action is likely necessary to achieve gender equality (Duflo, 2012). Most successful interventions aimed at improving women's empowerment (education, fertility planning, cash transfers, savings accounts) are targeted at adolescent girls (Bandiera et al., 2017).¹¹ Yet such interventions have generally failed to generate persistent effects (Baird and Özler, 2016) potentially because of social constraints or cultural norms (Buvinic and Furst-nichols, 2016; Field et al., 2016). Our results suggest that interventions aimed at reducing maternal depression might be an effective policy tool to increase women's empowerment even in difficult contexts, for example among adult women or when social constraints are binding.

Last, we contribute to the literature on parenting and early childhood development, providing evidence that maternal depression inhibits investments in children.¹² The early childhood environment has been shown to influence adult outcomes.¹³ The first generation of em-

have estimated the impacts of mental health on economic decision-making or labor market outcomes, primarily using instrumental variables for identification (see Frijters et al. (2014) for a review). For example, using survey data from Australia, Frijters et al. (2014) find that negative mental health shocks, instrumented using sudden death of a friend, negatively impact labor market participation. Other instruments that have been used, primarily in cross-sectional variation, are religiosity, whether the parent had mental disorders, perceived social support, and physical activity. However, these instruments are unlikely satisfy the exclusion restriction.

⁹In a large randomized field experiment in Chicago, Heller et al. (2017) find that in-school programming incorporating CBT reduced violent-crime arrests and generated sustained gains in schooling outcomes, and Blattman et al. (2017) find that a short term CBT program reduced criminal behavior and improved self-control and self-image in Liberia.

¹⁰The medical literature has highlighted the feedback loop between depression and empowerment (Goldstein and Rosselli, 2003; Kermodé et al., 2007). Garcia and Yim (2017) systematically review the literature and provide evidence for the opposite direction of causation: several interventions supporting women's empowerment help reducing depression. Previous analysis using this same intervention showed short-term effects of depression treatment on financial empowerment while the intervention was still ongoing (Rahman et al., 2012).

¹¹Adolescence is a clear critical period for women's empowerment as interventions at this early stage have the capacity to impact education, timing of marriage, and age of first birth. While interventions targeting adult women have less scope for changing the woman's long-term wellbeing, they may have other important spillovers to the next generation (Lavy et al., 2016).

¹²Studies in the psychology literature have documented associations between mental health and negative outcomes for mothers and children, but these relationships are typically not causal (Murray et al., 1996, 1999; Petterson and Albers, 2001; Deave et al., 2008; Lund et al., 2010; Gutierrez-Galve et al., 2015; Cuijpers et al., 2015). In a meta-analysis of interventions for common perinatal maternal depression administered by non-specialist community workers in low- and middle-income countries, Rahman et al. (2013) report benefits to the child which included improved mother-infant interaction, better cognitive development and growth, reduced diarrheal episodes, and increased immunization rates. However, to our knowledge no study examines whether psychotherapy influences decision-making, and in particular, several years after the end of the intervention.

¹³See Heckman et al. (2013); Heckman and Mosso (2014); Elango et al. (2015); Doyle et al. (2017); Bhalotra and Venkataramani (2011); Bhalotra et al. (2017c).

pirical studies analyzed shocks to the physical health of pregnant women (Almond and Currie, 2011b,a; Currie, 2011; Almond et al., 2017), but there has been no direct analysis of shocks to their mental health, although recent studies analyze maternal stress (Aizer et al., 2016) or bereavement during pregnancy (Persson and Rossin-Slater, 2017; Black et al., 2016).¹⁴ The emphasis in this literature has shifted from focusing on children skills to parental investments (Almond and Mazumder, 2013). For example, Cunha (2017) and Bhalotra et al. (2017a) highlight the importance of subjective expectations of returns to investments in children, identifying a tendency for mothers of low socioeconomic status to under-estimate returns and hence, to under-invest. Since depression is positively associated with low socioeconomic status, depression may contribute to this tendency toward biased beliefs. Walker et al. (2005); Attanasio et al. (2014) underline the importance of early childhood stimulation. If depression diminishes the quality of the mother’s time with children, this may also translate into lower stimulation.

Although our findings are of particular interest in the context of developing countries where fertility rates, poverty, and the incidence of depression are high, and where women’s financial empowerment is more limited, the behavioral effects are likely to have wider relevance. Our findings suggest that treating maternal depression is potentially critical to women’s empowerment and to the intergenerational transmission of inequality. Yet it is not systematically measured, and it is not one of the new Sustainable Development Goals. The results in this paper provide new evidence to motivate greater policy investment in recognizing and addressing maternal depression.

The rest of the paper is organized as follows. A conceptual framework that delineates how depression can shape economic decision-making is sketched in section 2; section 3 describes the intervention; section 4 describes the data, and section 5 outlines our empirical strategy which addresses potential threats to the validity of the experiment. Section 6 presents the results of the intervention. Finally, Section 7 discusses potential explanations of our findings.

2 Conceptual Framework

In order to better understand the mechanisms through which depression treatment can influence maternal decision-making, we outline a framework that serves the dual purpose of systematizing our thinking and helping us summarize the literature on depression as it relates to decision-making.

We describe a stylized optimization problem of the mother and consider how depression treatment may affect her choices by impacting her economic primitives, i.e. her preferences, beliefs, or constraints. Depression treatment may influence the mother’s decisions over parenting effort and investments in children and, consequently, the child’s human capital development. We start from a model of household production in which the mother makes decisions over consumption, leisure, and parenting inputs of time and monetary investment (Cunha

¹⁴For identification, these studies exploit the timing of a shock, occurring during gestation versus just before or just after. Persson and Rossin-Slater (2017) find that perinatal stress caused by the death of a close relative impacts later life mental health of the children *in utero*, while Black et al. (2016) find it has no impact on later life educational attainment and wages. Aizer et al. (2016) finds that maternal stress, measured using cortisol levels, is associated with worse cognitive function of children.

and Heckman, 2007; Del Boca et al., 2014; Cobb-clark et al., 2016; Ronda, 2016). To simplify exposition, we are ignoring fertility decisions, though these may also be affected. Specifically, consider a two-period set-up, where the mother cares about consumption and leisure today but only child quality tomorrow:

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{\tau, x, a, h, c, l} U(Q, a, c, l; d) &= v_d(c, l) - e_d(a) + \beta_d E_d[u(Q)] \\ \text{s.t.} & \\ Q &= f_d(\tau, x, a; \varepsilon) \\ \Omega - s_d &= \tau + l + h \\ \alpha_d(Y + wh) &= px + c \end{aligned}$$

Mothers are characterized by their depression status $d \in [0, 1]$, which can be shifted by treatment, and maximize utility from current consumption and leisure $v(c, l)$, as well as expected utility from the future quality of the child $E_d[u(Q)]$, discounted at rate β_d . Future child quality Q is uncertain, and it is determined by a production function f_d that combines time investment τ , monetary investment x , parenting effort a , and a random shock $\varepsilon \sim \phi^*(\varepsilon)$ which is independent of the mother's choices. E_d is defined as the expectation under the distribution $\phi_d(\cdot)$, which captures the idea that subjective beliefs about the shock distribution $\phi_d(\cdot)$ might diverge from the true distribution $\phi^*(\cdot)$ in a way that depends upon depression.

Time investments τ come at the expense of hours worked h and leisure time l , summing up to the total effective time $(\Omega - s_d)$ at the disposal of the mother, which can be reduced by sick days s_d . Monetary expenditure x costs p and is rival to expenditure on other goods c , which both come out of her share α_d of household income (excluding her wages) Y and her wages wh . We do not explicitly model the bargaining process, however, α_d can be related to the woman's bargaining power in a collective model of household bargaining. Parenting effort has a utility cost captured by $e_d(a)$. We assume $v(\cdot)$, $u(\cdot)$, and $f_d(\cdot)$ to be increasing in their arguments and concave, and $e_d(\cdot)$ to be increasing and convex.

Based on the characteristic symptoms of the disease, we believe depression may impact decisions through a number of independent channels. The first are related to *preferences*, consisting of depression induced changes in time discounting and the disutility of effort.¹⁵ For example, depression may influence time discounting, β_d : having a bleak view of the future, depressed mothers could discount delayed rewards at a higher rate, putting more weight on the present. For instance, positive affect has been shown to reduce discounting of delayed rewards (Ifcher and Zarghamee, 2011; Lempert and Pizzagalli, 2010), and depression has been linked to impulsivity and inconsistent intertemporal choices (Takahashi et al., 2008), as well as present biased unhealthy behaviors such as drinking, smoking, or suicide (Dennhardt and Murphy, 2011; Imhoff et al., 2014). The second channel involves a higher cost of effort, $e_d(\cdot)$ (Cohen et al., 1982; Den Hartog et al., 2003). Depression has been related to stress and fatigue, and therefore can increase the mental cost of performing simple tasks, such as interacting with

¹⁵Depression may also impact the marginal utility of consumption or leisure, leading to depressed individuals deriving less pleasure from things they normally would have enjoyed. Indeed anhedonia is also a classic symptom of depression.

the child. In other words, depression can increase the disutility cost of effort. By making effort more costly, depression can also reduce a women's ability to advocate for herself, thus reducing her bargaining power (see for instance [Mirowsky \(1985\)](#)).

Second, depression may affect *expectations*, $E_d(\cdot)$, or subjective beliefs over the distribution of shocks, as posited by Beck's cognitive theory of anxiety and depression ([Beck, 1967, 1979](#)). For example, depression may induce a pessimistic view about the mother's ability to influence future outcomes such as her child's skills ([De Quidt and Haushofer, 2016](#); [MacLeod and Salaminou, 2001](#)).¹⁶ More pessimistic beliefs can, in turn, change maternal aspirations for her child and thus inputs ([Dalton et al., 2010](#); [Genicot and Ray, 2009](#); [Ray, 2006](#); [Macours and Vakis, 2009](#); [Bernard et al., 2011](#); [Glewwe et al., 2015](#)).¹⁷

Third, depression may impact the mother's decision-making through constraints, potentially tightening *constraints* on disposable time through increasing sick days s_d ([Grossman, 1972](#)), or technological constraints, for instance by lowering the productivity of maternal investments, $f_d(\cdot)$. Depression has been linked to lower productivity in the labor force (see for instance [Lerner et al. \(2004\)](#); [Lerner and Henke \(2008\)](#)). In the case of home production, depression could reduce maternal productivity in combining investments to improve child quality, holding fixed the level of inputs. For example, this might occur if depression affects cognitive function ([Den Hartog et al., 2003](#)), or the quality of parent-child interactions ([Ronda, 2016](#)). Additionally, depression may affect the mother's bargaining power (see for instance [Mirowsky \(1985\)](#)), reducing her ability to advocate for herself and resulting in a lower share, α_d , of the total family resources.

Equilibrium conditions and comparative statics, which are described in greater detail in Online Appendix A, imply that effectively treating depression would generally lead to higher child quality either by increasing investment in children, or by improving the mother's productivity, or both.¹⁸ For example, if reducing depression makes mothers more patient or reduces the disutility of effort, they will increase parenting inputs.¹⁹ Interestingly, however, the channels of expectations and productivity yield more nuanced results; the impact of depression on the optimal allocation of parenting inputs depends on the relative curvature of the utility and production functions. However, even in this parameterized model, the different pathways are not separately identified with our data.

¹⁶More specifically, depression could reduce maternal beliefs about the returns to her parenting investments: depressed mothers might believe that negative shocks $\varepsilon < 0$ are more likely (i.e., place greater mass on the lower tail of ϕ_d), and therefore believe that it is not worthwhile investing. See the work of [Cunha et al. \(2013, 2016\)](#); [Boneva and Rau \(2016\)](#) on parental beliefs. By distorting beliefs, depression might change aspirations such that depressed mothers might set a lower goal for their children.

¹⁷Expectations and aspirations are closely related to psychological concepts of locus of control and fatalism, which can be considered components of mental health. Expectations are different from aspirations, as expectations relate to beliefs over probabilities, while aspirations relate to setting goals and reflect optimal choices conditional upon a set of beliefs.

¹⁸The Online Appendix can be accessed at <https://drive.google.com/open?id=1Zn6ySHlAXgG854Q2O-XwZV2mk2B-d.J1>.

¹⁹This in turn will lead to lower fertility if there is a quantity-quality tradeoff as in [Becker and Lewis \(1973\)](#) and [Becker and Tomes \(1976\)](#). Treating depression might additionally lower fertility, or lengthen birth-spacing, by improving women's empowerment and their bargaining power within the couple, since women tend to prefer longer birth-spacing and fewer children than men ([Mason and Smith, 2000](#); [Jalil et al., 2016](#)).

3 The Intervention

The Thinking Healthy Program (THP) was a cluster randomized community trial of a perinatal depression intervention in rural Punjab, Pakistan. Perinatal depression is defined as a depressive disorder with onset at any time during pregnancy or within the first year of birth. The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, IV (DSM-IV) criteria for diagnosis of perinatal depression are the same as those required to diagnose depression at any other stage of the life course.²⁰ They include at least five of the following nine symptoms, present nearly every day within a two-week period: (1) Feelings of sadness, emptiness, or hopelessness, nearly every day, for most of the day or the observation of a depressed mood made by others; (2) Loss of interest or pleasure in activities; (3) Weight loss or decreased appetite; (4) Changes in sleep patterns; (5) Feelings of restlessness; (6) Loss of energy; (7) Feelings of worthlessness or guilt; (8) Loss of concentration or increased indecisiveness; (9) Recurrent thoughts of death, with or without plans of suicide ([American Psychiatric Association, 2013](#)).

The trial was randomized across 40 clusters, the clusters being Union Councils, the smallest geopolitical unit in Pakistan. Twenty clusters were randomized into receiving the intervention and twenty clusters to the control arm. Women were enrolled between April 2005 and March 2006. All women in their third trimester of pregnancy (married, ages 16-45, no other significant illness) who met the DSM-IV criteria for Major Depressive Episode were invited to participate in the study. A total of 3898 women were identified, with 8% refusing before any assessment, and 2% were not found. Rates were not differential by treatment status, Table C.2 in the appendix shows the precise sample number by treatment cluster through time.

A total of 3518 women were assessed for clinical depression, with 903 (26%) identified as prenatally depressed, a prevalence consistent with a previous literature identifying the prevalence of prenatal depression in this region.²¹ To our knowledge, this is the largest psychotherapy intervention to treat mild to moderate depression evaluated to date.²²

There were 463 depressed mothers in the clusters randomized to the intervention, and 440 in the control arm clusters. Only women who were diagnosed as depressed completed the baseline survey. All women who were offered to participate in the study accepted the invitation, and those who were not offered participation were unable to receive the intervention treatment or other psychotherapies.²³

The THP intervention was based on principles of cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT), a class of psychosocial interventions that are the most widely used evidence-based practice for treating mental disorders ([Field et al., 2015](#)). CBT focuses on the development of personal coping strategies that target solving current problems and changing unhelpful patterns in cognition (thoughts, beliefs, and attitudes), behaviors, and emotional regulation. A number of

²⁰Apart from the coincidental timing of the episode occurring around pregnancy, perinatal depression is not clinically different to a major depressive episode occurring at other points in the life course.

²¹[Rahman et al. \(2003\)](#) find antenatal depression rates of 25%, and that in more than 90% of women, postnatal depression was a continuation of a depressive episode during pregnancy.

²²See [Cuijpers et al. \(2008a,b\)](#) for meta-analyses. The authors have compiled a database, available online (www.evidencebasedpsychotherapies.org), which include interventions to January 1, 2013. From 2013, we searched all completed psychotherapy interventions posted on clinicaltrials.gov.

²³There are no psychologists in the public sector and only 3 psychiatrists (based in Rawalpindi city) for the whole district ([Rahman, 2007](#)).

meta-analyses of CBT indicate that it often at least as effective as, if not more effective than other forms of therapy, including pharmacotherapy (Bolier et al., 2013; Tolin, 2010; Cuijpers et al., 2008a). Through extensive piloting (Rahman, 2007), the original study team further designed an intervention which could be delivered by primary health workers based in the village. They developed a manual with step-by-step instructions for each session to train the health workers and for them to keep for reference.²⁴

The intervention was delivered by Lady Health Workers (LHWs), appointed by the federal government to deliver community health services. During the CBT-based sessions, the LHWs focused on identifying and modifying cognitive distortions common in depression, such as how the mother views her own health, her relationship with the baby, and the people around her (changing “unhealthy thinking” to “healthy thinking”). Mothers received health education and supporting materials with pictorial and verbal key messages to facilitate discovery of alternative health beliefs. The intervention was based on a psychosocial model and not presented as a treatment for a mental health problem. While other studies have provided CBT to perinatally depressed mothers in developing countries (Cooper et al., 2002, 2009; Gao et al., 2010; ling Gao et al., 2012; Lara et al., 2010; Mao et al., 2012), the component of the intervention that provided guided discovery of healthy behavior is unique to this study. The CBT intervention was delivered at a relatively low cost of USD10 per woman.

Every woman in the trial received 16 home visits from a LHW. These were delivered as weekly sessions for 4 weeks in the last pregnancy month, three sessions in the first postnatal month, and monthly sessions thereafter for the following 9 months. Mothers in the control arm received enhanced routine care with an equal number of visits, enhanced not because of content but because the frequency of visits was greater than the usual, which is once a month. The standard health visits included advice on infant health issues such as tetanus and immunizations, as well as advice about and encouragement of breastfeeding.²⁵ Each LHW is responsible for approximately 1000 women in her catchment area. There were a total of 40 LHWs who visited either treatment or control mothers. Thus, the catchment areas of LHWs were nested within clusters to avoid contamination.

3.1 Follow-Up Surveys

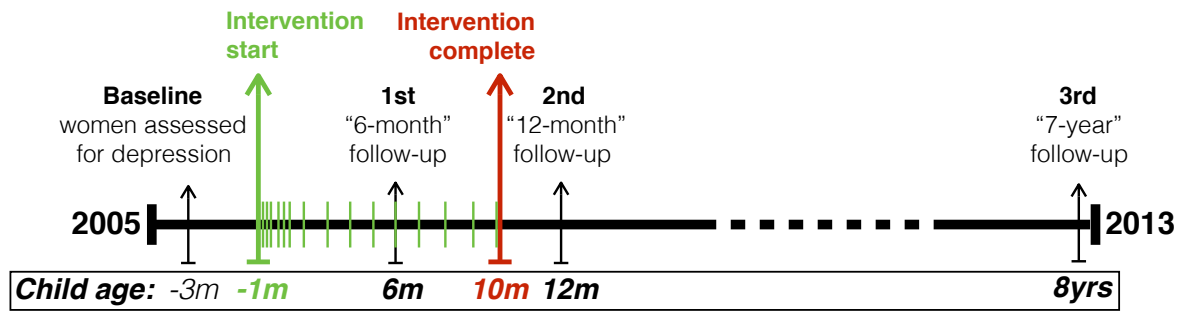
The THP study conducted detailed follow-up surveys at 6 and 12 months postpartum to evaluate maternal mental health, infant outcomes, parenting behavior and other household characteristics. The timeline for the intervention and all follow-ups is summarized in figure 3.1.

There had been no additional data collection, follow-up, or contact after the 12-month follow-up. In 2013, 7 years after the intervention concluded, a follow-up study was initiated in order to assess whether the reduction in postpartum depression noted in Rahman et al. (2008) had lasting effects.

²⁴The manual can be download from the WHO website: <http://www.who.int/mentalhealth/maternal-child/thinkinghealthy/en/>.

²⁵This enhanced frequency appears to be associated with better child outcomes for the control sample relative to the overall region. We find an infant mortality rate (of live births) of 4.6 percent, which is approximately two thirds of that of the Punjab region, which suffers an infant mortality rate of 77 per 1000 live births. Furthermore, rates of breastfeeding and completing immunization in our control sample were substantially higher than in the 2012-2013 Pakistan Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS).

Figure 3.1 – Timeline of intervention and follow-ups



As a first step we extracted a list of women with their contact information from the original trial and re-contacted those that completed the 12-month follow-up. Five field supervisors, who were blind to the woman’s depression or trial status, worked directly with the LHWs to locate study participants. Additional queries with neighbors or relatives, as well as local hospital record checks assisted this. Fieldwork lasted between May 2013 and January 2014 with a field team of 9 assessors. The assessors, who were also blind to treatment status, visited treated and control clusters at equal rates. Each dyad interview consisted of two parts: the first in the woman’s home and the second either in the child’s school or in the LHW’s house, a commonly used meeting place. The purpose of the second session was to administer the cognitive function tests to the child in a quiet and more standardized environment than the home.

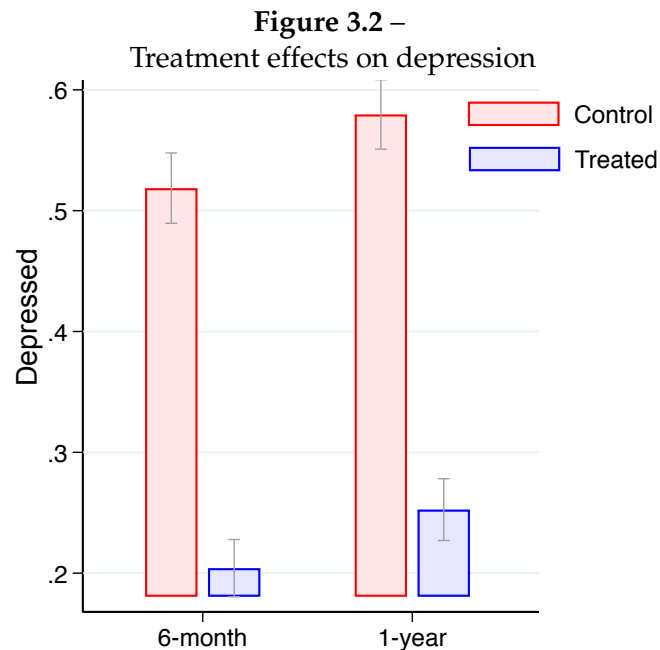
In the follow-up study, we also enrolled 300 mother-child dyads from the sample of women who were assessed for the original THP study but did not pass the DSM-IV criteria for major depression. As we had limited baseline data for women who were excluded from the original THP trial, the follow-up used each participant’s village and LHW assignment to identify a prenatally non-depressed woman to contact for re-enrollment. A full follow-up interview was completed by this additional sample, but the only baseline characteristic available for them is their depression status.

3.2 Impact of CBT Intervention on Depression Trajectories

The first-order aim of the THP intervention was to reduce the incidence of depression among prenatally depressed mothers. As such, the study was careful to measure clinical depression and mental health using the most rigorous methods. Maternal depression was assessed using the Structured Clinical Interview (SCID) for DSM-IV diagnosis. All mothers were evaluated by a psychiatrist at baseline, 6-months, and 1-year to determine if they were experiencing a major depressive episode (MDE). At the 7-year follow-up, maternal depression was also determined using the SCID interview, but administered by trained assessors. In addition to a binary indicator of clinical depression, the surveys at baseline, 6-months, and 1-year contained other measures related to mental health such as the depression severity and perceived social support (precise definitions are provided in Table D.4).

The intervention was evaluated in the short-term (at 6-months and 1-year) by the original study team and was shown to be extremely successful in reducing depression (Rahman et al.,

2008). Figure 3.2, adapted from Rahman et al. (2008), summarizes the main effects on depression rates of the women by intervention arm. CBT reduced depression rates by 32 percentage



points in the treated group relative to the control group by the 1-year follow-up despite high rates of spontaneous recovery from depression among control arm women. Major depression episodes frequently subside over time, and the rate of recovery observed in the control group is consistent with findings from the broader literature. Although episodes often resolve spontaneously, they are also highly likely to recur. However, even after the major depressive episode is over, 20% to 30% of patients have residual symptoms, which can be distressing and associated with disability. Incorporating the other measures of mental health into an index, we estimate that the intervention improved mental health among treated group women by 0.7 SD in the 1-year follow-up, and that the short-term effects were significant everywhere along the distribution of depression severity.

In a companion paper, we show that the mental health benefits of the intervention persisted to the 7-year follow-up. However, the difference in depression rates between treated and control group women narrowed by roughly a 75% reduction in magnitude over the short-run effects (Baranov et al., 2017).²⁶ We also find that the long-term mental health benefits appear to be concentrated for women with girls, a heterogeneous impact that was not present at the short-term follow-ups (Table I.26).

4 Data

A detailed description of the data and outcomes as well as an analysis of sample flow, balance, and attrition are presented in appendix Section B.

²⁶Because the manuscript is under review at a medical journal, no public link is available. However, it is available from the authors upon request.

Sample. Our analytical sample comprises of both the experimental group of mothers who were randomized into treatment or control arms, and the non-experimental group who were not depressed at baseline. The starting experimental sample consisted of 463 treated and 440 control mothers. After 1 year, 412 treated mothers and 360 infants were compared to 386 control mothers and 345 infants in the control group. Attrition was mainly due to change of residence or stillbirths and infant deaths (see Table F.11). At the 7-year follow-up, the study team successfully re-enrolled 83% (n=585) of women and their children who completed the 1-year follow-up, with 85.5% (n=295) of the control group dyads and 80.3% (n=289) of the intervention arm dyads (see Figure C.2). The 7-year follow-up sample represents 64.8% of the baseline sample, where a third of the attrition was due to infant or child mortality (which was not differential by treatment status). Finally, the non-experimental group also interviewed at the 7-year follow-up consists of 300 mother-child dyads, 150 from each cluster type, who were deemed not clinically depressed at baseline.

Baseline Balance. Balance of observable characteristics between the treated and the control group, shown in Table 1, is achieved at baseline. The only exception is household composition: treated women were more likely to have their mother-in-law or own mother present (each marginally significant). A joint test of balance of baseline covariates by intervention arm cannot be rejected (p -value of the joint test is 0.13). In the follow-up samples at 1 and 7 years, there is some imbalance. Besides persistent differences in the presence of the grandmother in the household, treated group women reported about 0.7 more years of education, and 0.3 fewer children. In the 7-year follow-up sample, treated mothers also reported higher perceived social support at baseline. A joint test of balance is rejected for the 7-year follow-up sample. We discuss how we address this imbalance in the next section.

Attrition. Attrition was not significantly differential by treatment status, testament to the professional effort devoted to relocating mothers after 7 years. A two-sample Wilcoxon rank-sum test of difference in means cannot reject the null of no difference, with a p -value=0.12. Although fairly similar along most characteristics (see Table F.11), attriters (lost-to-follow-up, LTFU) were less empowered, perceived less social support, but were more likely to work than mothers re-enrolled at year 7. There were no significant differences at the 5% level in baseline characteristics between treated and control LTFU mothers, and we fail to reject the joint test that characteristics of attriters in treatment were different to controls (p =0.59). Estimated treatment effects on 6 and 12 months mental health outcomes are the same regardless of whether we use the full sample or the 7-year follow-up sample (see Table F.12), suggesting that attrition is unlikely to impact our findings. Nevertheless, we also test robustness of our results to accounting for attrition in two ways (detailed description and results described in Appendix B.2). First, we calculate treatment effects using Inverse Probability Weighting, where the weights were calculated as the predicted probability of being in the 7-year follow-up sample based on the available baseline controls. Second, we calculate attrition bounds based on Lee (2009), which sorts the outcomes from best to worst within each treatment arm and then trims the sample from above and below to construct groups of equal size. Our results are not sensitive

to these corrections.

4.1 Outcomes

Extensive measures of mother and the child outcomes were collected in each survey. We first analyze how treatment affected women’s decision-making and then analyse child outcomes. To organize the results, we group related measures of mother’s decisions into five broad categories: mother’s financial empowerment, their fertility trajectory, and parenting behaviors. Parenting behaviors are grouped in 3 domains: time-intensive investment, monetary-intensive investment, and parenting style. Parenting style captures parenting behavior that does not have explicit time or monetary costs. For example, how the mother speaks to the child, or the style of discipline she uses. Differences in parenting style incur patience and effort more than time and money.

We define financial empowerment in this paper as access and control over resources (following [Ahmad and Khan \(2016\)](#); [Karlan et al. \(2017\)](#); [Lavy et al. \(2016\)](#) and others). In Pakistan, women’s empowerment is exceptionally low, with strictly defined traditional gender norms. Most women in Pakistan are confined to their homes to do housework for the extended family and are excluded from main decision-making ([Ahmad and Khan, 2016](#)). For instance, in our sample only 3% of mothers reported usually working at baseline (recall that they are pregnant and baseline), and 52% reported having any control over spending money in the control group at 6 months.

We evaluate treatment effects on *trajectories* of empowerment and fertility. For parenting inputs we rely on the extensive measures collected at the 7-year follow-up, consisting of both mother reported and direct interviewer observations.²⁷

To explore how treatment affected children, we report results for four broad groups of child outcomes at the 7-year follow-up: (1) physical development of the index child, (2) cognitive development of the index child, (3) socio-emotional development of the index child, and (4) survival of siblings. Developmental outcomes for the index child were also measured at infancy. Just as for parenting behaviors, our main analysis focuses on the richer outcomes collected during the 7-year follow-up, and since some of the early development outcomes have already been analyzed in the original trial paper ([Rahman, 2005](#)). At the 6-month and 12-month follow-ups, interviewers measured the length (height) and weight of the infants. They also asked the mother about recent diarrheal episodes and Acute Respiratory Infections (ARIs). However, for reference, results for these outcomes are presented in Table [I.37](#).

As there are numerous outcomes within each of these groupings, we generate summary indices to investigate effects across broad domains of decision-making before exploring effects on individual outcomes. We discuss the merits and assumptions of this approach below. We describe the outcome measures here and provide more precise definitions of all measures in Tables ([D.4–D.6](#)). Tables ([D.1–D.3](#)) show summary statistics for all outcomes used in the anal-

²⁷A limited number of self-reported measures were also collected from infancy, but they are not used in the main analysis since a subset of these outcomes were already analyzed in the original trial paper ([Rahman, 2005](#)). For completeness, we present the parenting results during infancy, all self-reported by the mother, in the appendix (see Table [I.36](#)).

ysis.²⁸

Mother's decision-making

1. **Financial empowerment** is measured using three outcomes: whether the woman was employed, her monthly earnings, and whether she has control over spending. At the 7-year follow-up, we have data on all three of these measures but for the earlier waves we have only control over spending.²⁹ From the earlier waves, only control over spending is available.^{30 31}
2. **Monetary-intensive investments** include the school quality index, whether the index child attends private school, the mother's expected grade attainment for the index child, the family's education expenditures in the past month, as well as the learning material and physical environment subscales of the HOME inventory.³² Mothers answered a detailed module on the home environment, which was a cultural adaptation of the short version of the HOME inventory (Caldwell and Bradley, 1984) similar to the HOME-SF used in a number of international studies, a prominent example being the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth, 1979. A number of questions within the HOME inventory are based on interviewer observations (rather than mother reports), and these are indicated in the detailed description of indices in D.4. Measures of school quality are based on assessor reports. The assessor visited the child at school and recorded information about whether the school had certain amenities (playground, computers, library, etc), the number of teachers and classrooms, and classroom amenities.
3. **Time-intensive parental investments** include frequency of mother and father playing with the index child, whether someone helps with his or her studies, as well as the enrichment, family companionship, and family integration subscales of the HOME inventory (all measures are directed at the index child).
4. **Parenting style** is measured using the Parenting Practices Inventory (PPI) (Webster-Stratton et al., 2001), capturing the disciplinary style of the parents such as the extent of harsh or inconsistent disciplining; and the responsivity, encouragement of maturity, and emotional climate subscales of the HOME score.

²⁸Although the women had other children that could have been affected by the intervention, the majority of our measures are based on extensive evaluation of the index child, i.e. the child who was in womb at the start of the intervention, at the 7-year follow-up.

²⁹We use both measures of control over spending, even though they are highly correlated, because one phrasing was asked at the 6-month survey, while the other at the 12-month. Since the summary index places more weight on uncorrelated information, adding additional highly correlated variables does not affect the index. For example, in the limit, adding additional perfectly correlated variables does not affect the index at all.

³⁰Female labor force participation is extremely low in our setting. There is no variation in mother's employment in the first year, since none of the women surveyed reported working either at the 6 or the 12 month follow-ups, while only 12 percent of mothers work 7 years after the birth of the index child. Thus, at 6- and 12-month follow-ups, our empowerment measures only consist of control over spending.

³¹At 6 months, the question was phrased as "Does your husband/head of family give you spending money and if so do you decide how to use it", while at 12 months the question was phrased as "Do you get pocket money for spending on personal needs".

³²Since expected grade attainment is related to schooling, we included it into the monetary index which contains all of the other questions pertaining to schooling

5. **Fertility trajectory** between the beginning of the intervention and the 7-year follow. At the 1-year follow-up, mothers were asked if they were pregnant. At the 7-year follow-up, mothers completed a child roster, with ages (but not genders) of children. From the child roster, we can learn how many surviving children the mother has had since the intervention began.³³ We analyze fertility in two ways. First, to summarize the results in a way that will be consistent with the other outcomes, we create an index with the total number of siblings of the index child born since treatment started, whether the mother was pregnant again at the 1-year follow-up (the only fertility outcome actually measured prior to the 7-year follow-up), whether the index child is the last child, and the ideal number of children (asked only at the 7-year follow-up). Second, based on the child roster data reported by the mother at the 7-year follow-up, we also plot the fertility trajectory as a function of time since treatment.

Child outcomes

1. **Physical development** was assessed with growth, fine motor skills, and illness. Interviewers measured height and weight, and motor skills were assessed using the Grooved Pegboard Test. The mothers reported any severe illness, hospitalizations, eye and hearing problems of the child.
2. **Cognitive development** was assessed with the Wechsler Preschool and Primary Scale of Intelligence, designed for children between 2.5 and 7.5 years old (WPPSI-IV). It provides primary index scales for verbal comprehension, visual-spatial, fluid reasoning, working memory, and processing speed. Executive functioning was assessed using a Stroop-like test, which gauges inhibition and working memory. Basic literacy and numeracy tests were administered, providing math and Urdu scores based on the number of correct answers out of 16 and 12 questions respectively. The school grade of the child was based on teacher reports.
3. **Socio-emotional development** was measured along two broad domains: behavioral and emotional problems, assessed with the Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ) (Goodman, 1997)); and anxiety, assessed with the Spence Children's Anxiety Scale (SCAS) (Spence, 1998)) which is designed to identify symptoms of various anxiety disorders. Both measures are based on sets of questions answered by the mother.
4. **Sibling survival.** Survival of the index child's siblings is the only sibling outcome we are able to evaluate.³⁴ We use the mother's reports of child mortality since the intervention, and the sex ratio of the surviving children at the 7-year follow-up to assess treatment effects.³⁵

³³At baseline and at the 7-year follow-up, mothers were asked about the number of her children that have died. From that we can infer the number of children that died between baseline and the 7-year follow-up and add that to the total number of surviving children to estimate total number of pregnancies. The results are essentially unchanged using this approach.

³⁴A small exception are some items of the HOME inventory, such as the 'physical environment' subscale. While most of the questions about parenting refer specifically to the index child, some items of the HOME inventory measure the overall quality of the household environment, such as cleanliness and safety. In this sense there might be a direct benefit also for the index child's siblings.

³⁵Survival of the index child is an outcome in itself; while attrition due to mortality was scrupulously reported between baseline and 1-year, between the 1-year and 7-year follow-up child survival was not reported for study

5 Econometric Specification

The identification strategy is straightforward since treatment assignment was random. Our principal estimating equation is:

$$Y_{ic} = \alpha + \beta T_c + \Gamma' \mathbf{X}_{ic} + \varepsilon_{ic} \quad (5.1)$$

where Y_{ic} is the outcome for the mother or child i living in cluster c . We start by analyzing treatment effects on summary indices capturing measures related to women’s decision-making (financial empowerment, her fertility trajectory, time-intensive parenting investment, monetary-intensive parenting investment, and parenting style) and child outcomes (cognitive, physical, and socio-emotional development of the index child, and sibling survival). All indices are standardized within the control group to have mean zero and standard deviation one, and so that positive values are always associated with more favorable outcomes.

T_c is a dummy equal to one if the mother is in the intervention group, which by the cluster design varies only at the Union Council level, c . Standard errors are clustered at the Union Council level, the unit of randomization, using the sandwich estimator.³⁶ \mathbf{X}_{ic} is a vector of controls. We first show a parsimonious model controlling only for interviewer fixed effects and date of interview. We then include the full set of baseline characteristics interacted with the treatment indicator, following the standard operating procedures laid out by [Lin and Green \(2016\)](#). This accounts for the fact that the follow-up sample is not balanced along all observable baseline characteristics.³⁷ The set of baseline characteristics include mother’s age and its square, parity, family structure, presence of grandmother (mother or mother-in-law of depressed mother), mother’s education, father’s education, if mother was employed, if mother was empowered, wealth index, depression severity (Hamilton score), and perceived social support (MSPSS). Our results are not sensitive to the set of controls used.³⁸

The parameter of interest is β , representing the Intention-To-Treat (ITT) effect. Since attrition was not a function of treatment, treatment was not available to control mothers, and all women offered the treatment accepted it, β would be the average treatment effect on the treated (ATT) if we could assume that all treated women participated in all sessions. Although we had full compliance we do not observe how many sessions the women actually received.³⁹ Therefore, we can only claim to estimate the causal effect of being offered treatment (ITT),

participants who moved or refused at any time, and only a few instances of child deaths were specifically reported. Similarly, while the gender composition of the index child is suggestive, it captures only the intervention effect on the index child.

³⁶We calculated p -values generated from the Wild- t bootstrap method to address small numbers of clusters following [Cameron et al. \(2008\)](#). However, there is little difference between those p -values and those reported here.

³⁷The baseline characteristics are centered by the sample mean and interacted with a treatment indicator such that coefficients on the baseline characteristics may vary by intervention arm. Thus we include $\mathbf{X}_{ic} + (\mathbf{X}_{ic} - \bar{\mathbf{X}}) \times T_c$.

³⁸The children are of a single birth cohort born in 2005-2006. Child age is excluded from the controls as it is potentially endogenous. However treatment did not affect the age of the child (by lengthening pregnancy, for example), and the results are nearly identical if we control for age.

³⁹Furthermore, in our data 12 women moved between clusters within the first year (6 treatment, 6 control). In these cases, women who were assigned to control and moved to treatment clusters did not receive treatment; however those in treatment clusters who moved into control clusters no longer received treatment. Thus there are 12 cases where treatment take-up differs from random assignment variable that we actually know about. We use the original treatment assignment in our analysis, yielding an estimate of the ITT. However, instrumenting actual treatment take-up with the original assignment yields similar results, albeit with slightly larger standard errors.

encompassing treatment intensity.

Note that we identify the causal effect of the intervention (CBT treating depression) rather than the causal effect of depression. Not all mothers recovered from depression in the treatment arm, and many mothers in the control arm spontaneously recovered. We avoid using the randomized assignment as an instrument for depression, since it is possible that the intervention per se, through encouraging healthy thinking and bonding with the child, may have had direct impacts on some outcomes above and beyond affecting maternal depression, implying that the exclusion restriction might not be satisfied.

Heterogeneous Treatment Effects. We estimated heterogeneous treatment effects by gender, socio-economic status, demographic indicators, and baseline depression severity. For instance, for gender, the estimated equation is $Y_{ic} = \alpha + \beta^g \text{Girl}_i \times T_c + \beta^b \text{Boy}_i \times T_c + \delta \text{Girl}_i + \mathbf{\Gamma}' \mathbf{X}_{ic} + \varepsilon_{ic}$ where Girl_i is an indicator equal to one if the index child is female, and Boy_i is an indicator for male. Gender indicators are interacted with treatment, so that the coefficient β^g is interpreted as the impact of treatment for dyads who had girls and β^b is the treatment effect for boy dyads.

Multiple Inference and Power. As there are many outcomes, following O'Brien (1984); Kling et al. (2007); Anderson (2008), results are reported using summary indices that are constructed as the most efficient weighted average of a set of outcomes. This approach addresses the problem of multiple inference by reducing the number of hypotheses tested but also improves the power of our statistical test for whether the intervention had effects within groups of related outcomes.⁴⁰

We further account for multiple hypothesis testing across the indices by calculating p -values using a step-down procedure with a non-parametric permutation test which controls the family-wise error rate, following (Westfall and Young, 1993; Efron and Tibshirani, 1994). We also calculate the Family-Wise Error Rate (FWER)-adjusted p -values when we explore the effects of the intervention within the components of the indices.

Power calculations for the 7-year follow-up were structured around the WPPSI-III full scale IQ measure for children. Calculations were based on re-enrollment numbers that were slightly optimistic with N of 328 in the intervention arm (actual 289) and 314 in the control arm (actual 296) and an inter-cluster correlation (ICC) of 0.05. The ICC was based on the observed ICC in the same clusters for the maternal mental health variables in the original study (Rahman et al., 2008). With these parameters, the study had 80% power to detect a difference of 0.36 standard deviations in standardized scores.

Quantile Treatment Effects. We further explore treatment effects across the distributions of parental inputs and child outcomes (there is not enough variation in other indices to perform

⁴⁰The index weights outcomes using the inverse of their variance-covariance matrix. This procedure is akin to estimating a Seemingly Unrelated Regression model of all (standardized) outcomes on the treatment indicator jointly, while constraining the coefficients to be equal within each grouping. As this is a Generalized Least Squares estimator it provides the most efficient estimation of the treatment effect across related outcomes. As an alternative approach, we compute factor scores, which is a method more suited when the measures included in the factor score are proxies of an underlying one-dimensional latent factor, measured with noise. The results, presented in Table G.16, are qualitatively similar. However, the GLS-weighted index allows for item non-response (where as the factor score drops individuals with any missing data), but weights outcomes more where more data is available.

such an analysis). We show quantile treatment effects (QTE) for the summary index, where the QTE is the horizontal distance between the treated and control group CDF at a given percentile, following [Frölich and Melly \(2013\)](#). Because treatment was randomized, the treatment effect at the quantiles is also identified.⁴¹ Since the assumption of rank preservation for depression severity is not satisfied in our case, we cannot interpret the QTEs as the distribution of treatment effects, but only the effect of treatment across the distribution of the outcome.⁴²

6 Results

We identify meaningful and statistically significant impacts on mother’s control over household resources and investments in children. Yet, in general, we find no detectable effects on fertility or on child development across multiple domains.

Our main results are summarized in [Tables 2 and 10](#). All coefficients can be interpreted as improvements in terms of percentages of one standard deviation of the outcome. The tables display results with parsimonious and enriched controls and report the FWER-adjusted p -values from the richer model. We first present the main tests of how treatment impacted the mother’s decision-making; we then explore treatment effects on individual outcomes and heterogeneity by gender; we then analyze the effect of the intervention on potential mediators; finally, we report the effect of the intervention on child outcomes, and discuss possible explanations for the lack of improvement in child development indicators.

6.1 Women’s Decision-Making

[Table 2](#) shows the treatment effects on indices of women’s decision-making. The intervention significantly increased mother’s financial empowerment by 0.29 of a standard deviation (SD),⁴³ increased monetary-intensive parental investments by 0.28 SD, and time-intensive parental investments by 0.20 SD. This pattern across outcomes is consistent with previous research which suggests that investments in children are greater when the mother has greater control over household resources ([Lundberg et al., 1997](#); [Hoddinott and Haddad, 1995](#)). On average, we find no effects on parenting style or the mother’s fertility trajectory.

As detailed below, the financial power and parental investment results emerge primarily from mothers who were pregnant with girls at baseline, for whom we see a 0.47 SD increase in financial empowerment, a 0.48 SD increase for monetary investments in children and 0.24 for parenting style. These findings are consistent with [Thomas \(1994\)](#), whose findings suggest that girls benefit disproportionately from the mother’s power within the household (while

⁴¹We estimate the QTE for each quantile between 5 and 95. We use inverse propensity score weights to account for observables, controlling only for the interviewer and date of interview (though results are similar using the full set of controls). For inference, we construct point-wise confidence intervals at each quantile by bootstrapping using 1,000 replications, clustered at the Union Council level. We use a bootstrapping procedure to calculate the confidence intervals instead of the analytical calculations in order to account for the cluster-randomized design.

⁴²Quantile treatment effects can be interpreted as the distribution of treatment effects under the assumption that treatment preserves the ranking of outcomes relative to the counter-factual ranking. Tests of this assumption can be made if the outcome is measured before the treatment. We reject that treatment preserved rank using depression severity.

⁴³[Lavy et al. \(2016\)](#) find a similar improvement of 0.3 SD in an index of “economic and social independence”.

boys benefit more from father's control), and potentially with [Dahl and Moretti \(2008\)](#) and [Blau et al. \(2017\)](#) whose findings suggest that fathers prefer to have sons, from which it follows that girls will tend to receive a more equal share of resources when mothers' preferences matter more.

Quantile treatment effects show fairly homogeneous treatment effects over the distribution of parental inputs (Figure 8.1); we do not have sufficient continuity in the data to estimate QTE for financial empowerment. To put the magnitude of the estimated treatment effects into context, Table 3 reports the mean differences in outcomes in the 7-year follow-up between control arm women who were depressed at baseline and women who were excluded from the trial because they were not depressed. We see that perinatal depression is descriptively associated with significantly lower financial empowerment of the woman, and lower time and monetary investments in children 7 years later. There are no significant differences in parenting style on average, though there are for mothers of girls. It is striking that the estimated treatment effects more or less close these raw gaps, or that the treatment brings the medium-term outcomes of perinatally depressed women close to those of their non-depressed counterparts.

Robustness. Our main findings survive both parametric and non-parametric corrections for attrition (Table 12) and are not sensitive to the set of control variables used (Table G.15). Furthermore, a difference-in-differences specification provides an additional robustness check against cluster-level shocks. In particular, over the 7 years since the initial randomization, shocks potentially correlated with treatment assignment could undermine randomization. To address this concern, we leverage availability of data from both treated and control clusters on women who were excluded from the trial because they were not perinatally depressed at baseline. This approach assumes that any cluster-specific shocks similarly influence outcomes for the baseline depressed and the baseline non-depressed women in the cluster. Results using the difference-in-differences specification are almost identical (see B.4 for a description of the specification and Tables G.21 and G.22). These results allow us to reject the concern that our estimates of treatment effects are driven by favorable shocks to treatment clusters, the coefficients on the indicator for treatment clusters being insignificantly different from zero (and negative in many domains).

6.1.1 Exploring Treatment Effects on Individual Outcomes

Tables 4–8 provide results by sub-components of the indices on women's decision-making, and by the gender of the child in the womb when the intervention started.⁴⁴

Empowerment. Table 4 shows treatment effects on the components of the financial empowerment index. Mother's control over spending shows a consistent improvement of about 10 percentage points in each of the 6-month, 12-month and 7-year follow-ups, and the 12-month and 7-year estimates are robust to adjusting for multiple inference. Interestingly, these results are corroborated by descriptive evidence showing that maternal depression over the years is

⁴⁴Estimates of treatment effects on specific sub-scales are reported in Appendix (I).

correlated with lower maternal empowerment (see Table G.20).⁴⁵ In contrast, there is no robust evidence that the intervention affected the mother's labor supply or income. However, employment rates of women in this rural sample are low, and were lower at baseline because the baseline survey was conducted on pregnant women. We do identify a marginal effect of 1 percentage point on employment, which is a meaningful 10% increase, but this estimate is statistically indistinguishable from zero.

Monetary-intensive parental inputs. Components of the monetary investments index are shown in Table 5. The treatment effect is positive and sizeable for each of the six components, and statistically significant for learning materials, expectations of grade attainment, private school attendance, and school quality, but only learning materials is robust to controlling for multiple inference. It is also important that we see changes in both mother-reported and interviewer assessed measures of inputs (for example school quality and presence of learning materials in the home), suggesting that our findings are not driven by experimenter demand effects.

Time-intensive parental inputs. Table 6 shows that four of the five measures of time-intensive investments are positive and statistically significant. These are the subscales of the HOME inventory which indicate enrichment and family companionship, both of which improve by 31% of a standard deviation, and family integration, which improves by 17%. There is a 6% increase in the likelihood that someone in the family helps with studies, but this is not robust to adjusting for multiple inference. We find no effect on the frequency with which the mother plays with the child at 7-years, although this variable was highly significant at the 1-year follow-up.

Parenting Style. Table 7 shows more variation in treatment effects across items of the parenting style index than is the case for other inputs. There are large positive effects for subscales of HOME indicating higher responsiveness (22%) and emotional climate (37%) in treated families compared to the control mean. There are small or even negative effects of treatment on encouragement of maturity and on elements of the Parenting Practices Inventory that indicate consistency and harshness of parenting styles. However as we note below, treatment effects on parenting styles differ so much between boys and girls that once they are separated, we see robust positive treatment effects on parenting style for girls. Parts of these subscales are interviewer observed, which means they are less prone to reporting bias from the mother. Table J.38 shows an additional measure of positive parenting using the interviewer observed measures only.

Fertility Trajectory. Table 8 shows that the intervention had no discernible effect on any of the components of the fertility trajectory index, both when the index child is a boy or a girl.

⁴⁵Although, where relevant, we use data from the short-term follow-ups in the indices, for consistency we restrict our main analysis to the medium term follow-up sample. Reported treatment effects using all available short-term data are very similar, and supports the conclusions of Rahman et al. (2012), who using the data estimated the impact of the program on mother control over spending at 6-months. If we repeat the analysis using only the medium term outcomes, the magnitude of the overall effect is smaller (0.18 of a standard deviation), but the results are qualitatively similar (see Tables G.18 and I.27).

All of the estimated treatment effects are small and indistinguishable from zero; the treatment effect on whether the index child is the last is marginally statistically significant only when additional controls are not added, and the result does not survive multiple hypothesis testing. Additionally, Figure C.5 shows the number of kids born after the index child, and C.4 plots the trajectory of fertility between baseline and the 7-year follow-up for the treatment and control groups, showing no differences in number or timing of subsequent births.

6.1.2 Heterogeneity of Treatment Effects

We first discuss heterogeneity of treatment effects by the gender of the index child, and then by other characteristics. There is a long-standing hypothesis that males are biologically more sensitive to stress *in utero* (Trivers and Willard, 1973; Giussani et al., 2011; Mueller and Bale, 2008; Almond and Edlund, 2007), and a large literature suggests that male and female children respond differently to early life shocks (see, among many others, Autor et al. (2016); Anderson (2008); Garcia et al. (2017); Bhalotra and Venkataramani (2011); Baird et al. (2016)). In South Asia, there is considerable evidence that gender differences in investments and outcomes arise from a preference for sons (Kristof and WuDunn, 2009; Atif et al., 2016; Sathar et al., 2015; Miller, 1981; Sen, 1992; Bhalotra et al., 2016). Not only are sons often favored, but mothers of sons are favored over women who have only daughters (Milazzo, 2014).

Comparing control group means of outcomes in the 7-year follow-up for women who were pregnant with a girl versus a boy when the intervention started, we similarly find that women with daughters in our sample have more limited control over household spending and that their children receive lower monetary and time investments.

Importantly, we find that intervention effects tend to redress this imbalance. In Tables 4–8, columns 5-6 report outcome means in the control group by gender of the index child and columns 7-8 report the estimated treatment effects for mothers of girls and boys respectively. The difference between columns 5-6 and 7-8 tells us whether treatment is able to overcome the gender differences in outcomes that would arise in the absence of the intervention.⁴⁶

We find overwhelming evidence that the average treatment effects are driven by mothers who were pregnant with a girl at the start of the intervention. The estimates for boys are consistently smaller and often indistinguishable from zero. With the exception of the index for parental time-intensive investment, the estimated gender differences in the outcomes are statistically different from each other. Overall, the intervention acted to narrow or close the existing gap between mothers of boys and mothers of girls. For example, among control group mothers, 59% of those with sons report some control over household spending, compared with 44% of those with daughters. The intervention was able to overcome this difference, empowering mothers of girls. The intuition is that when the mother is not depressed she is better able to advocate for herself.

The additional control over spending is plausibly one mechanism that led to higher investments in children, and in particular in girls. This is quite stark in the case of monetary

⁴⁶Rather than differentiate by whether the woman had a son at any time or not, we differentiate by the gender of the child that the woman was pregnant with when she was diagnosed as depressed and entered into the trial. This is directly relevant to intervention effects. It will also be positively correlated with the probability of having at least one son at the 7-year mark.

investments. In the control group these are on average 34% of a standard deviation lower for girls, and the treatment effect for girls is 36 percentage points higher than for boys, perfectly closing the gap. The underlying gender differences in time-intensive investments are not so pronounced and the treatment effects for girls, although much bigger in magnitude, are on average not statistically different from treatment effects for boys. They are significantly larger for two of five components, namely enrichment and companionship subscales of the HOME index, and these components show a control-group mean difference that favors boys so, again, the treatment acts to redress the balance. A similar pattern is evident for parenting style. On average, the control group differences favor girls. The exceptions are responsivity and emotional climate which favor boys, and these are precisely the two scales that respond significantly to treatment, and only for girls.

Our evidence that treatment effects on investments favor girls and act to narrow the underlying advantage of boys lines up with previous evidence that the preference for sons is stronger amongst fathers (Thomas, 1994; Dahl and Moretti, 2008). An alternative interpretation of our findings may be that selective processes of gender-differentiated abortion, fertility or mortality result in the girls at the follow-up being more “wanted” and hence treated more equally relative to sons. To be relevant, any such processes would have to create a difference in wantedness between the treated and control group. In fact, we see an increase in the share of girls in treated relative to control clusters over time, suggesting less selective abortion or post-birth mortality of girls. Sex-selective abortion is very unlikely to play a role in this setting⁴⁷ but as we document below, we find some evidence of lower girl-mortality after birth in treated clusters.⁴⁸ In any case, if it did, this would be consistent with our maintained hypothesis that the empowerment of women in the treated group favored girls.

Heterogeneity by other characteristics. Estimates of heterogeneity in treatment effects by other baseline characteristics are in Table H.23. Treatment effects on women’s financial empowerment are significantly larger among women with education above the median level, and significantly smaller among women who are younger (less than 27), and among women who had a grandmother in the household at baseline. There is no significant difference in treatment effects by wealth, or by whether the child in the womb at baseline was the first child. In the control group, the only significant associations are positive associations of financial empowerment with wealth and the presence of a grandmother of the child. Treatment effects on money and time investments, parenting style, and fertility do not vary significantly with any of the stated characteristics. However, in the control group we see the commonly documented positive associations of parental investments with wealth and the mother’s education.

⁴⁷Prenatal sex detection diagnostics were unavailable to this population (Zaidi and Morgan, 2016), and there is evidence that Muslims have a strong religious aversion to abortion, using other means to exercise their preference for sons (Bhalotra and Cochrane, 2010; Almond et al., 2013; Bhalotra et al., 2017b).

⁴⁸The gender of the index child at birth was predetermined and not affected by the intervention. However, differences in gender ratios by treatment status in later follow-ups could have resulted from differential attrition due to child mortality. At birth, treated clusters had 3 percentage point more girls, and this difference grows to 5 percentage points in the 1-year follow-up sample (Table 1). In the 7-year follow-up, the treated arm had 6 percentage point more girls than the control arm ($p=0.13$). Thus the change in treatment-control difference in percent female between birth and 7-year follow-up is just 3 percentage points.

6.2 Potential Mediators

The CBT intervention was targeted at improving women’s mental health postpartum and, as discussed, it succeeded in creating a large difference of 32 percentage points in depression rates of mothers in the treated and control arms in the 1-year follow-up. A hypothesis of interest is that postpartum improvements in depression drive the improvements in women’s financial empowerment and parental investments at the 7-year mark. However, an alternative possibility is that the intervention influenced these outcomes through other intermediate outcomes between birth and the 7-year follow-up. For example, treatment may have led to better physical health among women as a result of better mental health (Ferrari et al., 2013), or as a direct result of the positive thinking therapy; husbands who reduced working hours in order to take care of the depressed mother or aid in child rearing may have been more likely to return to work in the treated group; the treatment may have directly engendered a better relationship with the husband or other members of the household (as this was part of the content of the intervention) and this may have been the pathway to higher financial empowerment;⁴⁹ or the child’s grandmother might have been more likely to have moved in to help care for the child in the treated group, and this might have contributed to the outcomes we document.

To test for potential mediating factors, we investigate whether husband’s earnings, mother’s physical health, relationship quality, or social support are directly affected by the intervention. As above, given the large number of outcomes, we generate indices for the trajectories of husband’s labor earnings (at 6-month, 1-year, and 7-year follow-ups), mother’s physical health (self reported measures at 7-year, and weight at 6-month follow-up), relationship quality (at 1-year and 7-year follow-ups), and social support (grandmothers at 6-month, 1-year, and 7-year follow-ups); again all indices are coded such that higher values of the index correspond to more favorable outcomes. Table 9 shows no evidence of effects on women’s health or husband’s earnings.

Treatment led to improved relationship quality and an increased presence of grandmothers in the household.⁵⁰ Relationship quality improvements occur primarily at the 1-year follow-up and do not persist into the 7-year follow-up. Importantly, unlike the results for depression, empowerment, and parenting at the 7-year follow-up, there is no evidence of heterogeneity by gender of the index child.

So as to investigate the contribution of recovery from depression in explaining the relation between treatment and the final outcomes of interest, we included indicators for maternal depression severity assessed at 1 year and 7 years as regressors. Since the intervention changed the trajectory of depression between baseline and the 7-year follow-up, the relevant regressors would be functions of the integral between the depression trajectories of the two groups. Concerns over measurement error aside, these are still endogenous post-treatment regressors, so we interpret these results with caution. Appendix Table G.17 shows that controlling for post-treatment depression reduces the coefficients of the intervention on all outcomes, especially

⁴⁹In principle, we would also consider divorce but this is rare in this setting, with just 1% of women reporting to have divorced. 97% of the women in our sample were still married, with 1.8% widowed.

⁵⁰Treatment effects within indices for intermediate outcomes are presented in Tables I.32-I.35. Apart from that mentioned above, no significant effects emerge for the components, nor were the null effects masked by heterogeneity by child gender.

financial empowerment and on parental time investments. For the three outcomes where we find significant treatment effects, the magnitude of the coefficient on treatment is reduced by an average of 55%. The reduction in the coefficients might be even greater if we think that the full extent of recovery from depression is not fully captured by indices of depression 1 and 7 years after the intervention, that is, if there is measurement error in the depression trajectory regressors. Interestingly, controlling for the presence of grandmothers at 1 and 7 years does not similarly impact the coefficient on treat (reducing the treatment coefficient by just 8% on average, not shown).⁵¹ Overall, this evidence suggests that the identified impacts on women’s decision-making at the 7-year mark associated with randomized exposure to CBT are unlikely to be entirely driven by channels other than improved mental health, which was the aim of the intervention.

6.3 Child outcomes

Table 10 presents estimates of intervention effects on child development in the cognitive, socio-emotional, and physical domains, together with estimates for sibling survival, all measured in the 7-year follow-up. We find no statistically significant effects of the CBT treatment on developmental indicators at age 8, irrespective of domain. This supports the conclusions of Maselko et al. (2015), who estimated the impact of this program on a subset of the child development outcomes that we consider in our analysis. Besides broadening the set of child outcomes considered and test using indices with more statistical power, we also evaluate the effect of the intervention over different quantiles. Nevertheless, we find that treatment effects on child development are, in general, not significantly different from zero in any part of the distribution or for a certain subpopulation.⁵² The quantile treatment effects plotted in Figure 8.1 barely change over the distribution of children skills, and always gravitate around zero, though QTEs for physical development show the largest effects in the lower two-thirds of the distribution.

A detailed analysis of treatment effects on child development outcomes can be found in Appendix Section I. We refrain from interpreting treatment effects on specific components of indices for which we did not find statistically significant effects in our main tests in Table 10. Instead, we briefly summarize the patterns below, interpreting them as suggestive. Since intervention-led increases in parental investments favored girls, we allowed gender-specific coefficients but there is little evidence of improved developmental indicators for girls any more than for boys. The sporadic positive effects within components of indices, however, were concentrated among girls. For example, of the eight measures of physical development, the only one that is statistically significant at naive p -values is BMI-for-age which shows a positive treatment effect for girls and a slight negative treatment effect for boys.⁵³ Of the nine components

⁵¹We have also conducted a mediation analysis in the spirit of Gelbach (2016); Heckman and Pinto (2015), essentially including all potential mediators as regressors simultaneously. As mentioned above, the mediation analysis is still plagued by the endogeneity of mediators. The results, available upon request, are in line with the aforementioned findings.

⁵²Heterogeneous treatment effects are absent by child gender but also for mother’s education, mother’s age, whether she was pregnant with her first child at baseline, an index of baseline household wealth, and an indicator for whether the grandmother was present at baseline (Table H.24). Only two interaction terms are statistically significant, notably the treatment effect on sibling survival was larger in families in which the grandmother was not present at baseline. However these are two of twenty interaction coefficients estimated.

⁵³In this context where nutritional resources are scarce, we may interpret this evidence as consistent with real-

of cognitive development, only processing speed and fluid reasoning improve in the treated group, and only for girls. Of the eleven components of socio-emotional development, only two respond to treatment, and only for girls. Treatment girls have fewer conduct problems but higher obsessive-compulsive subscale scores. The sibling survival index is 0.17 standard deviations larger in the treated group, and this is driven by improved survival of sisters. Survival of the index child does not seem to be impacted by the treatment, so these results indicate sibling spillovers.⁵⁴

So as to benchmark our findings, we compared child development indicators between women who were not prenatally depressed and prenatally depressed controls who did not receive treatment. This descriptive gap is shown in Table 11. It is striking to see no correlation between perinatal depression and the cognitive development of eight-year-old boys and girls. However, we do see the expected differences in physical development for both boys and girls (entirely driven by mother-reported illness and not growth), and in socio-emotional development especially for boys, with children of baseline depressed women exhibiting worse outcomes.⁵⁵ This descriptive benchmarking for the effectiveness of the intervention suggests that we should probably not have expected impacts on cognitive development at this age although, in principle, we may expect impacts in the other domains. We discuss alternative explanations for our null findings on child development further in Section 6.4.

6.4 Discussion: Exploring Results for Child Development

A priori we expected that lower rates of postpartum depression created by the intervention would influence child development indicators at later ages given growing evidence of the longer term benefits of an improved early life environment (Campbell et al., 2014; Almond et al., 2017). We even identify a potential mechanism for this improvement in skills, insofar as we find that parental investments (at age 1 and 7) improved as a result of the intervention. It may therefore be surprising that we see no improvements in cognitive or socio-emotional development at age 7 for girls or boys, and only small impacts on physical development.

We propose two possible explanations. One is that although additional time and money investments were made by parents in the treated group, these were not effective at promoting child development. For instance, time spent together may not have included sufficient stimulation (Attanasio et al. (2017)), or monetary investments including learning materials may not have been age-appropriate. Analysis of the Preschool Curriculum Evaluation Research Initiative Study (PCER, 2008) by Duncan et al. (2017) shows that targeting skills is more effective for learning outcomes than the usual “whole child” approach. Attanasio et al. (2017) find cognitive impacts of an intervention in Colombia that was designed to stimulate children and their estimates suggest that the parenting intervention was key. A second explanation is that differences between treated- and control-arm children will diverge over time, consistent with dynamic complementarity (Cunha and Heckman, 2007; Heckman and Mosso, 2014; Doyle et

location of nutrition from boys to girls.

⁵⁴Table F.11 reports differences in known death rates for attriters between treatment and control groups. Overall, 10 percent of the index children died or were severely ill after birth (explaining 28 percent of attrition), a lower mortality rate than the Punjab region. Of known child deaths, rates were not differential by treatment status.

⁵⁵This is consistent with a prior analysis of correlates of child mental health in this sample (Maselko et al., 2016).

al., 2017; Almond et al., 2017), and so might become evident at later ages even if not yet evident at age 7. Verifying this explanation requires longer-term follow-up data.

Here we investigate (and undermine) some alternative hypothesis. These include fading of treatment effects, possibly through compensating investments in the control arm, or differential survival of weaker children. A potential explanation is that there were treatment effects on child development but that these had faded by the 7-year follow-up. Fading has been noted, for instance in Chetty et al. (2011), and Heckman et al. (2013).⁵⁶ One mechanism underlying fading is catch up on the part of the control group. To investigate this, we sought evidence of compensating investments in the control arm, but could find none. In fact, as discussed, we find higher parental investments in treated arm children, consistent with reinforcing behavior (during infancy and at age 7). We also estimated grandmother co-residence in the 7-year follow-up as an outcome, to test whether support from the extended family increased more in the control arm to compensate the mother's depression. We again found reinforcing behavior, inasmuch as grandmothers were significantly more likely to live with the family at year 7 in the treated arm.

Alternatively, differential survival might bias the estimates toward zero if the marginal child surviving due to the treatment is negatively selected on birth endowments and hence accumulates lower human capital. However, we find no evidence of differential survival due to the treatment, or fatter left-tails in the distributions of skills for treated children (see Table I.31 and C.3). Although we found some evidence of intervention effects on sibling survival, this did not stand up the multiple inference adjustment on average, and the evidence was restricted to girls (Table I.31). In contrast, our failure to find intervention effects on child development is similar for boys and girls.

Another possibility is that the intervention was initiated too late in pregnancy, or stopped too early, so that damage to the child might have already occurred (i.e. before the third trimester) and the postnatal investments we document may not have been sufficient to reverse it. However, if this were correct, we would expect to see systematically worse outcomes for children of mothers who were depressed vs non-depressed in pregnancy. Although we do see worse socio-economic and physical development among children of perinatally depressed women, we see no significant deficit in their cognitive development. This weakens the timing hypothesis.

We might imagine that the indices of child development we use are not sensible constructs for this population. To investigate this, we estimated regressions of each index on baseline family characteristics, and these reveal the expected associations with wealth and education, indicating that the indices are sensible constructs (see Tables D.7 and D.8). Additionally, previous analyses with this data utilized a narrower subset of measures traditionally used in the field of child development and found similar results (Maselko et al., 2015). As another sensibility-check, we estimate each index of child development on parenting inputs (without accounting for their endogeneity), and the resulting coefficients are of the expected sign (see Table G.19). Another possible concern is that not all of the relevant domains of child develop-

⁵⁶The cognitive gains documented among toddlers in Attanasio et al. (2017) had also faded by the next follow-up; personal communication.

ment were measured and so there were intervention effects but we do not capture them in our data. For instance, evaluation of a school intervention in the US, Project Star (Chetty et al. (2011)), shows early improvements in cognitive skills that subsequently fade but because individuals in the treated arm have higher adult income, the authors argue that there may have been (undocumented) positive effects on non-cognitive skills. However we measure non-cognitive skills using inventories with numerous questions, so this seems unlikely. A further measurement issue is that treated mothers might be more prone to report negative outcomes for the child if, for example, the intervention made them more attuned to the psychological disposition of their child. However, while this may explain the failure to identify intervention effects on socio-emotional development, which is more dependent on the mother's subjective responses, it is unlikely the results for cognitive and physical development, the indices of which include several objective measurements.

7 Conclusion

We evaluate the impact of treating maternal depression on women's economic decision-making. Perinatal depression is a widespread mental health problem which has the potential to negatively impact not only the mother but also the next generation. Yet, maternal depression is often undiagnosed and hence untreated. We leverage exogenous variation in depression treatment generated by a cluster randomized control trial providing cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) to a sample of depressed pregnant women in one of the largest psychotherapy trials to date. The intervention, conducted in rural Pakistan, cost US\$10 per woman per year and was provided by training public sector health workers in administration of CBT. Seven years after the CBT intervention concluded, we returned to the study site and located the trial participants to evaluate the impacts of depression treatment over the medium-term.

We identify fairly large, and persistent, impacts on women's financial empowerment, and on the monetary and time investments made in their children, and also improvements in parenting style for girls. All of the improvements we identify emerge from the sample of women who were pregnant with a girl at the beginning of the intervention. Data from the control group confirm that mothers of girls are less financially empowered and invest less money in their children, in line with the sway of patriarchal norms in Pakistan. The intervention was able to empower mothers of girls, and to bring about convergence in investments (especially monetary investments) in girls versus boys. Among potential mediators, there are no significant impacts on trajectories of fertility, maternal physical health, or husband's labor supply by the seven-year mark. We find evidence of reinforcing behaviors within the family in that the grandmother of the index child was more likely to move in with the family in the treated group, and relationship quality within the household improved. However, overall the evidence suggests that the identified medium term impacts of the intervention derive from the intervention's success in reducing postnatal depression.

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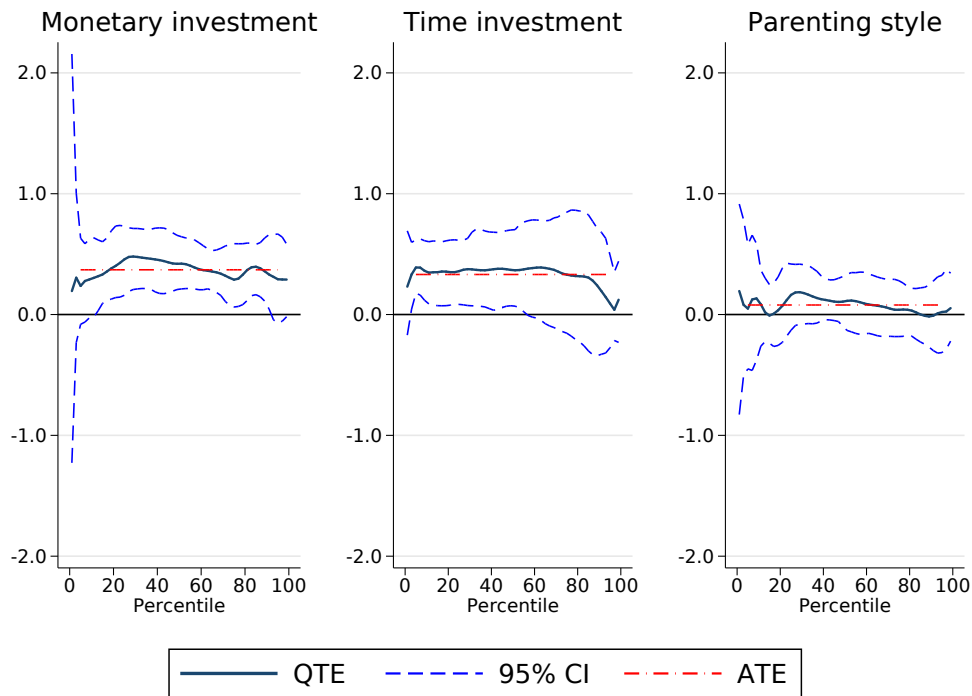
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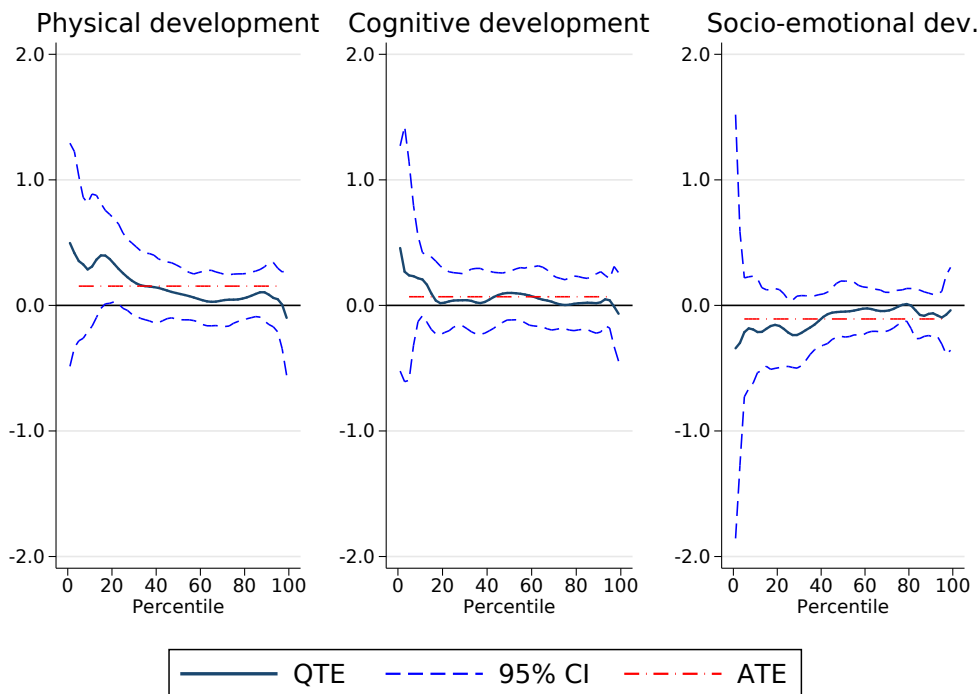
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8 Figures and tables

Figure 8.1 – Quantile Treatment Effects on parenting and child development



(a) Parenting



(b) Child development

Notes: Quantile Treatment Effects (QTE) of THP Intervention on parenting and child development outcomes measured at the 7-year follow-up. 95% confidence intervals for the QTE were calculated by bootstrapping using 1,000 replications, clustering at the UC level.

Table 1 – Balance

| | Baseline Sample N=903 | | | | 1-year Sample N=704 | | 7-year Sample N=595 | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|--------------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| | (1) Control Mean | (2) (st.dev.) | (3) T-C Diff | (4) <i>p</i> -val | (5) T-C Diff | (6) <i>p</i> -val | (7) T-C Diff | (8) <i>p</i> -val |
| Mother's age | 27.00 | (5.2) | -0.51 | 0.14 | -0.39 | 0.30 | -0.32 | 0.44 |
| Mother's height (m) | 1.56 | (0.1) | 0.00 | 0.32 | 0.01 | 0.17 | 0.01 | 0.18 |
| Mother's BMI | 23.13 | (4.1) | 0.24 | 0.37 | 0.15 | 0.61 | 0.36 | 0.28 |
| Mother's education | 3.87 | (4.0) | 0.37 | 0.17 | 0.75 | 0.01** | 0.71 | 0.03** |
| Empowered | 0.55 | (0.5) | -0.03 | 0.35 | -0.05 | 0.19 | -0.04 | 0.36 |
| Mother usually works | 0.03 | (0.2) | -0.01 | 0.25 | -0.01 | 0.43 | -0.01 | 0.38 |
| Parity | 2.33 | (1.8) | -0.17 | 0.15 | -0.29 | 0.03** | -0.34 | 0.02** |
| Index child is first born | 0.19 | (0.4) | 0.01 | 0.82 | 0.01 | 0.61 | 0.01 | 0.65 |
| Index child is female | 0.49 | (0.5) | 0.03 | 0.34 | 0.05 | 0.18 | 0.06 | 0.13 |
| % children female | 0.52 | (0.3) | 0.02 | 0.44 | 0.00 | 0.93 | 0.01 | 0.84 |
| Hamilton depression score | 14.43 | (4.0) | 0.40 | 0.15 | 0.25 | 0.41 | 0.31 | 0.35 |
| Baseline BDQ score | 8.30 | (2.7) | -0.17 | 0.34 | -0.16 | 0.45 | -0.03 | 0.88 |
| General functioning (GAF) | 62.05 | (5.3) | -0.01 | 0.97 | 0.35 | 0.37 | 0.58 | 0.18 |
| Perceived social support score | 44.49 | (16.3) | 1.08 | 0.32 | 1.82 | 0.13 | 2.63 | 0.05* |
| Joint/extended family structure | 0.57 | (0.5) | 0.04 | 0.27 | 0.05 | 0.17 | 0.06 | 0.18 |
| Mother-in-law lives with | 0.40 | (0.5) | 0.06 | 0.05* | 0.08 | 0.02** | 0.09 | 0.04** |
| Mother's mother lives with | 0.05 | (0.2) | 0.03 | 0.07* | 0.04 | 0.05* | 0.03 | 0.11 |
| Father's education | 7.09 | (3.9) | -0.13 | 0.61 | -0.10 | 0.73 | -0.22 | 0.48 |
| Father employed | 0.91 | (0.3) | -0.01 | 0.53 | -0.02 | 0.50 | -0.00 | 0.88 |
| Father not manual worker | 0.29 | (0.5) | -0.01 | 0.80 | 0.01 | 0.86 | 0.00 | 0.93 |
| SES (0=poor, 4=rich) | 1.38 | (1.0) | 0.01 | 0.91 | 0.11 | 0.15 | 0.12 | 0.13 |
| Wealth index ^a | -0.03 | (2.0) | 0.06 | 0.66 | 0.24 | 0.11 | 0.19 | 0.24 |
| LTFU from baseline (N=903) | 0.33 | (0.5) | 0.05 | 0.14 | | | | |
| LTFU from 1y (N=704) ^b | 0.15 | (0.4) | | | 0.04 | 0.12 | | |
| Joint test (<i>p</i> -value) | | | | 0.13 | | 0.12 | | 0.01 |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: This table tests for balance along a number of baseline characteristics among the 1-year follow-up sample (Rahman et al., 2008), and in the 7-year follow-up sample. See section B.1 of the Appendix. Columns show the means and standard deviations (in parentheses) as noted, by intervention arm for the 1-year follow-up and 7-year follow-up samples. The *p*-value of the difference between intervention and control for each sample is also reported.

^a The wealth score is a 19-item PCA-weighted index of assets (radio, TV, refrigerator, washing machine, air conditioning), house and roofing materials (brick walls, metal roof), and water and waste infrastructure (type of drinking water, flush toilet or any type of latrine).

^b Only those mother-child dyads that were interviewed at the THP 1-year follow-up were considered for the 7-year follow-up. The number of mothers in the treatment group at baseline was 463, and 440 in the control group. Between baseline and 1-year, 22% of the sample was LTFU, but not differential by treatment status. Attrition between baseline and 7-year follow-up was 35%.

Table 2 – Mother’s decision-making: financial empowerment, investment in children and fertility

| | Coefficient on Treat (β / (s.e.)) | | FWER-adj. test |
|--------------------------------------|--|------------------------|--|
| | (1) No controls | (2) All controls | (3) FWER p -val (all controls) |
| Mother’s financial empowerment | 0.29** (0.11) | 0.29*** (0.09) | 0.01** |
| Parental investment (monetary) | 0.35*** (0.07) | 0.28*** (0.06) | 0.00*** |
| Parental investment (time-intensive) | 0.20*** (0.07) | 0.20*** (0.06) | 0.01** |
| Parenting style | 0.04 (0.08) | 0.05 (0.08) | 0.74 |
| Fertility trajectory | 0.01 (0.10) | −0.00 (0.09) | 0.99 |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: N=585. Summary indices were created (following Kling et al. (2007); Anderson (2008)) such that they are mean 0 and standard deviation of 1 in the control group, with positive values always associated with more favorable outcomes. Description of the construction of the indices can be found in Appendix Section 4.1. Tables D.1 and D.2 show the summary statistics for the variables included in each index. Heteroskedasticity robust standard errors, clustered by Union Council, in parentheses. All models control for interview date and interviewer fixed effects. Specifications with all controls additionally adjust for baseline characteristics (all centered and interacted with the treatment indicator). The set of baseline characteristics include mother’s age and its square, parity, family structure, presence of grandmother (mother or mother-in-law of depressed mother), mother’s education, father’s education, if mother was employed, if mother empowered, PCA-weighted wealth index, depression severity (Hamilton score), and perceived social support (MSPSS). Inference is conducted using p -values which control for the family-wise error rate (FWER), calculated using a free step-down resampling method (Westfall and Young, 1993).

Table 3 – Differences in outcomes between baseline non-depressed mothers and depressed controls: mother’s decision making

| | Dep-NonDep (No controls) | | Dep-NonDep (With controls) | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| | (1) β (s.e.) | (2) β (s.e.) | (3) Girls | (4) Boys |
| Mother’s financial empowerment (7y) | −0.26*** (0.09) | −0.22** (0.09) | −0.37*** (0.13) | −0.12 (0.11) |
| Parental investment (monetary) | −0.31*** (0.09) | −0.11* (0.06) | −0.11 (0.09) | −0.11 (0.09) |
| Parental investment (time-intensive) | −0.28*** (0.06) | −0.33*** (0.08) | −0.16 (0.13) | −0.46*** (0.10) |
| Parenting style | −0.09 (0.07) | −0.04 (0.09) | −0.18* (0.11) | 0.07 (0.14) |
| # kids born past 7yrs | −0.24*** (0.07) | −0.10 (0.06) | −0.00 (0.10) | −0.16** (0.08) |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: Table reports difference in means between prenatally non-depressed mothers and their children (N=300) and prenatally depressed controls and their children (N=293) for key outcome indices and variables at the 7-year follow-up. Since prenatally non-depressed mothers were interviewed only at the 7-year follow-up, maternal financial empowerment index does not contain mother controls spending (6m) and mother gets pocket money (12m), and only the number of kids born in the past 7 years are reported in lieu of the fertility index. Column 1 shows the differences only controlling for interviewer FEs and date of interview. Columns 2-4 report adjusted differences using all baseline controls that are available for both groups of women, namely mother’s age and its square, mother and father education, parity at baseline, interview date, and interviewer fixed effects. Columns 3 and 4 report the depression gap by child gender.

Table 4 – Mother’s financial empowerment

| | Full sample | | | | By child gender | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|---|--|------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| | (1) Control mean | (2) No controls β (s.e.) | (3) All controls β (s.e.) | (4) FWER p-value | (5) Girl control mean | (6) Boy control mean | (7) β^{Girl} (s.e.) | (8) β^{Boy} (s.e.) | (9) $\beta^{Girl} =$ β^{Boy} p-value |
| Mother’s financial empowerment | 0.00 | 0.29** | 0.29*** | 0.00*** | -0.08 | 0.07 | 0.45*** | 0.12 | 0.06 |
| | (1.00) | (0.11) | (0.09) | | | | (0.11) | (0.14) | |
| Mother controls spending (6m) | 0.53 | 0.07 | 0.09** | 0.12 | 0.52 | 0.53 | 0.15*** | 0.02 | 0.11 |
| | (0.50) | (0.06) | (0.04) | | | | (0.05) | (0.07) | |
| Mother gets pocket money (1y) | 0.68 | 0.12** | 0.11** | 0.08* | 0.67 | 0.69 | 0.14** | 0.08 | 0.46 |
| | (0.47) | (0.05) | (0.05) | | | | (0.06) | (0.06) | |
| Mother controls spending (7y) | 0.52 | 0.08** | 0.09*** | 0.03** | 0.44 | 0.59 | 0.20*** | -0.03 | 0.01 |
| | (0.50) | (0.03) | (0.03) | | | | (0.05) | (0.05) | |
| Mother gets pocket money (7y) | 0.57 | 0.08*** | 0.09*** | 0.01** | 0.51 | 0.63 | 0.18*** | -0.00 | 0.03 |
| | (0.50) | (0.03) | (0.03) | | | | (0.05) | (0.05) | |
| Mother employed (7y) | 0.10 | 0.02 | 0.01 | 0.75 | 0.11 | 0.09 | -0.00 | 0.03 | 0.57 |
| | (0.30) | (0.03) | (0.03) | | | | (0.03) | (0.04) | |
| Mother’s income (100s PKR) | 3.09 | 1.41 | 0.85 | 0.75 | 3.09 | 3.08 | 0.49 | 1.27 | 0.69 |
| | (12.07) | (1.70) | (1.39) | | | | (1.57) | (1.82) | |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: N=585. Summary indices were created (following Kling et al. (2007); Anderson (2008)) such that they are mean 0 and standard deviation of 1 in the control group, with positive values always associated with more favorable outcomes. Description of the construction of the indices can be found in Appendix Section 4.1. Tables D.1 and D.2 show the summary statistics for the variables included in each index. Heteroskedasticity robust standard errors, clustered by Union Council, in parentheses. All models control for interview date and interviewer fixed effects. Specifications with all controls additionally adjust for baseline characteristics (all centered and interacted with the treatment indicator). The set of baseline characteristics include mother’s age and its square, parity, family structure, presence of grandmother (mother or mother-in-law of depressed mother), mother’s education, father’s education, if mother was employed, if mother empowered, PCA-weighted wealth index, depression severity (Hamilton score), and perceived social support (MSPSS). Inference is conducted using p -values which control for the family-wise error rate (FWER), calculated using a free step-down resampling method (Westfall and Young, 1993). Columns 7 and 8 report treatment effects by gender of the index child (controlling for all baseline characteristics) and Column 9 reports the test of equality in treatment effects between the two samples.

Table 5 – Parental investment: monetary-intensive investment

| | Full sample | | | | By child gender | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|---|--|------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| | (1) Control mean | (2) No controls β (s.e.) | (3) All controls β (s.e.) | (4) FWER p-value | (5) Girl control mean | (6) Boy control mean | (7) β^{Girl} (s.e.) | (8) β^{Boy} (s.e.) | (9) $\beta^{Girl} =$ β^{Boy} p-value |
| Parental investment (monetary) | -0.00 | 0.35*** | 0.28*** | 0.00*** | -0.18 | 0.16 | 0.47*** | 0.11 | 0.02 |
| | (1.00) | (0.07) | (0.06) | | | | (0.11) | (0.08) | |
| HOME: Learning materials | 2.64 | 0.32*** | 0.31** | 0.08* | 2.56 | 2.70 | 0.40*** | 0.23 | 0.37 |
| | (1.48) | (0.11) | (0.12) | | | | (0.14) | (0.15) | |
| HOME: Physical environment | 4.65 | 0.27 | 0.20 | 0.30 | 4.64 | 4.66 | 0.39* | 0.00 | 0.31 |
| | (2.37) | (0.17) | (0.15) | | | | (0.20) | (0.28) | |
| Monthly expend. on educ (ln) | 7.31 | 0.20* | 0.13 | 0.30 | 7.22 | 7.38 | 0.21 | 0.06 | 0.39 |
| | (1.18) | (0.11) | (0.10) | | | | (0.15) | (0.12) | |
| Expected grade attainment | 14.06 | 0.46** | 0.33* | 0.25 | 13.56 | 14.53 | 0.77*** | -0.06 | 0.03 |
| | (2.69) | (0.20) | (0.19) | | | | (0.28) | (0.24) | |
| Private school | 0.38 | 0.15*** | 0.12** | 0.14 | 0.29 | 0.46 | 0.16** | 0.10 | 0.48 |
| | (0.49) | (0.06) | (0.05) | | | | (0.07) | (0.07) | |
| School quality | -0.42 | 0.64*** | 0.51** | 0.14 | -0.65 | -0.21 | 0.80** | 0.19 | 0.14 |
| | (2.21) | (0.21) | (0.23) | | | | (0.36) | (0.24) | |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: N=585. Summary indices were created (following Kling et al. (2007); Anderson (2008)) such that they are mean 0 and standard deviation of 1 in the control group, with positive values always associated with more favorable outcomes. Description of the construction of the indices can be found in Appendix Section 4.1. Tables D.1 and D.2 show the summary statistics for the variables included in each index. Heteroskedasticity robust standard errors, clustered by Union Council, in parentheses. All models control for interview date and interviewer fixed effects. Specifications with all controls additionally adjust for baseline characteristics (all centered and interacted with the treatment indicator). The set of baseline characteristics include mother’s age and its square, parity, family structure, presence of grandmother (mother or mother-in-law of depressed mother), mother’s education, father’s education, if mother was employed, if mother empowered, PCA-weighted wealth index, depression severity (Hamilton score), and perceived social support (MSPSS). Inference is conducted using p -values which control for the family-wise error rate (FWER), calculated using a free step-down resampling method (Westfall and Young, 1993). Columns 7 and 8 report treatment effects by gender of the index child (controlling for all baseline characteristics) and Column 9 reports the test of equality in treatment effects between the two samples.

Table 6 – Parental investment: time-intensive investment

| | Full sample | | | | By child gender | | | | |
|---|---------------------|---|--|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| | (1) Control mean | (2) No controls β (s.e.) | (3) All controls β (s.e.) | (4) FWER p-value | (5) Girl control mean | (6) Boy control mean | (7) β^{Girl} (s.e.) | (8) β^{Boy} (s.e.) | (9) $\beta^{Girl} = \beta^{Boy}$ p-value |
| Parental investment (time-intensive) | 0.00 (1.00) | 0.20*** (0.07) | 0.20*** (0.06) | 0.00*** | 0.02 | -0.02 | 0.28*** (0.10) | 0.10 (0.09) | 0.23 |
| HOME: Enrichment | 2.65 (1.39) | 0.31** (0.13) | 0.31** (0.13) | 0.08* | 2.50 | 2.79 | 0.51*** (0.15) | 0.14 (0.16) | 0.07 |
| HOME: Family companionship | 2.95 (1.77) | 0.38*** (0.12) | 0.31** (0.12) | 0.08* | 2.77 | 3.11 | 0.64*** (0.16) | -0.02 (0.19) | 0.01 |
| HOME: Family integration | 2.61 (0.92) | 0.20** (0.07) | 0.17** (0.06) | 0.08* | 2.61 | 2.62 | 0.21* (0.11) | 0.11 (0.10) | 0.52 |
| Frequency of mother play | 0.17 (0.31) | 0.00 (0.02) | -0.00 (0.02) | 0.81 | 0.18 | 0.16 | -0.00 (0.03) | -0.01 (0.02) | 0.94 |
| Someone helps with studies | 0.54 (0.50) | 0.04 (0.03) | 0.06* (0.03) | 0.18 | 0.60 | 0.50 | 0.06 (0.04) | 0.04 (0.05) | 0.79 |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: N=585. Summary indices were created (following Kling et al. (2007); Anderson (2008)) such that they are mean 0 and standard deviation of 1 in the control group, with positive values always associated with more favorable outcomes. Description of the construction of the indices can be found in Appendix Section 4.1. Tables D.1 and D.2 show the summary statistics for the variables included in each index. Heteroskedasticity robust standard errors, clustered by Union Council, in parentheses. All models control for interview date and interviewer fixed effects. Specifications with all controls additionally adjust for baseline characteristics (all centered and interacted with the treatment indicator). The set of baseline characteristics include mother’s age and its square, parity, family structure, presence of grandmother (mother or mother-in-law of depressed mother), mother’s education, father’s education, if mother was employed, if mother empowered, PCA-weighted wealth index, depression severity (Hamilton score), and perceived social support (MSPSS). Inference is conducted using p -values which control for the family-wise error rate (FWER), calculated using a free step-down resampling method (Westfall and Young, 1993). Columns 7 and 8 report treatment effects by gender of the index child (controlling for all baseline characteristics) and Column 9 reports the test of equality in treatment effects between the two samples.

Table 7 – Parental investment: parenting style

| | Full sample | | | | By child gender | | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|---|--|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| | (1) Control mean | (2) No controls β (s.e.) | (3) All controls β (s.e.) | (4) FWER p-value | (5) Girl control mean | (6) Boy control mean | (7) β^{Girl} (s.e.) | (8) β^{Boy} (s.e.) | (9) $\beta^{Girl} = \beta^{Boy}$ p-value |
| Parenting style | -0.00 (1.00) | 0.04 (0.08) | 0.05 (0.08) | 0.52 | 0.04 | -0.03 | 0.24*** (0.08) | -0.20 (0.12) | 0.00 |
| PPI: Not harsh | 13.46 (8.22) | 0.81 (0.50) | 0.76 (0.54) | 0.49 | 13.83 | 13.12 | 1.53* (0.80) | -0.35 (0.59) | 0.05 |
| PPI: Not harsh for age | 8.71 (1.04) | -0.17* (0.10) | -0.12 (0.09) | 0.49 | 8.77 | 8.66 | -0.05 (0.11) | -0.23 (0.16) | 0.41 |
| PPI: Consistent | 9.57 (3.62) | 0.40 (0.30) | 0.40 (0.30) | 0.49 | 9.74 | 9.41 | 0.55 (0.35) | 0.17 (0.46) | 0.47 |
| HOME: Responsivity | 8.75 (1.75) | 0.21 (0.13) | 0.22* (0.12) | 0.25 | 8.58 | 8.91 | 0.63*** (0.15) | -0.22 (0.19) | 0.00 |
| HOME: Encouragement of maturity | 5.25 (1.56) | -0.11 (0.14) | -0.16 (0.13) | 0.49 | 5.36 | 5.15 | -0.03 (0.16) | -0.36* (0.20) | 0.20 |
| HOME: Emotional climate | 4.50 (1.93) | 0.35** (0.16) | 0.37** (0.17) | 0.16 | 4.43 | 4.57 | 0.90*** (0.21) | -0.24 (0.25) | 0.00 |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: N=585. Summary indices were created (following Kling et al. (2007); Anderson (2008)) such that they are mean 0 and standard deviation of 1 in the control group, with positive values always associated with more favorable outcomes. Description of the construction of the indices can be found in Appendix Section 4.1. Tables D.1 and D.2 show the summary statistics for the variables included in each index. Heteroskedasticity robust standard errors, clustered by Union Council, in parentheses. All models control for interview date and interviewer fixed effects. Specifications with all controls additionally adjust for baseline characteristics (all centered and interacted with the treatment indicator). The set of baseline characteristics include mother’s age and its square, parity, family structure, presence of grandmother (mother or mother-in-law of depressed mother), mother’s education, father’s education, if mother was employed, if mother empowered, PCA-weighted wealth index, depression severity (Hamilton score), and perceived social support (MSPSS). Inference is conducted using p -values which control for the family-wise error rate (FWER), calculated using a free step-down resampling method (Westfall and Young, 1993). Columns 7 and 8 report treatment effects by gender of the index child (controlling for all baseline characteristics) and Column 9 reports the test of equality in treatment effects between the two samples.

Table 8 – Mother’s fertility trajectory

| | Full sample | | | | By child gender | | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|---|--|------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| | (1) Control mean | (2) No controls β (s.e.) | (3) All controls β (s.e.) | (4) FWER p-value | (5) Girl control mean | (6) Boy control mean | (7) β^{Girl} (s.e.) | (8) β^{Boy} (s.e.) | (9) $\beta^{Girl} =$ β^{Boy} p-value |
| Fertility trajectory | 0.00 (1.00) | 0.01 (0.10) | -0.00 (0.09) | 0.99 | -0.15 | 0.13 | 0.13 (0.10) | -0.10 (0.13) | 0.12 |
| Ideal # kids (7y) | 3.36 (1.23) | -0.14 (0.11) | -0.04 (0.11) | 0.91 | 3.50 | 3.23 | -0.14 (0.13) | 0.05 (0.16) | 0.31 |
| # kids born past 7yrs | 1.01 (1.00) | 0.09 (0.09) | 0.03 (0.06) | 0.91 | 1.08 | 0.95 | -0.05 (0.08) | 0.08 (0.08) | 0.19 |
| Pregnant at 1y | 0.08 (0.27) | -0.01 (0.02) | -0.01 (0.02) | 0.91 | 0.11 | 0.05 | -0.04 (0.04) | 0.01 (0.03) | 0.34 |
| Index not last child | 0.60 (0.49) | 0.08* (0.04) | 0.04 (0.04) | 0.59 | 0.61 | 0.60 | 0.03 (0.04) | 0.05 (0.05) | 0.62 |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: N=585. Summary indices were created (following [Kling et al. \(2007\)](#); [Anderson \(2008\)](#)) such that they are mean 0 and standard deviation of 1 in the control group, with positive values always associated with more favorable outcomes. Description of the construction of the indices can be found in Appendix Section 4.1. Tables D.1 and D.2 show the summary statistics for the variables included in each index. Heteroskedasticity robust standard errors, clustered by Union Council, in parentheses. All models control for interview date and interviewer fixed effects. Specifications with all controls additionally adjust for baseline characteristics (all centered and interacted with the treatment indicator). The set of baseline characteristics include mother’s age and its square, parity, family structure, presence of grandmother (mother or mother-in-law of depressed mother), mother’s education, father’s education, if mother was employed, if mother empowered, PCA-weighted wealth index, depression severity (Hamilton score), and perceived social support (MSPSS). Inference is conducted using p -values which control for the family-wise error rate (FWER), calculated using a free step-down resampling method ([Westfall and Young, 1993](#)). Columns 7 and 8 report treatment effects by gender of the index child (controlling for all baseline characteristics) and Column 9 reports the test of equality in treatment effects between the two samples.

Table 9 – Potential mediators

| | Coefficient on Treat (β / (s.e.)) | | FWER-adj. test |
|------------------------------|--|------------------------|--|
| | (1) No controls | (2) All controls | (3) FWER p -val (all controls) |
| Mother’s physical health | 0.07 (0.07) | 0.07 (0.08) | 0.63 |
| Husband’s income trajectory | -0.02 (0.10) | -0.04 (0.10) | 0.69 |
| Relationships | 0.14* (0.09) | 0.16* (0.09) | 0.21 |
| Grandmother trajectory index | 0.34*** (0.08) | 0.16** (0.07) | 0.07* |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: N=585. Summary indices were created (following [Kling et al. \(2007\)](#); [Anderson \(2008\)](#)) such that they are mean 0 and standard deviation of 1 in the control group, with positive values always associated with more favorable outcomes. Description of the construction of the indices can be found in Appendix Section 4.1. Tables D.1 and D.2 show the summary statistics for the variables included in each index. Heteroskedasticity robust standard errors, clustered by Union Council, in parentheses. All models control for interview date and interviewer fixed effects. Specifications with all controls additionally adjust for baseline characteristics (all centered and interacted with the treatment indicator). The set of baseline characteristics include mother’s age and its square, parity, family structure, presence of grandmother (mother or mother-in-law of depressed mother), mother’s education, father’s education, if mother was employed, if mother empowered, PCA-weighted wealth index, depression severity (Hamilton score), and perceived social support (MSPSS). Inference is conducted using p -values which control for the family-wise error rate (FWER), calculated using a free step-down resampling method ([Westfall and Young, 1993](#)).

Table 10 – Child outcomes: sibling survival and physical, cognitive, and socio-emotional development by age 7

| | Coefficient on Treat (β / (s.e.)) | | FWER-adj. test |
|-----------------------------------|--|------------------------|--|
| | (1) No controls | (2) All controls | (3) FWER p -val (all controls) |
| Physical development index | 0.15 (0.09) | 0.14 (0.09) | 0.35 |
| Cognitive development index | 0.09 (0.08) | 0.04 (0.08) | 0.64 |
| Socio-emotional development index | -0.11 (0.07) | -0.08 (0.07) | 0.41 |
| Sibling survival index | 0.19** (0.08) | 0.17** (0.08) | 0.18 |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: N=585. Summary indices were created (following Kling et al. (2007); Anderson (2008)) such that they are mean 0 and standard deviation of 1 in the control group, with positive values always associated with more favorable outcomes. Description of the construction of the indices can be found in Appendix Section 4.1. Tables D.1 and D.2 show the summary statistics for the variables included in each index. Heteroskedasticity robust standard errors, clustered by Union Council, in parentheses. All models control for interview date and interviewer fixed effects. Specifications with all controls additionally adjust for baseline characteristics (all centered and interacted with the treatment indicator). The set of baseline characteristics include mother's age and its square, parity, family structure, presence of grandmother (mother or mother-in-law of depressed mother), mother's education, father's education, if mother was employed, if mother empowered, PCA-weighted wealth index, depression severity (Hamilton score), and perceived social support (MSPSS). Inference is conducted using p -values which control for the family-wise error rate (FWER), calculated using a free step-down resampling method (Westfall and Young, 1993).

Table 11 – Differences in outcomes between baseline non-depressed mothers and depressed controls: child outcomes

| | Dep-NonDep (No controls) | Dep-NonDep (With controls) | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| | β (s.e.) | β (s.e.) | Girls | Boys |
| Physical development index | -0.22** (0.08) | -0.24** (0.09) | -0.24* (0.12) | -0.25* (0.12) |
| Cognitive development index | -0.11 (0.10) | 0.04 (0.08) | -0.04 (0.13) | 0.14 (0.10) |
| Socio-emotional development index | -0.16* (0.08) | -0.15* (0.08) | -0.04 (0.11) | -0.21* (0.12) |
| Child survival index | -0.15** (0.07) | -0.12* (0.06) | -0.18* (0.09) | -0.05 (0.08) |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: Table reports difference in means between prenatally non-depressed mothers and their children (N=300) and prenatally depressed controls and their children (N=293) for key outcome indices and variables at the 7-year follow-up. Column 1 shows the differences only controlling for interviewer FEs and date of interview. Columns 2-4 report adjusted differences using all baseline controls that are available for both groups of women, namely mother's age and its square, mother and father education, parity at baseline, interview date, and interviewer fixed effects. Columns 3 and 4 report the depression gap by child gender.

Table 12 – Attrition corrected treatment effects: Inverse Probability Weights and Bounds

| | Inverse Prob. Weighted | | Lee Bounds CI 1-year Followup | | Lee Bounds CI THP Sample | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------|-------|
| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| | No controls $\beta/(s.e.)$ | All controls $\beta/(s.e.)$ | Lower | Upper | Lower | Upper |
| Mother's financial empowerment (7y) | 0.17* (0.09) | 0.18** (0.07) | 0.07 | 0.53 | 0.06 | 0.56 |
| Mother's financial empowerment | 0.27** (0.11) | 0.29*** (0.09) | 0.13 | 0.62 | 0.14 | 0.67 |
| Parental investment (monetary) | 0.29*** (0.07) | 0.27*** (0.06) | 0.09 | 0.62 | 0.04 | 0.68 |
| Parental investment (time-intensive) | 0.18*** (0.06) | 0.20*** (0.06) | 0.05 | 0.59 | 0.02 | 0.67 |
| Parenting style | 0.05 (0.08) | 0.06 (0.08) | -0.26 | 0.30 | -0.28 | 0.37 |
| Fertility trajectory | 0.01 (0.10) | 0.00 (0.09) | -0.28 | 0.35 | -0.34 | 0.39 |
| Physical development index | 0.16* (0.09) | 0.14 (0.09) | -0.19 | 0.35 | -0.26 | 0.39 |
| Cognitive development index | 0.07 (0.08) | 0.04 (0.08) | -0.27 | 0.27 | -0.32 | 0.33 |
| Socio-emotional development index | -0.09 (0.07) | -0.08 (0.06) | -0.44 | 0.14 | -2.35 | 0.84 |
| Child survival index | 0.21** (0.09) | 0.16* (0.08) | -0.21 | 0.37 | -0.63 | 1.28 |
| Mother's physical health | 0.05 (0.07) | 0.07 (0.08) | -1.51 | 3.98 | -2.57 | 1.39 |
| Husband's income trajectory | -0.05 (0.11) | -0.05 (0.10) | -0.36 | 0.27 | -0.38 | 0.32 |
| Relationships | 0.12 (0.09) | 0.15* (0.09) | -0.15 | 0.38 | -9.30 | 8.11 |
| Grandmother trajectory index | 0.28*** (0.08) | 0.17** (0.07) | 0.10 | 0.91 | 0.07 | 0.95 |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: Summary indices were created (following [Kling et al. \(2007\)](#); [Anderson \(2008\)](#)) such that they are mean 0 and standard deviation of 1 in the control group, with positive values always associated with more favorable outcomes. Description of the construction of the indices can be found in Appendix Section 4.1. Tables D.1 and D.2 show the summary statistics for the variables included in each index. Heteroskedasticity robust standard errors, clustered by Union Council, in parentheses. All models control for interview date and interviewer fixed effects. Specifications with all controls additionally adjust for baseline characteristics (all centered and interacted with the treatment indicator). The set of baseline characteristics include mother's age and its square, parity, family structure, presence of grandmother (mother or mother-in-law of depressed mother), mother's education, father's education, if mother was employed, if mother empowered, PCA-weighted wealth index, depression severity (Hamilton score), and perceived social support (MSPSS). Columns 1-2 replicate the main results using IPW (Inverse Probability Weighting) to account for attrition. Columns 3 and 4 show 95% confidence intervals for the treatment effect using attrition bounds based on [Lee \(2009\)](#), using the starting sample of $N = 704$, and columns 5 and 6 show attrition bounds using the baseline starting sample with $N = 903$.

Appendix: For Online Publication

for paper “Maternal Depression, Women’s Empowerment, and Parental Investment: Evidence from a Large Randomized Control Trial” by Baranov, Bhalotra, Biroli, & Maselko

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A Conceptual Framework Derivations

In this section we show the equilibrium conditions and some simple comparative statics for changes in depression in the conceptual framework presented in section 2, and connect these theoretical predictions to the empirical findings.

We consider a simple two-period model of household production, where the mother maximizes an additively separable utility function:

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{\tau, x, a, h, c, l} U(Q, a, c, l; d) &= v(c, l) - e_d(a) + \beta_d E_d [u(Q)] \\ \text{s.t.} & \\ Q &= f_d(\tau, x, a; \varepsilon) \\ \Omega - s_d &= \tau + l + h \\ \alpha_d(Y + wh) &= px + c \end{aligned}$$

Mothers are characterized by their depression status $d \in [0, 1]$ and maximize utility from current consumption and leisure $v(c, l)$, as well as expected utility from the future quality of the child $E_d [u(Q)]$, discounted at rate β_d . Future child quality Q is uncertain, and it is determined by a production function f_d that combines time investment τ , monetary investment x , parenting effort a , and a random shock $\varepsilon \sim \phi^*(\varepsilon)$ which is independent of the mother's choices. E_d is defined as the expectation under the distribution $\phi_d(\cdot)$, which captures the idea that subjective beliefs about the shock distribution $\phi_d(\cdot)$ might diverge from the true distribution $\phi^*(\cdot)$ in a way that depends upon depression.

Time investments τ come at the expense of hours worked h and leisure time l , summing up to the total effective time $(\Omega - s_d)$ at the disposal of the mother, which can be reduced by sick days s_d . Monetary expenditure x costs p and is rival to expenditure on other goods c , which both come out of her share α_d of household income (excluding her wages) Y and her wages wh . We do not explicitly model the bargaining process, however, α_d can be related to the woman's bargaining power in a collective model of household bargaining. Parenting effort has a utility cost captured by $e_d(a)$.

Assuming decreasing marginal returns for the main functions in the model,⁵⁷ an interior solution is described by the following first order conditions equating the expected marginal benefits and the current marginal costs of time investments τ , monetary investments x , and effort a :

$$\beta_d E_d \left[\frac{\partial u}{\partial Q} \frac{\partial f_d}{\partial \tau} \right] = \frac{\partial v}{\partial l} \quad (\text{A.1})$$

$$\beta_d E_d \left[\frac{\partial u}{\partial Q} \frac{\partial f_d}{\partial x} \right] = p \frac{\partial v}{\partial c} \quad (\text{A.2})$$

$$\beta_d E_d \left[\frac{\partial u}{\partial Q} \frac{\partial f_d}{\partial a} \right] = \frac{\partial e_d}{\partial a} \quad (\text{A.3})$$

Furthermore, the mother will be working ($h^* > 0$) if the market wage is high enough to equal the marginal rate of substitution between (lost) leisure and (additional) consumption, but otherwise she will not work:

$$\frac{\partial v / \partial l}{\partial v / \partial c} \geq \alpha_d w \quad (\text{A.4})$$

⁵⁷More specifically, we assume differentiability for the functions v, e, u and f ; positive partial first derivatives for every argument of the functions $v', e', u', f' \geq 0$; concavity for the utility and production functions $v'', u'', f'' \leq 0$, and convexity of the effort-cost function $e'' \geq 0$. The partial second derivatives determine the degree of complementarity or substitutability of the different arguments.

Let us now consider the potential effects of depression (and thus, implicitly, treatment for depression) on outcomes, encompassing the mother and child outcomes we analyze in this paper. For simplicity of exposition, we shut down all the channels but one at a time, and evaluate the expected change in outcomes that would arise if depression had an effect only through this one channel.⁵⁸

Depression effects on time discounting β_d influence how mothers currently value the future expected quality of the child.⁵⁹ All else equal, more future-oriented mothers (higher β_d) are more willing to sacrifice leisure l for more time investments τ (higher marginal utility $\frac{\partial v}{\partial l}$ in equation A.1), to forgo consumption c in favor of monetary investments x (higher marginal utility $p\frac{\partial v}{\partial c}$ in equation A.2), and to exert more effort a today (lower disutility of effort $\frac{\partial e_d}{\partial a}$ in equation A.3).

All else equal, lower disutility of effort $e_d(\cdot)$ induced by improvement in depression would directly translate into a higher provision of effort a . Although effort (and cognitive load) could influence virtually every decision that the mother makes, a natural proxy for effort in our dataset is the parenting style index. In other words, having appropriate discipline, being consistent, responsive, encouraging and not harsh when dealing with the child does not require more time or more money, but simply more cognitive effort. Finding no direct effect of treatment on parenting style would indicate the absence of a direct effect of depression on the disutility of parenting effort, so that $e_d = e \quad \forall d$, consistent with the findings of [Den Hartog et al. \(2003\)](#). Results on the other investment choices would depend on the degree of complementarity or substitutability between these inputs; in the case of low levels of complementarity or substitutability ($\frac{\partial f}{\partial a \partial x} \approx \frac{\partial f}{\partial a \partial \tau} \approx 0$) we would expect only small decreases in the other inputs. We find that treatment-induced reductions in depression affect parenting style for girls but not boys. Since the treatment effect on maternal depression at the 7-year follow-up (when parenting style was measured) also favored girls, our results appear to be consistent with depression affecting the disutility of effort. The other results on parenting inputs, however, suggest that disutility of effort is not the only channel.

If lower levels of depression decrease sick days s_d leaving more time at the disposal of the mother, we would expect an increase in the probability of working, and in time devoted to both leisure l and time investments τ . The magnitude of the increase would depend on the relative benefits of these two choices: the marginal utility of leisure ($\frac{\partial v}{\partial l}$) and the expected future benefit of more time investments ($\beta_d E_d \left[\frac{\partial u}{\partial Q} \frac{\partial f_d}{\partial \tau} \right]$), as guided by equation A.1. Changes in the other investment choices would depend on the degree of complementarity or substitutability between these inputs; in the case of low levels of complementarity or substitutability ($\frac{\partial f}{\partial \tau \partial x} \approx \frac{\partial f}{\partial \tau \partial a} \approx 0$) we might find small but not significant decreases in other investments. Finding a positive effect on the probability of mother working is consistent with this channel being at work. In fact our findings are somewhat ambiguous as we find a meaningful 10 percent increase in employment, but this is not statistically significant.

An increase in bargaining power α_d would be related to an increase in mother's disposable income in two ways: outside of the home, it might increase her hours worked h and total wage bill wh ; inside of the home, it might increase the share household income from other sources Y that is now at her disposal. Both of these mechanisms would lead to an increase in her consumption c and monetary investments x , but possibly a slight decrease in time investments τ if the mother works. Just as for the case of improved time availability, the magnitude of this increase would depend on the marginal rate of substitution between consumption and the return to monetary investments. Again, assuming low levels of complementarity or substitutability ($\frac{\partial f}{\partial \tau \partial x} \approx \frac{\partial f}{\partial \tau \partial a} \approx 0$) would mean a small decrease in either time investment τ or effort a .

⁵⁸Empirically we don't have a way of holding all other channels constants, so the results presented in section 6 cannot tell us which channel is at play, but only which channels are compatible with the empirical results.

⁵⁹However, [Lempert and Pizzagalli \(2010\)](#) find that anhedonic individuals (a trait highly correlated with depression) had a higher time discount factor, "possibly due to their decreased responsiveness to immediate rewards."

Recent work has highlighted the importance of maternal beliefs regarding the productivity of investment in children by Cunha et al. (2013, 2016); Boneva and Rau (2016). However, the results for depression-induced changes in expectations and the productivity of parenting inputs are more nuanced, and depend on the relative curvature of the utility function and the production function of human capital.⁶⁰ If treating depression improves the productivity of parenting inputs, this would shift the production function f_d upward, increasing the marginal returns to investments, and eventually making the mother better off. All else equal, we would expect an increase in child quality Q . Results for consumption c , work or leisure h, l , and parenting inputs x, τ, a depend on the relative curvature of the utility function $\left(\frac{\partial v/\partial \cdot}{\partial u/\partial Q}\right)$ and the production function of human capital $\left(\frac{\partial f_d}{\partial \cdot}\right)$. If the curvature of the production function is small enough, then an increase in the productivity of inputs would induce mothers to substitute away from consumption and leisure, and into more parenting, according to the marginal productivity of each of these inputs $\left(\frac{\partial f_d}{\partial \cdot}\right)$ as compared to the rate of substitution between future utility from child quality $\left(\beta_d E_d \left[\frac{\partial u}{\partial Q}\right]\right)$ and current increase in the utility of consumption $\left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial c}\right)$ or leisure $\left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial l}\right)$. On the other hand, a high curvature of the production function would induce mothers to target a similar level of child quality, which now could be achieved with fewer inputs. Mothers would then substitute away from investments and into either leisure or consumption. Therefore, an increase in parental investment due to the treatment does not necessarily imply that depression reduces the productivity of maternal inputs.⁶¹

A similar result is induced by changes in maternal expectations and beliefs $E_d(\cdot)$. However, while improvement in productivity leads to improvements in child quality (even without increases in inputs), that is not necessarily true for the beliefs channel. It is also theoretically possible that, if depression only affected beliefs by making mothers overly pessimistic, this would induce them to over-invest in parenting inputs in order to hedge against negative shocks. In this case, reducing depression could actually lead to a *decrease* in investments and ultimately in child quality.

Summing up, our empirical findings are consistent with the following theoretical formulations of depression: increasing effects of depression on the disutility of parental effort; negative effects of depression on maternal productivity, in the case of a small curvature of the production function; negative effects of depression on time discounting (less patient and future-oriented); negative effects of depression on both effective time (less slack in the time constraint) and bargaining power (less slack in the budget constraint).

⁶⁰We are grateful to Flavio Cunha and Marcos Vera-Hernandez for pointing this out.

⁶¹A more direct test of this hypothesis would come from the estimation of the production function f_d , and comparing the shape of this production function across treatment groups. However, identification of such a production function would require plausibly exogenous variation in the inputs in both treatment and control groups, see for example the work of Attanasio (2015).

B Data appendix

Section D reports summary statistics and descriptive correlations of the rich measures that we use throughout the paper. We report summary statistics for maternal decision-making outcomes (Table D.1), children's outcomes (Table D.2), and potential mediators (Table D.3). We then provide a description of the mental health scales available in the data (Table D.4), of the six outcome indices used (Table D.5), and of the parental investments and child development inventories (Table D.6). Finally, we show the conditional correlations of observable characteristics at baseline, 6, and 12 months with parental investment at age 8 (Table D.7), and with child developmental outcomes at age 8 (Table D.8).

In section E we report further information on the mothers who were excluded from the intervention because they were not clinically depressed at baseline. Table (E.9) checks for balance of baseline observable characteristics between the treatment and control clusters for mothers who were non-depressed at baseline. This is an additional check of the validity of the randomization that leverages information from the non-experimental sample. Table (E.10) reports the average outcomes for the baseline non-depressed sample, and the baseline depressed mother-child dyads (both treated and control).

B.1 Baseline Balance

Table 1 shows baseline characteristics for the sample of women who were interviewed at baseline, the 1-year follow-up (the target sample for the 7-year follow-up), and the 7-year follow-up.⁶² At baseline, the samples were balanced along observable characteristics (p -value of the joint test is 0.13), with the exception of the composition of household: treated mothers were 10 percentage points ($p < 0.01$) more likely to have a grandmother of the index child (henceforth, just grandmother, though 90% of the cases this is the mother-in-law) living with them. This pattern remains in the 1-year follow-up sample, treated women are 12 percentage points more likely to have a grandmother of the index child, and the 7-year follow-up sample (difference of 11pp).

Additionally, there are several notable differences in characteristics between treated and control groups in both follow-up samples. Treated women reported 0.75 more years of education, and 0.29 fewer children. The 7-year follow-up sample displays similar patterns: perceived social support and presence of grandmothers were still greater in the intervention arm, and treatment women had more education and fewer children. Jointly testing all variables, we fail to reject the null hypothesis that treatment and control clusters were balanced in the 1-year follow-up sample ($p = 0.12$). While the magnitudes of the differences between treatment and control were similar using the 1-year sample, we reject the null that the 7-year follow-up sample is balanced by intervention arm. The differences between treatment and control clusters in mother's education, parity, and presence of a grandmother are also evident in the 300 women who were excluded at baseline (ie, perinatally non-depressed), and although the differences are not statistically significant, they are very similar in magnitude. See Table E.9. Differences that are observed between treatment and controls clusters of the baseline non-depressed sample would be subtracted away in a difference-in-differences analysis, providing an alternative method to "controlling" for baseline imbalance between treatment and controls clusters.

⁶²The wealth index, also used as a control, is the first principal component of the following measures of house quality and asset ownership: brick walls, electricity, piped water, flush toilet, water pump, washing machine, air conditioning, refrigerator, TV, radio, bicycle, and car. Additionally, it includes if the mother reports having enough money for food, and the assessor-rated SES measure (5-point Likert scale from poorest to richest).

B.2 Attrition

Although attrition was not differential by treatment status, the changes in balance from the baseline to 7-year follow-up samples are due to attrition. LTFU (attriters) and mothers that were re-enrolled at year 7 were fairly similar along most characteristics (Table F.11); however, LTFU mothers were less empowered, perceived less social support, and were more likely to normally work. Table F.11 also shows baseline characteristics of the LTFU women by treatment group. Consistent with the similar balance between the original baseline sample and the 7-year follow-up sample reported in Table 1, there were no differences between treated and control LTFU mothers at the 5% significance level, and we fail to reject the joint test that characteristics of attriters in treatment were different to controls ($p=0.59$).⁶³

Another way to investigate whether differential attrition between the 1-year follow-up and 7-year follow-up affects our estimates is to compare *short-term* treatment effects on maternal depression outcomes calculated using the full samples at 6-month and 1-year follow-ups (N= 818 and 791 respectively) to treatment effects calculated using the 7-year follow-up sample (N=585). Table F.12 shows treatment effects at 6 and 12 months for five mental health outcomes (depressed, depression severity, disability score, functioning, and perceived social support) using the full and 7-year follow-up samples. The comparison reveals very little difference in treatment effects between the two samples: differences range between 2 and 5 percent of a standard deviation of that outcome, with an average different of 3 percent of a standard deviation across the five outcomes. Furthermore, the differences in treatment effects between the two samples are not statistically significant for any of the mental health outcomes (individually or jointly). Estimating a Seeming Unrelated Regression (SUR) model of the mental health outcomes at 6 and 12 months as a function of treatment and (future) attrition status and their interaction, the joint test of the coefficient on the interaction term yields a p -value=0.60 for the 6-month outcomes and 0.95 for 12-month outcomes.

We take two approaches to account for attrition: one parametric and one non-parametric. First, we present estimates of the main results using Inverse Probability Weighting, where the weights were calculated as the predicted probability of being in the 7-year follow-up sample based on the available baseline controls. Second, we calculate attrition bounds based on Lee (2009), which sorts the outcomes from best to worst within each treatment arm and then trims the sample from above and below to construct groups of equal size. Because neither test of whether rates of attrition differ by treatment status nor whether characteristics of attriters differ by treatment status was rejected, we do not adjust the treatment effects presented in the main tables. The attrition-corrected results are presented in Table 12.

Finally, we investigate whether attrition was differential by gender. Table F.13 shows the sample flow by gender of the index child and treatment status. Attrition was not differential by treatment status among women who had girls, however it was differential by treatment status among women who had boys. For example, 60% of treatment dyads were located at 7-year follow-up compared to 69% of control. Furthermore, the differential attrition in boy dyads was driven entirely by attrition between the 1-year and 7-year follow-up. Since our results are mainly driven by girls, the finding that attrition was greater among treated boys does not affect the interpretation of our results. Nevertheless, we present attrition bounds of treatment effects by gender in Table F.14. We still find that treatment impacted empowerment, and parental investment of time and monetary resources in mothers with girls. Meanwhile, the bounds of treatment effects for boys include zero and are generally fairly wide.

⁶³Reasons for attrition were extensively monitored during the first year, but not thereafter, although the re-enrollment study at the 7-year follow-up did record reason for LTFU in some cases. Reasons such as death of a child or death of the mother are also not differential by treatment status. Additionally, attrition due to moving or refusing were also not differential by treatment status.

B.3 Robustness

Section G shows several robustness checks in terms of controls used, construction of indices, and observational associations between baseline covariates and outcomes of interest. The results are not sensitive to inclusion of different sets of controls (Table G.15), or the construction of summary indices using factor scores (Table G.16), or the fact of using only outcomes measured in year 7 instead of the full trajectory of mother financial empowerment (Table G.18).

We then show that the observed conditional correlations between post-treatment variables are reasonable and of the expected sign: higher investment in children is usually associated with better child development measures (Table G.19), and maternal depression over the years is correlated with lower maternal empowerment (Table G.20).

B.4 Difference-in-differences with prenatally non-depressed mothers.

Since the treatment was randomized, a single difference is sufficient to estimate the causal effect of the intervention. However, a difference-in-differences specification provides an additional robustness check against cluster-level shocks. In particular, over the 7 years since the initial randomization, shocks potentially correlated with treatment assignment could undermine randomization. To address this concern, we estimate a difference-in-differences specification, exploiting availability of data from both treated and control clusters on women who were excluded from the trial because they were not perinatally depressed at baseline. This approach assumes that any cluster-specific shocks similarly influence outcomes for the baseline depressed and the baseline non-depressed women in the cluster. The estimating equation is

$$Y_{ic} = \alpha + \beta T_c \times Depressed_{ic} + \delta Depressed_{ic} + \eta T_c + \Gamma' \tilde{X}_{ic} + \lambda_{LHW} + \varepsilon_{ic} \quad (\text{B.1})$$

where $Depressed_{ic}$ is a dummy that equals one if the mother was prenatally depressed at baseline. The coefficient β on the interaction $T_c \times Depressed_{ic}$ will pick up the intervention effect. The parameter η is of interest as it indicates the average difference between treated and control clusters for mothers who were not depressed at baseline.⁶⁴ If η were positive and significant, this would suggest that treatment clusters experienced favorable shocks relative to control. Alternatively, it could signify positive spillovers of the intervention to women in treated clusters who were not offered the treatment (because they were not depressed at baseline).⁶⁵ The parameter δ provides an estimate of the difference in outcomes between control mothers who were and were not prenatally depressed. This descriptive difference gives an idea of the magnitude of the correlation between perinatal depression and medium-term outcomes, providing a useful benchmark for the potential effect of treatment.⁶⁶

The vector of controls in $\Gamma' \tilde{X}_{ic}$ is different to that in equation 5.1 because we do not have baseline characteristics for prenatally non-depressed mothers. Instead, we include time-invariant individual specific demographic characteristics.⁶⁷ This specification affords a further sensitivity check, allowing us to control

⁶⁴We test if there is balance along fixed demographic characteristics among prenatally non-depressed women along the dimension of randomization and we cannot reject that the two samples are different (with p -value=0.38, Table E.9).

⁶⁵We could alternatively include Union Council (UC) fixed effects, γ_c , which absorb the indicator for T_c , that is, being assigned to a treatment cluster. Since the parameter η is of interest, we present the results using the more parsimonious specification. However, the results are similar when including UC fixed effects.

⁶⁶Given negative selection into depression, and under the assumption that women who were not prenatally depressed remain less likely to be depressed through the next seven years than women who were prenatally depressed, the parameter δ could provide an upper bound on treatment effects. However, this assumption may not hold, so we cast this comparison in descriptive terms.

⁶⁷The individual specific controls are mother's age and its square, mother's and father's education, parity at baseline (estimated based on parity in 2013 and the reported number of children born since the index child), date of interview and interviewer fixed

for Lady Health Worker fixed effects (λ_{LHW}) which would be collinear with the treatment variable in the main specification.⁶⁸ Tables G.21 and G.22 show the results from a difference-in-differences estimation discussed in the main text.

B.5 Heterogeneous treatment effects

We test for heterogeneity of treatment effects by baseline depression severity, education, wealth, family structure, mother's age, and whether the index child is the first child. We present heterogeneous treatment effects by estimating an extension of the main equation:

$$Y_{ic} = \alpha + \beta_1 Het_i + \beta_2 T_c + \beta_3 Het_i \times T_c + \mathbf{\Gamma}' \mathbf{X}_{ic} + \varepsilon_{ic} \quad (\text{B.2})$$

where Het_i is the dimension of heterogeneity we are exploring, measured at baseline. The coefficient on the interaction term, β_3 , estimates the differential effect of the intervention along that specified dimension. Results are in Section H.

B.6 Treatment effects on individual outcomes

In section I, we show in detail all of the treatment effects for the individual outcomes we measure in the dataset. We group outcomes based on the index they belong to, and show the treatment effect on the index as a whole as well as for each of the individual outcomes, controlling for multiple hypothesis testing within each table. Table I.27 reports the results for mother financial empowerment using only measures available at the 7-year follow-up; tables (I.28-I.31) report the results for the child development indices; tables (I.32-I.35) show the treatment effects for all of the mediators; finally tables I.36 and I.37 respectively report the results for parental investments and child development measures available in the 6 and 12 month follow-up.

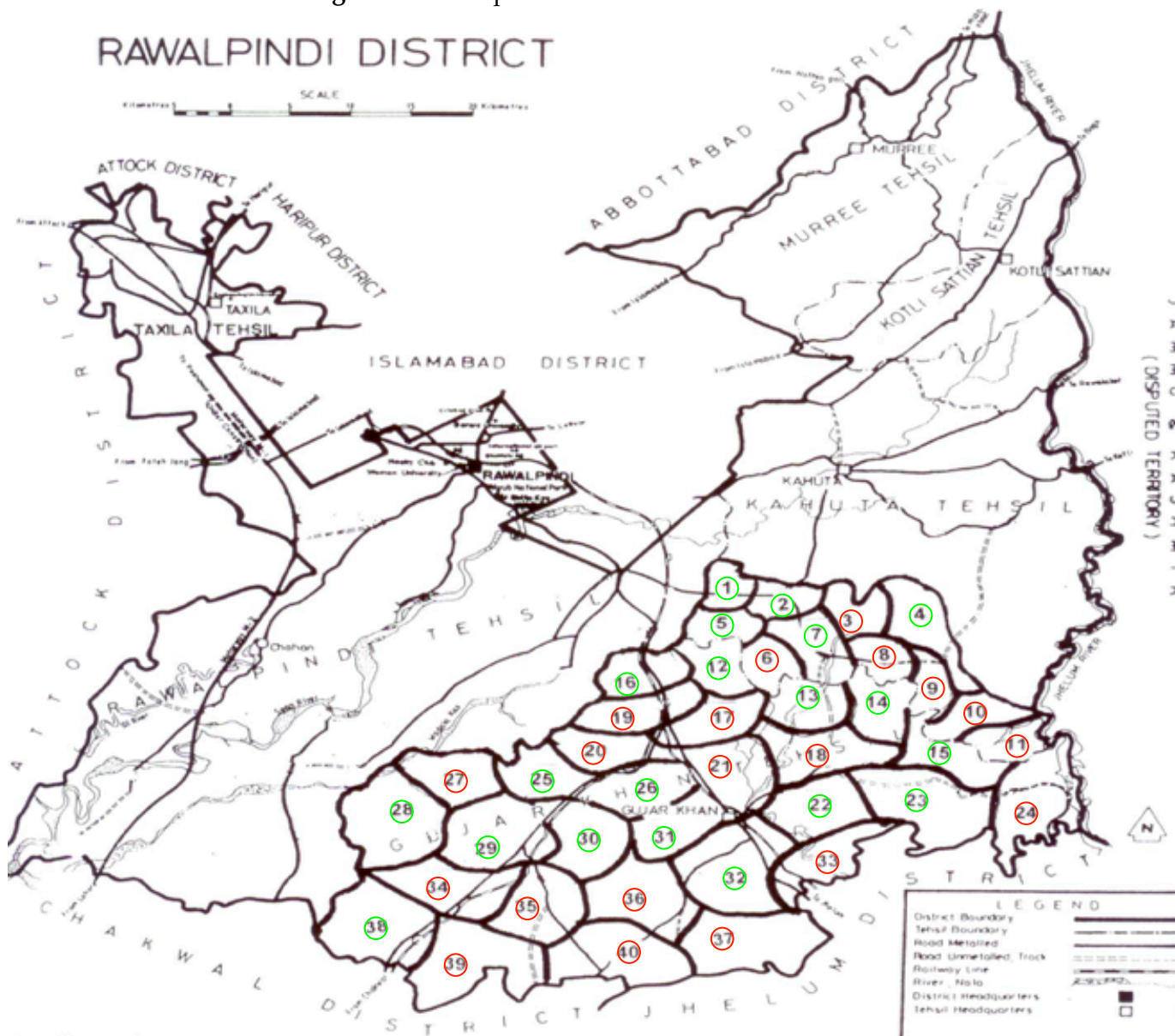
In section J, we report treatment effects for each of the components that make up the scales used to measure parenting (HOME score, Table (J.38); school quality, Table (J.39)) or scales used to measure child development (WPSSI, Table (??); Spence Anxiety Scale, Table (??); Strength and Difficulties Questionnaire, Table (??)). As above, we control for multiple hypothesis testing within each table.

effects.

⁶⁸LHWs delivered the intervention. In the 7-year follow-up data, we only identify the LHWs who are currently serving the families and this is not an identical set to the original 40 LHWs from the intervention since some LHWs moved, retired, or stopped work for other reasons. At the 7-year follow-up, there were a total of 65 LHWs. We present the results without LHW fixed effects because shifting and reallocation of LHWs may be endogenous to treatment; however, the results are similar with LHW FEs (Table G.21).

C Appendix Figures

Figure C.1 – Map of treatment and control clusters

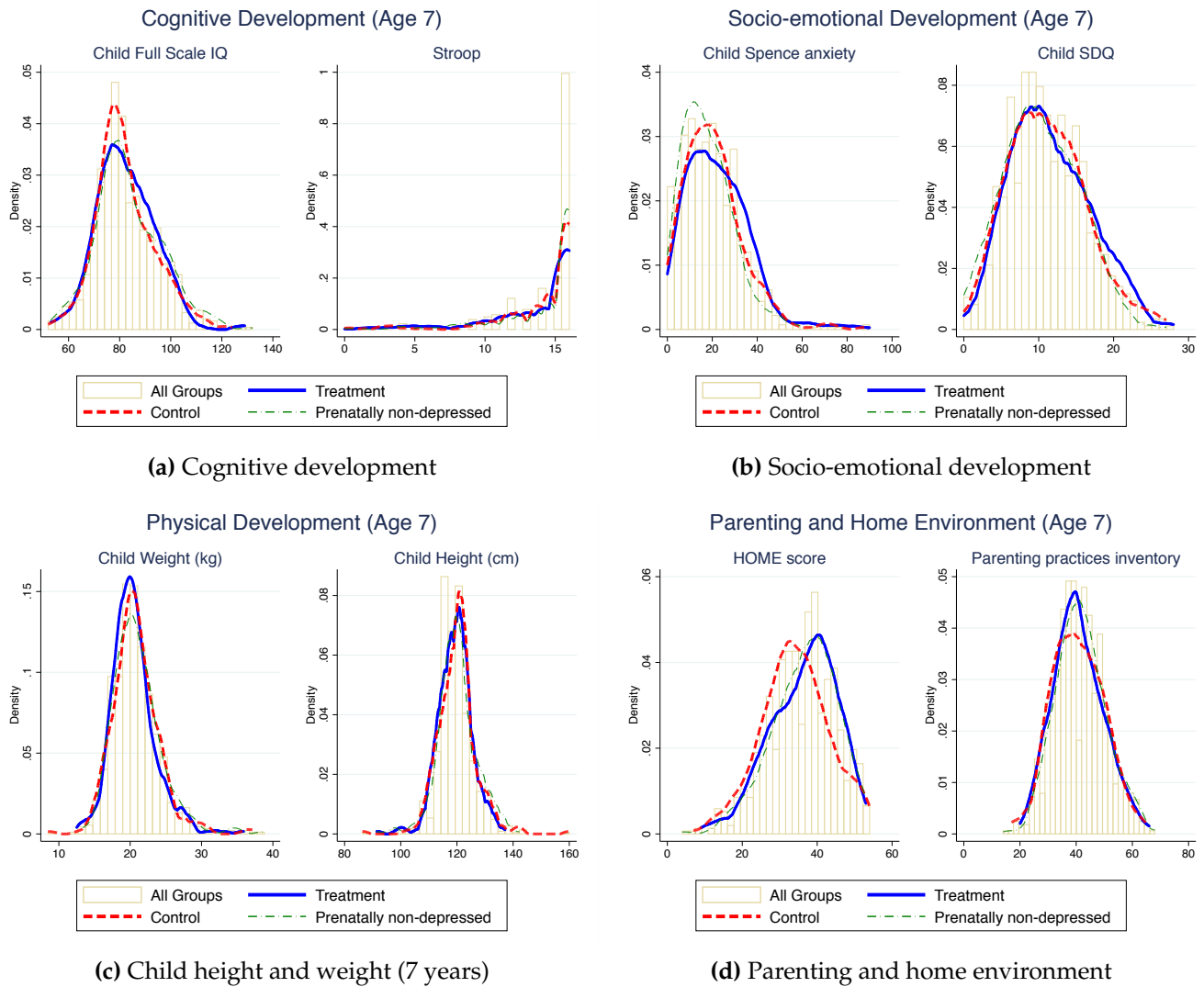


Notes: Treatment clusters are indicated by green circle, and control are indicated by red.

Figure C.2 – Sample sizes

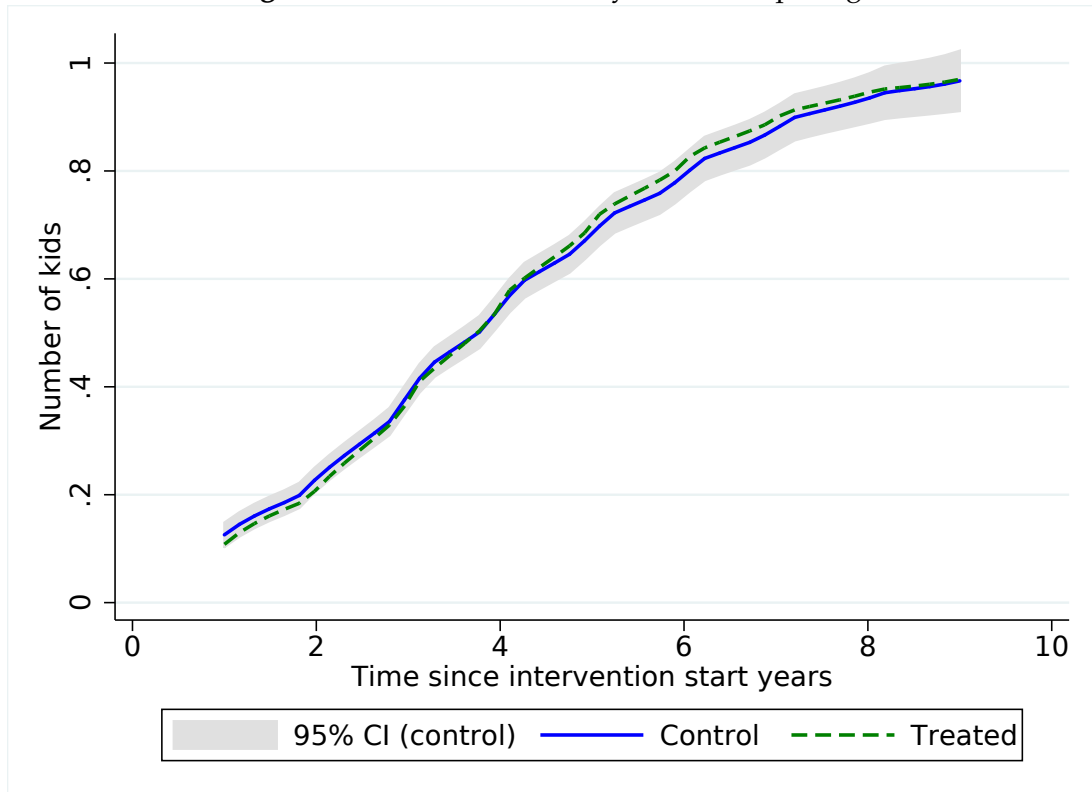
| | Treatment | | Control | | Total | | T-C p-value |
|--|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|----------------|
| Pregnant women identified | 1967 | | 1931 | | 3898 | | |
| refusals | 140 | 7% | 159 | 8% | 299 | 8% | 0.19 |
| not found | 40 | 2% | 40 | 2% | 80 | 2% | |
| Screened at baseline | 1787 | 91% | 1731 | 90% | 3518 | 90% | 0.20 |
| excluded | 138 | 8% | 138 | 8% | 276 | | |
| Depressed (completed survey) | 463 | 26% | 440 | 25% | 903 | 26% | 0.74 |
| boys at birth | 223 | 48% | 226 | 51% | 449 | 50% | 0.95 |
| Attrited btw baseline & 1yr | 103 | 22% | 95 | 22% | 198 | 22% | |
| total child mortality/illness | 52 | 11% | 41 | 9% | | | 0.34 |
| stillbirths/abortions | 15 | 3% | 21 | 5% | | | 0.24 |
| infant mortality (of live births) | 31 | 7% | 18 | 4% | | | 0.10 |
| mother mortality | 2 | 0% | 3 | 1% | | | 0.99 |
| refused | 11 | 2% | 11 | 3% | | | 0.90 |
| moved | 38 | 8% | 40 | 9% | | | 0.64 |
| Complete dyads at 1yr | 360 | | 345 | | 705 | | |
| Attrited btw 1yr & 7yr | 72 | 20% | 51 | 15% | 123 | 17% | 0.07 |
| LTFU | 62 | 13% | 44 | 10% | 106 | 12% | 0.10 |
| child mortality | 4 | | 3 | | | | |
| mother mortality | 3 | | 1 | | | | |
| child disabled/not eligible | 2 | | 2 | | | | |
| Attrited btw baseline & 7yr | 174 | 38% | 145 | 33% | 319 | 35% | |
| child death/illness | 55 | 32% | 44 | 30% | 99 | 31% | 0.37 |
| child death (of live births) | 35 | 8% | 21 | 5% | 56 | 6% | 0.09 |
| mother death | 5 | 3% | 4 | 3% | 9 | 3% | 0.80 |
| refused/moved/LTFU/not eligible | 112 | 64% | 96 | 66% | 208 | 65% | 0.39 |
| Complete dyads at 7yr | 289 | 62% | 295 | 67% | 584 | 65% | 0.15 |
| dyads at 7yr who completed 1yr | 289 | 80% | 295 | 86% | | 83% | 0.07 |
| in our data | 289 | | 296 | | | | 0.13 |

Notes: Table shows the sample flow from the start of the intervention when pregnant women were identified to the 7-year follow-up. Percentages are not defined in the same way from row to row. P-values of simple χ^2 tests of differences in rates across treatment and control groups are in the last column.

Figure C.3 – Distributions of selected components of outcomes at the 7-year follow-up

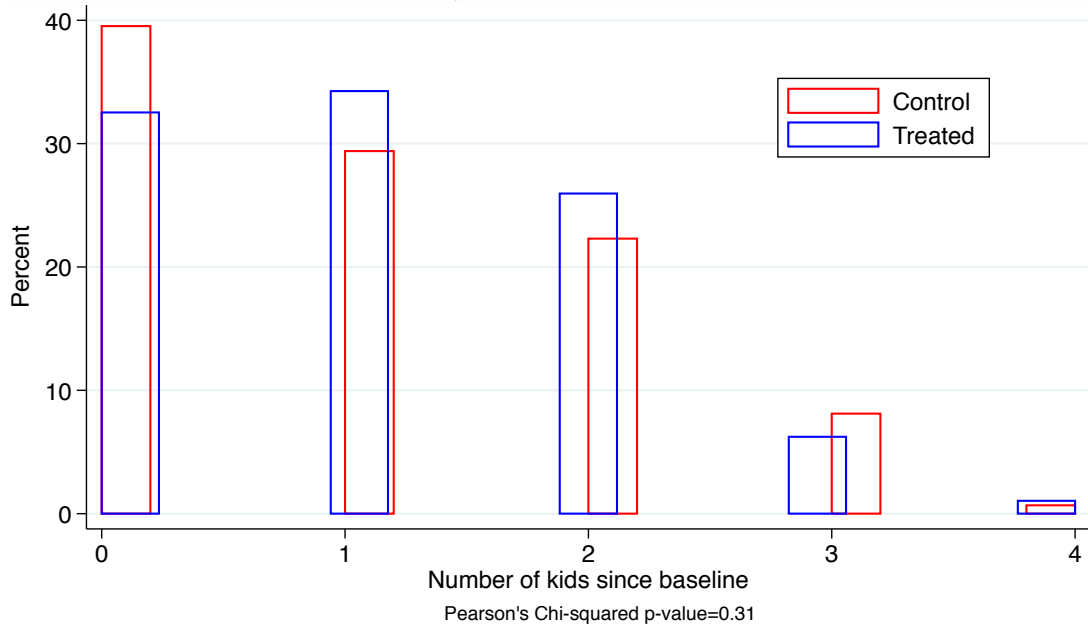
Notes: Distributions of child outcomes at the 7-year follow-up for main outcome variables, by treatment arm. Distributions for prenatally non-depressed mothers are also plotted for comparison. Histograms of the data for all groups combined (treatment, control, and non-depressed) are plotted in the background.

Figure C.4 – Effects on fertility and birth-spacing



Notes: This figure show the average number of births women reported since the start of the intervention until the 7-year follow-up. Birth histories were constructed from the listing of children and their ages at the 7-year follow-up. 95% confidence interval, not adjusted for clustered errors or autocorrelation, is presented (and is thus tighter than the true CI).

Figure C.5 – Effects on fertility: Number of children born since treatment



Notes: This figure plots the histograms of total number of births women reported since the start of the intervention until the 7-year follow-up. Birth histories were constructed from the listing of children and their ages at the 7-year follow-up.

D Description of indices and measures

Table D.1 – Summary Statistics for Women’s Decision Making

| | Mean | SD | Median | Min. | Max. | Total Obs |
|---|-------|------|--------|------|-------|-----------|
| Mother’s financial empowerment^a | 0.21 | 1.2 | 0.4 | -1.8 | 6.0 | 885 |
| Mother controls spending (6m) | 0.57 | 0.5 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 584 |
| Mother gets pocket money (1y) | 0.74 | 0.4 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 582 |
| Mother controls spending (7y) | 0.60 | 0.5 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 885 |
| Mother gets pocket money (7y) | 0.65 | 0.5 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 859 |
| Mother employed (7y) | 0.12 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 885 |
| Mother’s income (100s PKR) (7y) | 4.33 | 15.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 876 |
| Parental investment (monetary)^a | 0.23 | 1.0 | 0.3 | -5.6 | 2.5 | 885 |
| HOME: Learning materials | 2.86 | 1.5 | 3.0 | 0.0 | 6.0 | 885 |
| HOME: Physical environment | 4.86 | 2.4 | 5.0 | 0.0 | 8.0 | 885 |
| Monthly expend. on educ (ln) (7y) | 7.37 | 1.3 | 7.6 | 2.3 | 10.6 | 748 |
| Expected grade attainment | 14.45 | 2.5 | 16.0 | 0.0 | 21.0 | 881 |
| Private school | 0.47 | 0.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 878 |
| School quality | 0.00 | 2.3 | -0.1 | -5.3 | 4.4 | 850 |
| Parental investment (time-intensive)^a | 0.23 | 1.0 | 0.2 | -2.3 | 3.6 | 885 |
| HOME: Enrichment | 2.94 | 1.4 | 3.0 | 0.0 | 5.0 | 885 |
| HOME: Family companionship | 3.36 | 1.7 | 3.0 | 0.0 | 6.0 | 885 |
| HOME: Family integration | 2.82 | 1.0 | 3.0 | 0.0 | 12.0 | 885 |
| Frequency of mother play | 0.19 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 885 |
| Someone helps with studies | 0.58 | 0.5 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 885 |
| Parenting style^a | 0.05 | 1.0 | 0.2 | -4.3 | 2.2 | 885 |
| PPI: Not harsh | 13.97 | 8.1 | 14.0 | 0.0 | 33.0 | 885 |
| PPI: Not harsh for age | 8.61 | 1.4 | 9.0 | 0.0 | 9.0 | 885 |
| PPI: Consistent | 9.88 | 3.5 | 10.0 | 0.0 | 18.0 | 885 |
| HOME: Responsivity | 8.96 | 1.6 | 10.0 | 1.0 | 10.0 | 885 |
| HOME: Encouragement of maturity | 5.23 | 1.6 | 5.0 | 0.0 | 7.0 | 885 |
| HOME: Emotional climate | 4.74 | 1.9 | 5.0 | 0.0 | 8.0 | 885 |
| Fertility trajectory^a | -0.08 | 1.1 | -0.0 | -4.3 | 2.7 | 885 |
| Ideal # kids (7y) | 3.29 | 1.2 | 3.0 | 0.0 | 9.0 | 874 |
| # kids born past 7yrs | 1.12 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 5.0 | 885 |
| Pregnant at 1y | 0.07 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 583 |
| Index not last child | 0.67 | 0.5 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 885 |

Notes: Index variables, created such that the control group has mean 0, standard deviation 1, are in bold. The individual variables that make up each index are listed below. The sample includes the intervention (baseline depressed mothers in treatment and control groups) and non-intervention (baseline non-depressed mothers) groups.

^a Index variables were created following [Anderson \(2008\)](#), with positive values always associated with more favorable outcomes for all indices.

Table D.2 – Summary Statistics for Children’s Outcomes

| | Mean | SD | Median | Min. | Max. | Total Obs |
|--|-------|------|--------|------|-------|-----------|
| Physical development index^a | 0.12 | 0.9 | 0.3 | -4.3 | 2.3 | 885 |
| Height-for-age (z) | -0.82 | 1.1 | -0.8 | -4.9 | 3.2 | 879 |
| BMI-for-age (z) | -0.96 | 1.2 | -1.0 | -4.7 | 4.6 | 879 |
| Not stunted (height > - 2SD) | 0.86 | 0.3 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 885 |
| Motor function | -0.00 | 0.7 | 0.2 | -3.4 | 0.8 | 885 |
| No hospitalization | 0.85 | 0.4 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 885 |
| No severe illness | 0.73 | 0.4 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 885 |
| No eyesight problems | 0.96 | 0.2 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 885 |
| No hearing problems | 0.98 | 0.1 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 885 |
| Cognitive development index^a | 0.06 | 1.0 | 0.1 | -3.7 | 2.7 | 885 |
| WPPSI: Verbal comprehension | 86.41 | 14.5 | 85.0 | 45.0 | 146.0 | 882 |
| WPPSI: Visual spatial | 86.94 | 14.6 | 86.0 | 45.0 | 148.0 | 883 |
| WPPSI: Fluid reasoning | 78.55 | 12.5 | 77.0 | 45.0 | 133.0 | 884 |
| WPPSI: Working memory | 99.62 | 15.9 | 100.0 | 58.0 | 146.0 | 884 |
| WPPSI: Processing speed | 77.74 | 10.1 | 77.0 | 45.0 | 112.0 | 877 |
| Urdu score | 6.73 | 3.7 | 6.0 | 0.0 | 12.0 | 877 |
| Math score | 9.35 | 3.5 | 11.0 | 0.0 | 16.0 | 876 |
| Executive function (Stroop) | 14.15 | 3.1 | 16.0 | 0.0 | 16.0 | 885 |
| Grade-for-age | 0.75 | 0.3 | 0.8 | 0.0 | 1.5 | 872 |
| Socio-emotional development index^a | 0.02 | 1.0 | 0.1 | -4.3 | 2.2 | 885 |
| SDQ: Emotional | 2.20 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 0.0 | 10.0 | 885 |
| SDQ: Conduct problems | 3.28 | 2.1 | 3.0 | 0.0 | 10.0 | 885 |
| SDQ: Hyperactivity | 3.55 | 2.6 | 3.0 | 0.0 | 10.0 | 885 |
| SDQ: Peer problems | 1.98 | 1.6 | 2.0 | 0.0 | 8.0 | 885 |
| SDQ: Prosocial | 2.40 | 2.5 | 2.0 | 0.0 | 10.0 | 885 |
| SCAS: Panic and agoraphobia | 1.51 | 2.8 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 25.0 | 885 |
| SCAS: Separation | 5.75 | 4.1 | 6.0 | 0.0 | 17.0 | 885 |
| SCAS: Injury fear | 5.89 | 3.7 | 6.0 | 0.0 | 15.0 | 885 |
| SCAS: Social phobia | 2.15 | 2.7 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 17.0 | 885 |
| SCAS: Obsessive-compulsive | 1.33 | 2.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 15.0 | 885 |
| SCAS: General anxiety | 3.42 | 3.1 | 3.0 | 0.0 | 18.0 | 885 |
| Child survival index^a | 0.12 | 0.9 | 0.2 | -7.4 | 1.5 | 885 |
| Share of boys | 0.51 | 0.2 | 0.5 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 885 |
| # died <1 year of age | 0.25 | 0.6 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 6.0 | 881 |
| # died btw 1 & 5 years old | 0.04 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.0 | 881 |
| # died > 5 years old | 0.02 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 882 |

Notes: Index variables, created such that the control group has mean 0, standard deviation 1, are in bold. The individual variables that make up each index are listed below. The sample includes the intervention (baseline depressed mothers in treatment and control groups) and non-intervention (baseline non-depressed mothers) groups.

^a Index variables were created following Anderson (2008), with positive values always associated with more favorable outcomes for all indices.

Table D.3 – Summary Statistics for Mediators

| | Mean | SD | Median | Min. | Max. | Total Obs |
|---|-------|------|--------|------|-------|-----------|
| Mother's physical health^a | 0.17 | 1.1 | 0.3 | -3.6 | 3.6 | 885 |
| Mother never been unwell (7y) | 0.67 | 0.5 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 885 |
| Overall health (0-4) (7y) | 1.95 | 0.9 | 2.0 | 0.0 | 4.0 | 885 |
| Healthy days in past 30 (7y) | 26.52 | 7.1 | 30.0 | 0.0 | 30.0 | 621 |
| Weight (kg) (6m) | 54.18 | 11.5 | 52.0 | 30.0 | 116.0 | 584 |
| Weight (kg) (1y) | 52.99 | 11.6 | 50.0 | 30.0 | 115.0 | 585 |
| Husband's income trajectory^a | 0.04 | 1.1 | 0.3 | -5.7 | 4.1 | 824 |
| Monthly income (ln) (7y) | 9.01 | 1.4 | 9.2 | 2.3 | 13.8 | 719 |
| Monthly income (ln) (1y) | 7.28 | 2.3 | 8.0 | 2.3 | 10.6 | 554 |
| Monthly income (ln) (6m) | 7.30 | 2.2 | 8.0 | 2.3 | 10.5 | 554 |
| Relationships^a | 0.17 | 1.0 | 0.4 | -3.7 | 2.7 | 880 |
| Marital quality scale (7y) | 5.31 | 1.4 | 6.0 | 0.0 | 6.0 | 859 |
| Relationship husband (7y) | 4.06 | 0.9 | 4.0 | 1.0 | 5.0 | 859 |
| Husband nonviolent (7y) | 0.76 | 0.4 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 859 |
| Relationship m-in-law (7y) | 3.46 | 1.0 | 4.0 | 1.0 | 5.0 | 566 |
| Marital quality scale (1y) | 3.56 | 1.0 | 4.0 | 0.0 | 4.0 | 582 |
| Relationship husband (1y) | 4.04 | 0.9 | 4.0 | 1.0 | 5.0 | 582 |
| Husband nonviolent (1y) | 0.72 | 0.4 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 582 |
| Relationship m-in-law (1y) | 4.81 | 2.5 | 4.0 | 1.0 | 9.0 | 585 |
| Grandmother trajectory index^a | 0.17 | 1.1 | 0.1 | -1.0 | 1.6 | 885 |
| Grandmother present (7y) | 0.39 | 0.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 885 |
| Grandmother present (1y) | 0.48 | 0.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 584 |
| Grandmother present (6m) | 0.54 | 0.5 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 584 |

Notes: Index variables, created such that the control group has mean 0, standard deviation 1, are in bold. The individual variables that make up each index are listed below. The sample includes the intervention (baseline depressed mothers in treatment and control groups).

^a Index variables were created following [Anderson \(2008\)](#), with positive values always associated with more favorable outcomes for all indices.

Table D.4 – Descriptions of mental health scales

| Maternal Mental Health | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Depressed (Baseline,6m,1y,7y) | Binary indicator for clinically diagnosed major depressive episode at the time of interview ^f . Diagnosis of major depression was made using the Structured Clinical Interview for DSM-IV Axis I Disorders (SCID-I), a semi-structured interview for making the major DSM-IV Axis I diagnoses (First et al., 2002). At the 7y follow-up, the SCID interview was administered by trained assessors, whereas the baseline through 1y diagnoses were done by clinical psychiatrists. The SCID contains 10 questions about depressive symptoms, which were individually recorded on a 3-point scale (only at the 7y follow-up). We use the SCID interview to construct a measure of depression severity (number of depressive symptoms) at the 7y follow-up ^f . |
| Hamilton (Baseline,6m,1y) | Hamilton depression severity scale ^f is a clinician-evaluated depression severity measure. Scale based on a questionnaire, ranging from 0-23, higher values indicate more severe depression. It is one of the most widely used and accepted outcome measures for evaluating the severity of depression symptoms (Hamilton, 1960). |
| BDQ (Baseline,6m,1y) | Brief Disability Questionnaire (BDQ) ^f . A 8-item questionnaire gaging the extent to which the mother’s health condition disables her from doing physical activities, participating in hobbies, and taking part in family activities. Each item is recorded on a 3-point scale. |
| GAF (6m,1y) | Generalized Assessment of Functioning (GAF). Scale between 0-100, where larger values indicate better functioning. GAF is assigned by the clinician, based on criteria and scaling set out by the DSM-IV-TR (p. 34): Consider psychological, social, and occupational functioning on a hypothetical continuum of mental health-illness. Do not include impairment in functioning due to physical (or environmental) limitations. |
| MSPSS (Baseline,6m,1y,7y) | Multi-dimension Scale of Perceived Social Support (MSPSS) is designed to measure perceptions of support from 3 sources: family, friends, and spouse (Zimet et al., 1988). The questionnaire is comprised of a total of 12 items, each measured on a scale of 1-7. Higher values indicate more perceived social support. |

Notes: The follow-up waves of when each outcome was measured is listed in parentheses under the name in the first column. Mental health index variables are generated following Anderson (2008), a GLS-weighted average of outcomes within the index group. More positive values of the index indicate more favorable outcomes (thus certain outcomes, as indicated above with ^f, are “flipped”, i.e., such that more positive values are associated with favorable outcomes).

Table D.5 – Descriptions of Outcome Variable

| Parental Investment | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Parenting Style Index | A standardized weighted average of the 4 subscales of the Parenting Practices Inventory (harsh, harsh for age, consistent, and appropriate disciplining) and the following 3 subscales of the HOME inventory: responsivity ^o , encouragement of maturity ^o , and emotional climate ^o . |
| Time-intensive Investment Index | A standardized weighted average of frequency of mother play (to help learn new things) with index child, frequency of father play with index child, if anyone else in the family helps child with studies, and the following 3 subscales of the HOME inventory: enrichment, family companionship, and family integration. |
| Monetary-intensive Investment Index | A standardized weighted average of family education expenditure in past month, mother's expected grade attainment for index child, whether index child attends a private school, school quality* (index constructed as the primary component of class size*, number of teachers in the school*, number of rooms in the school*, classroom amenities* [3 items: backboard, backboard functional, other materials], school amenities* [10 items: school has office, playground, computers, library, clean drinking water, toilets for girls]), and 2 subscales of the HOME inventory (learning materials and physical environment*). |
| Child Development | |
| Cognitive Development Index | A standardized weighted average of the 5 subscales of the WPPSI IQ*, Urdu score*, Math score*, Stroop executive function test*, and current grade (teacher report)*. The Stroop-like Day/Night test gages inhibition and working memory. Basic literacy and numeracy tests were administered, providing math and Urdu scores based on the number correct out of 16 and 12 respectively. |
| Physical Development Index | A standardized weighted average of (flipped) binary indicators of whether the child had been hospitalized, has had a severe illness, has eyesight or hearing problems, motor function (assessed using the Grooved Pegboard Test, which asks the child to place pegs in a correct orientation on a board and records the amount of time the child took to complete the task, also flipped), and measured height-for-age* and weight-for-age* (Z scores calculated according to WHO criteria) and if the child was not stunted* or thin* (according to WHO criteria). |

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Table D.5 – continued from previous page

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Socio-emotional Development Index | A standardized weighted average of the 5 subscales of the Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (4 subscales that make up the total SDQ score + the prosocial component) and 6 subscales of the Spence child anxiety scale (SCAS). |
|-----------------------------------|---|

Notes: Items indicated with an asterisk (*) indicates outcomes measured by observation (ie, assessor observed or administered test), and ^o indicates the subscale comprises of some (but not all) direct observation. All other outcomes are self-reported by the mother. Index variables are generated following [Anderson \(2008\)](#), a GLS-weighted average of outcomes within the index group. More positive values of the index indicate more favorable outcomes (thus certain outcomes, as indicated above, are “flipped”, i.e., redefined as the value subtracted from the maximum). An alternative construction of indices using the factor scores was also used, and the results, which are robust to the alternative method of defining the indices, are presented in the Appendix (see [Table G.16](#)).

Table D.6 – Descriptions of Scales and Inventories

| Parental Investments | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| HOME | Home Observation for Measurement of the Environment (HOME) Inventory (Caldwell and Bradley, 1984). The HOME assessment used in our experiment contains 54 items in total and 8 subscales: (1) Learning Materials; (2) Encouragement of Maturity; (3) Physical Environment; (4) Responsivity of Parent to Child; (5) Family Companionship; (6) Family Integration; (7) Variety in Daily Stimulation and Enrichment; and (8) Emotional Climate. 19 items are based on observation. The HOME assessment is one of the most used child assessments. For example, the short form of the HOME is the primary measure of the quality of a child’s home environment included in the NLSY79 child survey. |
| PPI | The Parent Practices Interview (PPI) is a modified (shortened) version of a 72-item questionnaire adapted from the Oregon Social Learning Center’s Discipline Questionnaire and revised for young children. It is composed of four subscales –Harsh Discipline, Harsh for Age, Inconsistent Discipline, and Appropriate Discipline – rated on a 4-point scale ranging from 0 (never) to 3 (always). The PPI has been used in several studies, including a study of the effectiveness of parent and teacher training for Head Start mothers and their 4 year old children and Head Start teachers (Kaplow et al., 2001). |
| School Quality | An index constructed as the primary component of class size, number of teachers in the school, number of rooms in the school, classroom amenities [3 items: blackboard, blackboard functional, other materials], and school amenities [10 items: school has an office, a playground, a library, a water source, clean drinking water, toilet for girls, fencing, computers, and if books and computers were visibly in use]. All items within the index were reported by the interviewer, who visited the school. |
| Child Development | |
| WPPSI | The Wechsler Preschool and Primary Scale of Intelligence (WPPSI-IV), fourth edition, is an intelligence test designed for children ages 2.5 years to 7.5 years. WPPSI-IV provides primary index scales for verbal comprehension (VCI), visual-spatial (VSI), fluid reasoning (FRI), working memory (WMI), and processing speed (PSI). |
| SCAS | The Spence Children’s Anxiety Scale (SCAS) to assess anxiety (Spence, 1998). The SCAS is also parent administered and consists of six different subscales in addition to an overall anxiety score: panic and agoraphobia, separation anxiety, physical injury fears, social phobia, obsessive-compulsive problems, and generalized anxiety. The sum of items ranges from 0 to 114. Higher values indicate more anxious behavior. |

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Table D.6 – continued from previous page

| | |
|------------------|--|
| SDQ | The Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ) is used to measure behavioral and emotional problems. The SDQ is parent administered and has been validated in Pakistan (Syed et al., 2009). The questionnaire consists of 20 questions about the child's difficulties in four areas (emotional, conduct problems, hyperactivity, and peer problems) and a positive prosocial domain. The SDQ total difficulties score is generated by addition of the problem scale scores and ranges from 0 to 40. Higher values indicate more behavioral and emotional problems. |
| Stroop | The Stroop test is considered to measure selective attention, cognitive flexibility and processing speed, and it is used as a tool in the evaluation of executive functions. An increased interference effect is found in disorders such as attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder, or a variety of mental disorders such as schizophrenia, addictions, and depression. A Stroop-like Day/Night test was administered and is measured as the number correct out of 16. |
| Grooved Pegboard | The Grooved Pegboard is a manipulative dexterity test. This unit consists of 25 holes with randomly positioned slots. Pegs, which have a key along one side, must be rotated to match the hole before the can be inserted. This test requires more complex visual-motor coordination than most pegboards. The measure used in this paper is a factor score of the time (in minutes) to complete the task using both the dominant and nondominant hands, the number of pegs dropped, and the number of peg not placed. Results are similar using the time to complete task using the dominant hand (or nondominant hand), however more meaningful variation, assessed by how the measure varying with key covariates, was generated using the factor score. |

Table D.7 – Correlates of Parental Investment Behavior at Age 7

| | Time investment index | | | Monetary investment index | | | Parenting style index | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7) | (8) | (9) |
| Girl | 0.01 (0.11) | 0.01 (0.11) | 0.04 (0.09) | -0.38*** (0.08) | -0.35*** (0.08) | -0.33*** (0.07) | 0.04 (0.11) | 0.05 (0.11) | 0.06 (0.09) |
| Age of index child | 0.14 (0.27) | 0.16 (0.27) | 0.28 (0.25) | -0.13 (0.37) | -0.07 (0.38) | -0.08 (0.41) | 0.52* (0.30) | 0.55* (0.29) | 0.57 (0.34) |
| Wealth score (at baseline) | 0.06** (0.02) | 0.06** (0.02) | 0.08*** (0.02) | 0.08** (0.04) | 0.08** (0.04) | 0.10*** (0.03) | 0.00 (0.03) | 0.00 (0.03) | 0.02 (0.03) |
| Mother's years of education | 0.05*** (0.01) | 0.05*** (0.01) | 0.03** (0.01) | 0.07*** (0.01) | 0.07*** (0.02) | 0.06*** (0.02) | 0.05*** (0.02) | 0.05*** (0.02) | 0.04** (0.02) |
| Father's years of education | 0.04** (0.01) | 0.03** (0.01) | 0.01 (0.01) | 0.07*** (0.01) | 0.06*** (0.01) | 0.06*** (0.02) | 0.01 (0.01) | 0.01 (0.01) | -0.00 (0.01) |
| Mother's age | 0.06 (0.05) | 0.06 (0.05) | 0.01 (0.05) | 0.03 (0.08) | 0.03 (0.07) | -0.01 (0.07) | 0.18** (0.08) | 0.18** (0.07) | 0.12* (0.07) |
| Mother's age ² | -0.00 (0.00) | -0.00 (0.00) | 0.00 (0.00) | -0.00 (0.00) | -0.00 (0.00) | 0.00 (0.00) | -0.00** (0.00) | -0.00** (0.00) | -0.00 (0.00) |
| No. kids (at baseline) | -0.00 (0.03) | -0.00 (0.03) | 0.01 (0.03) | -0.02 (0.05) | -0.01 (0.05) | 0.00 (0.04) | 0.01 (0.03) | 0.01 (0.03) | 0.05 (0.03) |
| Grandmother at baseline | 0.10 (0.10) | 0.08 (0.10) | 0.03 (0.09) | -0.04 (0.12) | -0.08 (0.11) | -0.13 (0.10) | 0.02 (0.10) | -0.01 (0.10) | -0.08 (0.12) |
| Mother depressed (at 7-year followup) | | -0.16 (0.11) | 0.03 (0.07) | | -0.42*** (0.12) | -0.37*** (0.11) | | -0.26** (0.12) | -0.11 (0.14) |
| Baseline depression severity | | 0.03 (0.06) | 0.06 (0.04) | | 0.03 (0.04) | 0.06* (0.03) | | 0.07 (0.05) | 0.09 (0.06) |
| Mother play (at 1-year followup) | | | 0.74*** (0.11) | | | 0.23* (0.13) | | | 0.30** (0.13) |
| Father play (at 1-year followup) | | | 0.59*** (0.11) | | | 0.30* (0.16) | | | 0.51*** (0.11) |
| Diarrhea (at 1-year followup) | | | -0.10 (0.10) | | | -0.04 (0.10) | | | 0.00 (0.09) |
| Breastfeeding (at 6-month followup) | | | 0.03 (0.15) | | | 0.18 (0.22) | | | 0.32*** (0.11) |
| ARI (at 1-year followup) | | | 0.09 (0.10) | | | -0.08 (0.10) | | | -0.00 (0.07) |
| Observations | 295 | 295 | 276 | 295 | 295 | 276 | 295 | 295 | 276 |
| R ² | 0.44 | 0.44 | 0.65 | 0.31 | 0.35 | 0.40 | 0.23 | 0.24 | 0.33 |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: This table shows associations of parenting behavior with potential mediating infant inputs and key demographic and socioeconomic characteristics (which were used as controls in the main analysis). The sample consists only of mothers in the control group. Column 1 shows the associations by regressing the child development outcome on baseline demographic/socioeconomic characteristics. Column 2 adds mother's depressed status at the 7-year follow-up and her baseline depression severity. Column 3 adds mediating infant inputs and infant health. The parental behavior indicators are measured using three broad domains and calculated as a summary index following Anderson (2008). All regressions control for interviewer fixed effects. Heteroskedasticity robust standard errors are clustered at the Union Council level.

Table D.8 – Correlates of Child Development at Age 7

| | Cognitive development index | | | Physical development index | | | Socio-emotional development index | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7) | (8) | (9) |
| Girl | 0.10 (0.13) | 0.10 (0.13) | 0.09 (0.13) | -0.03 (0.13) | -0.02 (0.13) | -0.06 (0.14) | -0.25** (0.11) | -0.21* (0.11) | -0.24* (0.12) |
| Age of index child | 0.31 (0.39) | 0.33 (0.39) | 0.22 (0.42) | 0.45 (0.53) | 0.46 (0.53) | 0.54 (0.54) | 0.46 (0.57) | 0.50 (0.58) | 0.47 (0.53) |
| Wealth score (at baseline) | 0.06* (0.03) | 0.06* (0.03) | 0.06 (0.03) | 0.02 (0.03) | 0.02 (0.03) | -0.00 (0.03) | -0.01 (0.03) | -0.03 (0.03) | -0.05 (0.03) |
| Mother's years of education | 0.05*** (0.01) | 0.05*** (0.01) | 0.04*** (0.01) | -0.00 (0.02) | -0.00 (0.02) | -0.01 (0.02) | 0.02 (0.02) | 0.01 (0.02) | 0.02 (0.02) |
| Father's years of education | 0.05*** (0.02) | 0.05*** (0.02) | 0.05*** (0.02) | -0.00 (0.01) | -0.00 (0.01) | -0.00 (0.01) | 0.03* (0.02) | 0.03* (0.02) | 0.04** (0.02) |
| Mother's age | 0.16*** (0.06) | 0.16** (0.06) | 0.14** (0.05) | 0.23** (0.08) | 0.23** (0.08) | 0.22** (0.08) | 0.02 (0.07) | 0.02 (0.06) | 0.03 (0.06) |
| Mother's age ² | -0.00** (0.00) | -0.00** (0.00) | -0.00** (0.00) | -0.00** (0.00) | -0.00** (0.00) | -0.00** (0.00) | -0.00 (0.00) | -0.00 (0.00) | -0.00 (0.00) |
| No. kids (at baseline) | -0.09** (0.04) | -0.08** (0.04) | -0.09** (0.03) | -0.02 (0.05) | -0.02 (0.05) | -0.06 (0.04) | -0.00 (0.04) | -0.00 (0.03) | -0.02 (0.04) |
| Grandmother at baseline | 0.04 (0.09) | 0.02 (0.08) | -0.01 (0.08) | 0.09 (0.12) | 0.08 (0.12) | 0.09 (0.12) | -0.06 (0.14) | -0.09 (0.14) | -0.14 (0.17) |
| Mother depressed (at 7-year followup) | | -0.23** (0.10) | -0.17 (0.12) | | -0.06 (0.16) | -0.01 (0.17) | | -0.19 (0.13) | -0.19 (0.13) |
| Baseline depression severity | | 0.06 (0.05) | 0.06 (0.05) | | -0.05 (0.07) | -0.03 (0.06) | | -0.16** (0.06) | -0.17** (0.07) |
| Mother play (at 1-year followup) | | | -0.03 (0.13) | | | 0.04 (0.17) | | | -0.08 (0.19) |
| Father play (at 1-year followup) | | | 0.35*** (0.07) | | | 0.15 (0.14) | | | -0.14 (0.17) |
| Diarrhea (at 1-year followup) | | | -0.31*** (0.09) | | | -0.08 (0.17) | | | -0.12 (0.14) |
| Breastfeeding (at 6-month followup) | | | -0.01 (0.11) | | | -0.11 (0.18) | | | -0.16 (0.17) |
| ARI (at 1-year followup) | | | -0.07 (0.09) | | | -0.19 (0.12) | | | 0.06 (0.09) |
| Observations | 295 | 295 | 276 | 295 | 295 | 276 | 295 | 295 | 276 |
| R ² | 0.23 | 0.24 | 0.29 | 0.09 | 0.09 | 0.12 | 0.12 | 0.16 | 0.17 |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: This table shows associations of child development with potential mediating infant inputs and key demographic and socioeconomic characteristics (which were used as controls in the main analysis). The sample consists only of mothers in the control group. Column 1 shows the associations by regressing the child development outcome on baseline demographic/socioeconomic characteristics. Column 2 adds mother's depressed status at the 7-year follow-up and her baseline depression severity. Column 3 adds mediating infant inputs and infant health. The child development indicators are measured using three broad domains and calculated as a summary index following Anderson (2008). All regressions control for interviewer fixed effects. Heteroskedasticity robust standard errors are clustered at the Union Council level.

E Baseline non-depressed

Table E.9 – Balance in non-depressed sample: Characteristics by cluster assignment at 7-yr follow-up

| | Non-experimental Sample at 7-year followup | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|--------|----------|--------|---------------|-----|
| | Control Mean | (s.d.) | T-C Diff | (s.e.) | <i>p</i> -val | N |
| Age | 33.86 | (5.2) | 0.42 | (0.71) | 0.56 | 300 |
| Parity | 4.65 | (3.0) | -0.23 | (0.30) | 0.46 | 300 |
| Mother's education | 4.85 | (4.3) | 1.39 | (0.73) | 0.07* | 300 |
| Father's education | 7.89 | (3.3) | 0.24 | (0.47) | 0.61 | 300 |
| Grandmother lives with | 0.40 | (0.5) | 0.09 | (0.07) | 0.20 | 300 |
| Adults in house | 4.01 | (2.6) | 0.27 | (0.30) | 0.38 | 299 |
| Index child is girl | 0.48 | (0.5) | -0.03 | (0.07) | 0.69 | 300 |
| Age of index child | 7.57 | (0.1) | 0.00 | (0.01) | 0.80 | 300 |
| Mother's Financial Autonomy Index | 0.27 | (1.1) | 0.08 | (0.14) | 0.55 | 300 |
| Father's Employment Index | 0.03 | (0.7) | 0.04 | (0.08) | 0.60 | 299 |
| Household Wealth Index | 0.13 | (0.8) | 0.22 | (0.14) | 0.12 | 300 |
| Relationship Quality Index | 0.37 | (0.8) | 0.03 | (0.09) | 0.73 | 295 |
| Mother's Health Index | 0.14 | (1.3) | 0.19 | (0.16) | 0.24 | 300 |
| Mental health index (7y) | 0.52 | (0.5) | 0.03 | (0.06) | 0.63 | 300 |
| Joint test (<i>p</i> -value) | | | | | 0.38 | |
| Observations | | 150 | | | | |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: This table tests for balance in characteristics at the 7-year follow-up for women excluded (non-depressed) at baseline, by treatment and control clusters.

^a The wealth index is a PCA-weighted index of household income, health worker SES rating, house materials, water and waste infrastructure, and a number of other assets.

Table E.10 – Characteristics in 2013 by Baseline Depression Status

| Sample Characteristics: | (1) Non-depressed | (2) Depressed | (3) <i>p</i> -value |
|--|----------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| Mother's characteristics | | | |
| Mother's age | 34.06 | 34.73 | 0.10 * |
| Mother's education | 5.54 | 4.02 | 0.00 *** |
| Number of kids | 4.00 | 4.31 | 0.00 *** |
| Number of kids born to mother in last 7 years | 1.24 | 0.87 | 0.00 *** |
| Avg age if kids born to mother in last 7 yrs | 3.68 | 3.71 | 0.81 |
| Mother's general health (1=vgood 5=vbad) | 2.87 | 3.14 | 0.00 *** |
| Mother's Mental Health | | | |
| Currently depressed (MDE) | 0.11 | 0.27 | 0.00 *** |
| Perceived social support score (MSPSS) | 41.69 | 37.94 | 0.00 *** |
| Recovered permanently | 0.00 | 0.39 | 0.00 *** |
| Never recovered | 0.00 | 0.13 | 0.00 *** |
| Depressed ever between 2008-2013 | 0.13 | 0.31 | 0.00 *** |
| Depressed between 2008-2013 (recall only) | 0.03 | 0.14 | 0.00 *** |
| Number of recalled depressive episodes | 0.03 | 0.15 | 0.00 *** |
| Number of depressive episodes since 2007 | 0.12 | 0.33 | 0.00 *** |
| Duration of recalled depressive episodes (yrs) | 0.03 | 0.11 | 0.00 *** |
| Family characteristics | | | |
| Joint/extended family structure | 0.60 | 0.60 | 0.93 |
| Grandmother lives with | 0.44 | 0.37 | 0.03 ** |
| Number of adults living with | 4.14 | 3.72 | 0.01 *** |
| Father's characteristics | | | |
| Father's education | 8.01 | 6.96 | 0.00 *** |
| Father employed | 0.90 | 0.87 | 0.25 |
| Father's occupation non-manual worker | 0.09 | 0.05 | 0.01 *** |
| Household income and SES | | | |
| SES (1=Rich, 5=Poor) | 3.34 | 3.48 | 0.01 *** |
| Has debt | 0.56 | 0.63 | 0.05 ** |
| Piped drinking water | 0.06 | 0.08 | 0.28 |
| Flush toilet | 0.65 | 0.57 | 0.03 ** |
| Sample size | 300 | 585 | 885 |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: The table shows sample means for characteristics for perinatally depressed and perinatally non-depressed mother measure at the time of the 7-year follow-up. Column 3 shows the p -value of the difference in means between the depressed and non-depressed groups.

F Attrition

Table F.11 – Characteristics of attritors and differences by intervention and control clusters

| | Characteristics of attritors N=903 | | | | Attritor characteristics by treatment arm N=318 | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------|---------------|---|--------------------|-------|---------------|
| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7) | (8) |
| | In sample Mean N=585 | Attritor Mean N=318 | Diff | <i>p</i> -val | T Mean N=174 | C mean N=144 | Diff | <i>p</i> -val |
| Mother's age | 26.87 | 26.50 | -0.37 | 0.30 | 26.14 | 26.94 | -0.81 | 0.19 |
| Mother's height (m) | 1.56 | 1.56 | -0.01 | 0.09* | 1.56 | 1.56 | 0.00 | 0.94 |
| Mother's BMI | 23.18 | 23.40 | 0.22 | 0.43 | 23.40 | 23.40 | -0.00 | 1.00 |
| Mother's education | 4.06 | 4.06 | 0.01 | 0.98 | 3.94 | 4.21 | -0.27 | 0.58 |
| Empowered | 0.56 | 0.48 | -0.07 | 0.03** | 0.48 | 0.49 | -0.01 | 0.87 |
| Mother usually works | 0.02 | 0.04 | 0.03 | 0.03** | 0.03 | 0.06 | -0.02 | 0.36 |
| Parity | 2.25 | 2.22 | -0.04 | 0.76 | 2.28 | 2.14 | 0.14 | 0.51 |
| Index child is first born | 0.17 | 0.22 | 0.05 | 0.08* | 0.21 | 0.23 | -0.02 | 0.72 |
| Index child is female | 0.51 | 0.49 | -0.01 | 0.69 | 0.48 | 0.51 | -0.02 | 0.67 |
| % children female | 0.53 | 0.52 | -0.01 | 0.55 | 0.54 | 0.50 | 0.04 | 0.27 |
| Hamilton depression score | 14.49 | 14.88 | 0.39 | 0.17 | 15.11 | 14.61 | 0.50 | 0.29 |
| Baseline BDQ score | 8.12 | 8.36 | 0.23 | 0.21 | 8.15 | 8.61 | -0.46 | 0.11 |
| General functioning (GAF) | 62.25 | 61.68 | -0.57 | 0.12 | 61.21 | 62.24 | -1.02 | 0.08* |
| Perceived social support score | 46.01 | 43.26 | -2.75 | 0.02** | 42.63 | 44.03 | -1.40 | 0.45 |
| Joint/extended family structure | 0.59 | 0.58 | -0.01 | 0.71 | 0.58 | 0.58 | 0.00 | 0.94 |
| Mother-in-law lives with | 0.43 | 0.44 | 0.00 | 0.93 | 0.45 | 0.42 | 0.02 | 0.66 |
| Mother's mother lives with | 0.06 | 0.07 | 0.01 | 0.73 | 0.08 | 0.06 | 0.02 | 0.39 |
| Father's education | 7.09 | 6.89 | -0.20 | 0.48 | 6.91 | 6.86 | 0.05 | 0.91 |
| Father employed | 0.90 | 0.92 | 0.02 | 0.29 | 0.91 | 0.94 | -0.03 | 0.31 |
| Father not manual worker | 0.29 | 0.28 | -0.01 | 0.78 | 0.27 | 0.30 | -0.03 | 0.60 |
| SES (0=poor, 4=rich) | 1.41 | 1.33 | -0.08 | 0.22 | 1.24 | 1.43 | -0.19 | 0.09* |
| Wealth index ^a | 0.07 | -0.13 | -0.20 | 0.15 | -0.20 | -0.04 | -0.17 | 0.47 |
| LTFU: abortion | | | | | 0.01 | 0.02 | -0.01 | 0.51 |
| LTFU: stillbirth | | | | | 0.07 | 0.12 | -0.05 | 0.13 |
| LTFU: child death/illness | | | | | 0.20 | 0.14 | 0.06 | 0.18 |
| LTFU: mother death/illness | | | | | 0.07 | 0.10 | -0.03 | 0.36 |
| LTFU: refused | | | | | 0.25 | 0.28 | -0.03 | 0.52 |
| LTFU: moved | | | | | 0.36 | 0.33 | 0.03 | 0.59 |
| Joint test (<i>p</i> -value) | | | | | | | | 0.59 |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: Table shows baseline characteristics and their differences for women who were lost to follow-up between baseline and year 7. Columns 1-4 compare the 7-year follow-up sample to attritors. Columns 5-8 compare baseline characteristics of attritors by treatment arm, including the reasons respondents were lost to follow-up. The last row reports the *p*-value of joint test that all attritors from the treatment arm were different to attritors from the control arm along baseline characteristics.

^a The wealth score is a 19-item PCA-weighted index of assets (radio, TV, refrigerator, washing machine, air conditioning), house and roofing materials (brick walls, metal roof), and water and waste infrastructure (type of drinking water, flush toilet or any type of latrine).

Table F.12 – Differences in short-term treatment effects by sample

| | Coefficient on Treat (β / (s.e.)) | | Difference between samples | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| | (1) Full sample | (2) 7-yr followup sample | (3) Raw Diff. | (4) Diff. in st.devs. | (5) <i>p</i> -value |
| Depressed (6m) | −0.30*** | −0.32*** | 0.03 | 5% | 0.26 |
| Depressed (1y) | −0.32*** | −0.33*** | 0.02 | 4% | 0.45 |
| Depression severity (6m) | −4.20*** | −4.34*** | 0.14 | 2% | 0.76 |
| Depression severity (1y) | −5.29*** | −5.60*** | 0.31 | 4% | 0.43 |
| BDQ disability score (6m) | −1.91*** | −1.97*** | 0.06 | 2% | 0.81 |
| BDQ disability score (1y) | −2.96*** | −3.07*** | 0.11 | 3% | 0.60 |
| GAF general functioning (6m) | 7.14*** | 7.54*** | −0.41 | 4% | 0.49 |
| GAF general functioning (1y) | 8.68*** | 9.11*** | −0.43 | 4% | 0.48 |
| Perceived social support (6m) | 7.06*** | 7.72*** | −0.66 | 4% | 0.40 |
| Perceived social support (1y) | 8.44*** | 8.76*** | −0.32 | 2% | 0.67 |
| Joint test at 6m (<i>p</i> -value) | | | | | 0.60 |
| Joint test at 1y (<i>p</i> -value) | | | | | 0.98 |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: Table shows the treatment effects (as a simple difference in means between treatment and control, T-C) on short-term depression and mental health outcomes using the full samples at 6 and 12 months (N=818 and 791 respectively) and compares the estimated treatment effects to those using the 7-year follow-up sample (N=584). The third column reports the differences in the estimated treatment effects between the two samples, and the fourth column reports the difference in estimate effects as a percentage of a standard deviation in the outcome. Negative treatment effects in the first 3 outcomes (depressed, depression severity score, and disability score) correspond to more favorable outcomes, while positive treatment effects for the last 2 outcomes (functioning and social support scores) correspond to better outcomes. Across all mental health outcomes, the differences in treatment effects range between 2 and 5% of a standard deviation of the outcome, averaging at 3% of a standard deviation. The difference between the two samples always favors the non-attriting sample; however, no individual treatment effect differed statistically between the two samples nor jointly. The joint test was conducted by running a Seemingly Unrelated Regression (SUR) model on all 5 outcomes, with the GAF and social support outcomes flipped (so that higher values indicate worse mental health outcomes like the rest of the measures), regressing outcomes on treat, an indicator for attritor, and the interaction ($y^k = \beta_0^k + \beta_1^k \text{Treat} + \beta_2^k \text{LTFU} + \beta_3^k \text{Treat} \times \text{LTFU} + \epsilon^k$ for $k \in (1, \dots, 5)$ where each variable represents a vector and k denotes the outcome). The *p*-value reported in the last row is the joint test of the hypothesis that the interaction ($\text{Treat} \times \text{LTFU}$) is different from zero. The joint test of whether mental health outcomes favored nonattritors also suggests no differences ($p=0.96$).

Table F.13 – Sample flow and attrition by gender

| | Boy | | Girl | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| | (1) Treatment | (2) Control | (3) Treatment | (4) Control |
| Baseline | 223 | 226 | 240 | 214 |
| 6-month | 185 | 190 | 202 | 179 |
| 1-year | 179 | 180 | 198 | 174 |
| 7-year | 133 | 155 | 156 | 141 |
| Follow-up rates at 7-year follow-up: | | | | |
| from baseline (%) | 0.60** | 0.69 | 0.65 | 0.66 |
| from 1-year (%) | 0.72*** | 0.86 | 0.77 | 0.85 |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: The upper panel reports the total number of mother-child dyads in our sample from baseline to the 7-year follow-up, split by gender and treatment status. The lower panel reports the ratio of dyads present at the 7-year follow-up over the total number of dyads present at baseline or at the 1-year follow-up. Stars indicate significant differences in follow-up rates between columns (1) and (2), or (3) and (4).

Table F.14 – Attrition corrections by child gender

| | Girls | | | Boys | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | (1) No controls $\beta/(s.e.)$ | (2) Lower | (3) Upper | (4) No controls $\beta/(s.e.)$ | (5) Lower | (6) Upper |
| Mother's financial empowerment | 0.46*** (0.14) | 0.16 | 0.94 | 0.13 (0.15) | -0.28 | 0.65 |
| Parental investment (monetary) | 0.55*** (0.10) | 0.10 | 0.92 | 0.16* (0.09) | -0.24 | 0.67 |
| Parental investment (time-intensive) | 0.25** (0.10) | -0.01 | 0.66 | 0.15 (0.09) | -0.16 | 0.83 |
| Parenting style | 0.22** (0.08) | -0.26 | 0.52 | -0.20 (0.13) | -0.69 | 0.33 |
| Fertility trajectory | 0.11 (0.11) | -0.37 | 0.58 | -0.08 (0.13) | -0.52 | 0.54 |
| Physical development index | 0.20 (0.13) | -0.31 | 0.44 | 0.08 (0.11) | -0.49 | 0.52 |
| Cognitive development index | 0.15 (0.13) | -0.49 | 0.41 | 0.03 (0.09) | -0.47 | 0.40 |
| Socio-emotional development index | -0.06 (0.11) | -0.53 | 0.27 | -0.16 (0.12) | -0.70 | 0.30 |
| Child survival index | 0.32*** (0.10) | -0.24 | 0.59 | 0.01 (0.10) | -0.46 | 0.34 |
| Mother's physical health | 0.16* (0.09) | -0.21 | 0.55 | -0.06 (0.11) | -0.52 | 0.48 |
| Husband's income trajectory | -0.09 (0.13) | -0.46 | 0.33 | 0.06 (0.13) | -0.51 | 0.47 |
| Relationships | 0.10 (0.11) | -0.30 | 0.37 | 0.18 (0.11) | -0.36 | 0.69 |
| Grandmother trajectory index | 0.26** (0.11) | 0.00 | 1.02 | 0.44*** (0.10) | 0.01 | 1.07 |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: Summary indices were created (following [Kling et al. \(2007\)](#); [Anderson \(2008\)](#)) such that they are mean 0 and standard deviation of 1 in the control group, with positive values always associated with more favorable outcomes. Description of the construction of the indices can be found in Appendix Section 4.1. Tables D.1 and D.2 show the summary statistics for the variables included in each index. Heteroskedasticity robust standard errors, clustered by Union Council, in parentheses. Columns 1 and 4 show the treatment effects on indices split by gender. Columns 2-3 and 5-6 show 95% confidence intervals for the treatment effect using attrition bounds based on [Lee \(2009\)](#), split by child gender. The starting sample for the bound is 454 girls and 449 boys.

G Robustness checks

Table G.15 – Control sensitivity

| | Coefficient on Treat (β / (s.e.)) | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | (1) No controls | (2) Interviewer FEs | (3) + Individual controls | (4) + Ind. \times T controls |
| Mother's financial empowerment (7y) | 0.23** (0.11) | 0.18* (0.09) | 0.18** (0.08) | 0.18** (0.07) |
| Mother's financial empowerment | 0.34** (0.13) | 0.29** (0.11) | 0.29*** (0.09) | 0.29*** (0.09) |
| Parental investment (monetary) | 0.36*** (0.09) | 0.35*** (0.07) | 0.28*** (0.06) | 0.28*** (0.06) |
| Parental investment (time-intensive) | 0.32** (0.16) | 0.20*** (0.07) | 0.19*** (0.06) | 0.20*** (0.06) |
| Parenting style | 0.06 (0.09) | 0.04 (0.08) | 0.06 (0.08) | 0.05 (0.08) |
| Fertility trajectory | 0.02 (0.11) | 0.01 (0.10) | 0.00 (0.09) | -0.00 (0.09) |
| Physical development index | 0.12 (0.12) | 0.15 (0.09) | 0.15 (0.09) | 0.14 (0.09) |
| Cognitive development index | 0.03 (0.10) | 0.09 (0.08) | 0.06 (0.08) | 0.04 (0.08) |
| Socio-emotional development index | -0.12 (0.08) | -0.11 (0.07) | -0.07 (0.07) | -0.08 (0.07) |
| Child survival index | 0.17** (0.08) | 0.19** (0.08) | 0.17** (0.08) | 0.17** (0.08) |
| Mother's physical health | 0.08 (0.09) | 0.07 (0.07) | 0.08 (0.08) | 0.07 (0.08) |
| Husband's income trajectory | 0.04 (0.10) | -0.02 (0.10) | -0.03 (0.09) | -0.04 (0.10) |
| Relationships | 0.16* (0.09) | 0.14* (0.09) | 0.16* (0.09) | 0.16* (0.09) |
| Grandmother trajectory index | 0.31*** (0.09) | 0.34*** (0.08) | 0.16** (0.06) | 0.16** (0.07) |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: N=585. Summary indices were created (following Kling et al. (2007); Anderson (2008)) such that they are mean 0 and standard deviation of 1 in the control group, with positive values always associated with more favorable outcomes. Description of the construction of the indices can be found in Appendix Section 4.1. Tables D.1 and D.2 show the summary statistics for the variables included in each index. Heteroskedasticity robust standard errors, clustered by Union Council, in parentheses. All models control for interview date and interviewer fixed effects. Specifications with all controls additionally adjust for baseline characteristics (all centered and interacted with the treatment indicator). The set of baseline characteristics include mother's age and its square, parity, family structure, presence of grandmother (mother or mother-in-law of depressed mother), mother's education, father's education, if mother was employed, if mother empowered, PCA-weighted wealth index, depression severity (Hamilton score), and perceived social support (MSPSS).

Table G.16 – Control sensitivity (indices by factor score)

| | Coefficient on Treat (β / (s.e.)) | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | (1) No controls | (2) Interviewer FEs | (3) + Individual controls | (4) + Ind. \times T controls |
| Mother's financial autonomy (7y) | 0.16 (0.12) | 0.14 (0.13) | 0.10 (0.11) | 0.09 (0.11) |
| Parental investment (monetary) | 0.25*** (0.07) | 0.27*** (0.07) | 0.19*** (0.06) | 0.18*** (0.05) |
| Parental investment (time-intensive) | 0.28** (0.13) | 0.19*** (0.06) | 0.17*** (0.06) | 0.17*** (0.06) |
| Parenting style | 0.14 (0.09) | 0.11 (0.07) | 0.11* (0.07) | 0.11 (0.07) |
| Physical development index | -0.01 (0.08) | -0.02 (0.07) | -0.03 (0.07) | -0.03 (0.07) |
| Cognitive development index | 0.06 (0.10) | 0.11 (0.08) | 0.07 (0.07) | 0.06 (0.07) |
| Socio-emotional development index | -0.11 (0.08) | -0.08 (0.06) | -0.06 (0.07) | -0.07 (0.06) |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: Unlike for the GLS-weighted index, indices generated via factor score drop observations without full data, thus sample size varies by index. Financial autonomy N=560, monetary N=474, time N=585, style N=585, cognitive N=568, socio-emotional N=585, physical health N=576. Summary variables generated by factor score. Heteroskedasticity robust standard errors, clustered by Union Council, in parentheses. All models control for interview date and interviewer fixed effects. Specifications with all controls additionally adjust for baseline characteristics (all centered and interacted with the treatment indicator). The set of baseline characteristics include mother's age and its square, parity, family structure, presence of grandmother (mother or mother-in-law of depressed mother), mother's education, father's education, if mother was employed, if mother empowered, PCA-weighted wealth index, depression severity (Hamilton score), and perceived social support (MSPSS).

Table G.17 – Controlling for post-treatment depression

| | Main Specification | Controlling for depression | |
|---|-----------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| | (1) | (2) | (3) |
| | β /(s.e.) | at 1y | at 1y and 7y |
| <i>Mother's financial empowerment</i> | | | |
| Treat | 0.29** (0.11) | 0.07 (0.09) | 0.07 (0.09) |
| Mental health index (12mo) | | 0.32*** (0.05) | 0.29*** (0.05) |
| Mental health index (7y) | | | 0.12** (0.05) |
| <i>Parental investment (monetary)</i> | | | |
| Treat | 0.35*** (0.07) | 0.24*** (0.08) | 0.23*** (0.08) |
| Mental health index (12mo) | | 0.16*** (0.06) | 0.11* (0.06) |
| Mental health index (7y) | | | 0.19*** (0.05) |
| <i>Parental investment (time-intensive)</i> | | | |
| Treat | 0.20*** (0.07) | 0.09 (0.08) | 0.09 (0.08) |
| Mental health index (12mo) | | 0.16*** (0.05) | 0.15*** (0.05) |
| Mental health index (7y) | | | 0.05 (0.05) |
| <i>Parenting style</i> | | | |
| Treat | 0.04 (0.08) | -0.08 (0.08) | -0.08 (0.08) |
| Mental health index (12mo) | | 0.17*** (0.04) | 0.13*** (0.04) |
| Mental health index (7y) | | | 0.18*** (0.04) |
| <i>Fertility trajectory</i> | | | |
| Treat | 0.01 (0.10) | -0.02 (0.11) | -0.02 (0.11) |
| Mental health index (12mo) | | 0.03 (0.05) | 0.03 (0.05) |
| Mental health index (7y) | | | -0.01 (0.05) |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: N=585. Summary indices were created (following Kling et al. (2007); Anderson (2008)) such that they are mean 0 and standard deviation of 1 in the control group, with positive values always associated with more favorable outcomes. Description of the construction of the indices can be found in Appendix Section 4.1. Tables D.1 and D.2 show the summary statistics for the variables included in each index. Heteroskedasticity robust standard errors, clustered by Union Council, in parentheses. All models control for interview date and interviewer fixed effects. Specifications with all controls additionally adjust for baseline characteristics (all centered and interacted with the treatment indicator). The set of baseline characteristics include mother's age and its square, parity, family structure, presence of grandmother (mother or mother-in-law of depressed mother), mother's education, father's education, if mother was employed, if mother empowered, PCA-weighted wealth index, depression severity (Hamilton score), and perceived social support (MSPSS).

Table G.18 – Mother’s decision-making (only year 7 outcomes): financial empowerment, investment in children and fertility

| | Coefficient on Treat (β / (s.e.)) | | FWER-adj. test |
|--------------------------------------|--|------------------------|--|
| | (1) No controls | (2) All controls | (3) FWER p -val (all controls) |
| Mother’s financial empowerment (7y) | 0.18* (0.09) | 0.18** (0.07) | 0.07* |
| Parental investment (monetary) | 0.35*** (0.07) | 0.28*** (0.06) | 0.00*** |
| Parental investment (time-intensive) | 0.20*** (0.07) | 0.20*** (0.06) | 0.01** |
| Parenting style | 0.04 (0.08) | 0.05 (0.08) | 0.78 |
| Fertility trajectory | 0.01 (0.10) | −0.00 (0.09) | 0.99 |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: N=585. Summary indices were created (following Kling et al. (2007); Anderson (2008)) such that they are mean 0 and standard deviation of 1 in the control group, with positive values always associated with more favorable outcomes. Description of the construction of the indices can be found in Appendix Section 4.1. Tables D.1 and D.2 show the summary statistics for the variables included in each index. Heteroskedasticity robust standard errors, clustered by Union Council, in parentheses. All models control for interview date and interviewer fixed effects. Specifications with all controls additionally adjust for baseline characteristics (all centered and interacted with the treatment indicator). The set of baseline characteristics include mother’s age and its square, parity, family structure, presence of grandmother (mother or mother-in-law of depressed mother), mother’s education, father’s education, if mother was employed, if mother empowered, PCA-weighted wealth index, depression severity (Hamilton score), and perceived social support (MSPSS). Inference is conducted using p -values which control for the family-wise error rate (FWER), calculated using a free step-down resampling method (Westfall and Young, 1993).

Table G.19 – Do measures of parental investment predict child development?

| | Physical development | | Cognitive development | | Socioemotional development | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| Monetary investment | 0.11* (0.06) | 0.12** (0.05) | 0.16*** (0.04) | 0.15*** (0.04) | −0.04 (0.05) | −0.01 (0.04) |
| Time investment | −0.05 (0.06) | −0.03 (0.05) | −0.00 (0.05) | 0.03 (0.05) | 0.08 (0.06) | 0.07 (0.04) |
| Parenting style | −0.01 (0.04) | 0.03 (0.04) | 0.07* (0.04) | 0.07** (0.03) | 0.30*** (0.05) | 0.32*** (0.04) |
| Mother’s financial empowerment | 0.07** (0.03) | 0.04** (0.02) | 0.06* (0.04) | 0.02 (0.03) | −0.03 (0.05) | −0.04 (0.03) |
| Fertility trajectory | −0.02 (0.04) | −0.03 (0.03) | 0.06* (0.03) | 0.03 (0.03) | 0.02 (0.04) | −0.01 (0.03) |
| Baseline depressed | | −0.14** (0.06) | | 0.03 (0.07) | | −0.18*** (0.06) |
| Observations | 584 | 884 | 584 | 884 | 584 | 884 |
| R^2 | 0.13 | 0.12 | 0.26 | 0.21 | 0.19 | 0.19 |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: Sample includes children of mothers who were depressed at baseline as well those who were not depressed at baseline, in both treatment and control clusters. Summary indices were created (following Kling et al. (2007); Anderson (2008)) such that they are mean 0 and standard deviation of 1 in the control group, with positive values always associated with more favorable outcomes. Description of the construction of the indices can be found in Appendix Section 4.1. Tables D.1 and D.2 show the summary statistics for the variables included in each index. Heteroskedasticity robust standard errors, clustered by Union Council, in parentheses. All regressions control for interviewer fixed effects, age of mother and its square, father’s and mother’s education, parity, the date of interview, and child gender and age at interview.

Table G.20 – Depression and empowerment: associations

| | Empowered before 7y | | | Empowered at 7y followup | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| | (1) at baseline | (2) at 6m | (3) at 1y | (4) All | (5) Girls | (6) Boys | (7) All | (8) Girls | (9) Boys |
| Depressed (7y) | | | | -0.16** (0.06) | -0.13* (0.07) | -0.18** (0.08) | -0.13 (0.08) | -0.05 (0.07) | -0.22* (0.12) |
| Depressed (1y) | | | -0.24*** (0.05) | | | | -0.17** (0.06) | -0.19** (0.08) | -0.15 (0.10) |
| Depressed (6m) | | -0.36*** (0.06) | | | | | | | |
| Depressed (baseline) | | | | -0.08** (0.04) | -0.18** (0.07) | 0.02 (0.04) | | | |
| Dep. severity (baseline) | -0.07*** (0.02) | -0.05* (0.03) | -0.02 (0.03) | | | | | | |
| Index child is girl | | -0.02 (0.06) | -0.01 (0.05) | -0.06 (0.04) | | | -0.16** (0.07) | | |
| Observations | 903 | 369 | 351 | 596 | 279 | 317 | 295 | 139 | 156 |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: Sample includes children of mothers who were depressed at baseline as well those who were not depressed at baseline, in both treatment and control clusters. Heteroskedasticity robust standard errors, clustered by Union Council, in parentheses.

Table G.21 – Difference-in-differences with baseline non-depressed, and health worker fixed effects

| | Coefficient on | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| | (1) Treat | (2) Treat × Prenatally Depressed | (3) Prenatally Depressed |
| Mother's financial empowerment (7y) | -0.04 (0.13) | 0.30** (0.14) | -0.19* (0.10) |
| Mother's financial empowerment | -0.08 (0.16) | 0.51*** (0.17) | -0.25* (0.14) |
| Parental investment (monetary) | 0.01 (0.13) | 0.32** (0.12) | -0.15 (0.09) |
| Parental investment (time-intensive) | -0.08 (0.11) | 0.20 (0.13) | -0.20* (0.10) |
| Parenting style | -0.27* (0.14) | 0.32** (0.15) | -0.27** (0.12) |
| Fertility trajectory | -0.06 (0.15) | 0.18 (0.18) | 0.20 (0.13) |
| Physical development index | 0.20* (0.12) | 0.01 (0.15) | -0.21** (0.10) |
| Cognitive development index | 0.16 (0.13) | -0.11 (0.16) | 0.10 (0.11) |
| Socio-emotional development index | -0.03 (0.13) | -0.16 (0.15) | -0.12 (0.10) |
| Child survival index | 0.06 (0.11) | 0.15 (0.13) | -0.12 (0.09) |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: N=885. Sample includes children of mothers who were depressed at baseline as well those who were not depressed at baseline, in both treatment and control clusters. Summary indices were created (following Kling et al. (2007); Anderson (2008)) such that they are mean 0 and standard deviation of 1 in the control group, with positive values always associated with more favorable outcomes. Description of the construction of the indices can be found in Appendix Section 4.1. Tables D.1 and D.2 show the summary statistics for the variables included in each index. Heteroskedasticity robust standard errors, clustered by Union Council, in parentheses. All regressions control for interviewer fixed effects, age of mother and its square, father's and mother's education, parity, the date of interview, and health worker fixed effects.

Table G.22 – Difference-in-differences with baseline non-depressed

| | Coefficient on | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| | (1) | (2) | (3) |
| | Treat | Treat × Prenatally Depressed | Prenatally Depressed |
| Mother's financial empowerment (7y) | −0.08 (0.12) | 0.22 (0.14) | −0.20* (0.11) |
| Mother's financial empowerment | −0.07 (0.17) | 0.33 (0.20) | −0.16 (0.16) |
| Parental investment (monetary) | 0.06 (0.12) | 0.22* (0.12) | −0.07 (0.09) |
| Parental investment (time-intensive) | 0.03 (0.10) | 0.15 (0.11) | −0.17** (0.07) |
| Parenting style | −0.19 (0.13) | 0.22* (0.12) | −0.13 (0.08) |
| Fertility trajectory | 0.01 (0.13) | 0.02 (0.11) | 0.21*** (0.08) |
| Physical development index | 0.15 (0.11) | 0.01 (0.13) | −0.15* (0.08) |
| Cognitive development index | 0.13 (0.13) | −0.11 (0.15) | 0.10 (0.10) |
| Socio-emotional development index | 0.05 (0.13) | −0.18 (0.13) | −0.12 (0.10) |
| Child survival index | 0.05 (0.10) | 0.11 (0.12) | −0.11 (0.07) |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: N=885. Sample includes children of mothers who were depressed at baseline as well those who were not depressed at baseline, in both treatment and control clusters. Summary indices were created (following Kling et al. (2007); Anderson (2008)) such that they are mean 0 and standard deviation of 1 in the control group, with positive values always associated with more favorable outcomes. Description of the construction of the indices can be found in Appendix Section 4.1. Tables D.1 and D.2 show the summary statistics for the variables included in each index. Heteroskedasticity robust standard errors, clustered by Union Council, in parentheses. All regressions control for interviewer fixed effects, age of mother and its square, father's and mother's education, parity, and the date of interview.

H Heterogeneous treatment effects

Table H.23 – Heterogeneous treatment effects for mother’s decision-making

| | Coefficient on: | | |
|--|-------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| | (1) Treat | (2) Treat × Baseline characteristic | (3) Baseline characteristic |
| Baseline characteristic: Mother’s education | | | |
| Mother’s financial empowerment | 0.05 (0.13) | 0.05** (0.02) | 0.01 (0.02) |
| Parental investment (monetary) | 0.20* (0.11) | 0.02 (0.02) | 0.07*** (0.01) |
| Parental investment (time-intensive) | 0.16* (0.09) | 0.00 (0.02) | 0.04*** (0.01) |
| Parenting style | 0.01 (0.10) | 0.00 (0.02) | 0.03* (0.02) |
| Fertility trajectory | −0.02 (0.14) | 0.01 (0.02) | −0.01 (0.01) |
| Baseline characteristic: Younger mother (age < 27) | | | |
| Mother’s financial empowerment | 0.48*** (0.13) | −0.34** (0.14) | 0.09 (0.08) |
| Parental investment (monetary) | 0.49*** (0.15) | −0.25 (0.21) | 0.10 (0.18) |
| Parental investment (time-intensive) | 0.29*** (0.10) | −0.16 (0.14) | 0.07 (0.11) |
| Parenting style | 0.06 (0.12) | −0.02 (0.17) | −0.19 (0.13) |
| Fertility trajectory | 0.14 (0.13) | −0.23 (0.14) | −0.24** (0.11) |
| Baseline characteristic: First child | | | |
| Mother’s financial empowerment | 0.27** (0.12) | 0.10 (0.18) | −0.16 (0.15) |
| Parental investment (monetary) | 0.35*** (0.08) | −0.04 (0.21) | 0.18 (0.15) |
| Parental investment (time-intensive) | 0.24*** (0.07) | −0.20 (0.16) | 0.10 (0.11) |
| Parenting style | −0.01 (0.09) | 0.34 (0.26) | −0.33* (0.19) |
| Fertility trajectory | 0.01 (0.10) | 0.03 (0.23) | −0.48** (0.19) |
| Baseline characteristic: Wealth index | | | |
| Mother’s financial empowerment | 0.26** (0.11) | −0.00 (0.04) | 0.09*** (0.03) |
| Parental investment (monetary) | 0.30*** (0.07) | 0.05 (0.04) | 0.15*** (0.03) |
| Parental investment (time-intensive) | 0.18** (0.07) | −0.00 (0.03) | 0.09*** (0.02) |
| Parenting style | 0.02 (0.08) | 0.07** (0.03) | 0.04 (0.02) |
| Fertility trajectory | 0.01 (0.10) | 0.01 (0.04) | −0.01 (0.03) |
| Baseline characteristic: Grandmother present | | | |
| Mother’s financial empowerment | 0.53*** (0.13) | −0.53** (0.20) | 0.42*** (0.13) |
| Parental investment (monetary) | 0.35*** (0.10) | −0.04 (0.14) | 0.22** (0.11) |
| Parental investment (time-intensive) | 0.23** (0.10) | −0.08 (0.14) | 0.14 (0.12) |
| Parenting style | 0.01 (0.10) | 0.08 (0.14) | −0.04 (0.10) |
| Fertility trajectory | −0.00 (0.12) | 0.07 (0.15) | −0.22*** (0.08) |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: N=585. Summary indices were created (following Kling et al. (2007); Anderson (2008)) such that they are mean 0 and standard deviation of 1 in the control group, with positive values always associated with more favorable outcomes. Description of the construction of the indices can be found in Appendix Section 4.1. Tables D.1 and D.2 show the summary statistics for the variables included in each index. Heteroskedasticity robust standard errors, clustered by Union Council, in parentheses. Controls include interviewer FEs and date of interviewer.

Table H.24 – Heterogeneous treatment effects for child outcomes

| | Coefficient on: | | |
|--|-------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| | (1) Treat | (2) Treat × Baseline characteristic | (3) Baseline characteristic |
| Baseline characteristic: Mother's education | | | |
| Physical development index | 0.24* (0.12) | −0.02 (0.02) | −0.00 (0.01) |
| Cognitive development index | 0.06 (0.11) | −0.01 (0.02) | 0.07*** (0.01) |
| Socio-emotional development index | −0.18 (0.11) | 0.01 (0.02) | 0.02 (0.02) |
| Child survival index | 0.09 (0.13) | 0.02 (0.02) | 0.01 (0.02) |
| Baseline characteristic: Younger mother (age < 27) | | | |
| Physical development index | 0.17 (0.12) | −0.04 (0.15) | −0.02 (0.12) |
| Cognitive development index | 0.22* (0.13) | −0.25 (0.16) | 0.07 (0.11) |
| Socio-emotional development index | −0.23* (0.12) | 0.24 (0.16) | −0.34*** (0.11) |
| Child survival index | 0.24 (0.15) | −0.09 (0.17) | 0.10 (0.13) |
| Baseline characteristic: First child | | | |
| Physical development index | 0.15 (0.10) | 0.00 (0.23) | 0.08 (0.18) |
| Cognitive development index | 0.05 (0.10) | 0.13 (0.21) | 0.23 (0.17) |
| Socio-emotional development index | −0.09 (0.08) | −0.07 (0.23) | −0.02 (0.13) |
| Child survival index | 0.18 (0.11) | 0.08 (0.22) | −0.07 (0.17) |
| Baseline characteristic: Wealth index | | | |
| Physical development index | 0.14 (0.09) | 0.01 (0.03) | 0.01 (0.02) |
| Cognitive development index | 0.04 (0.09) | 0.03 (0.04) | 0.11*** (0.03) |
| Socio-emotional development index | −0.13* (0.07) | 0.11*** (0.04) | 0.00 (0.02) |
| Child survival index | 0.18** (0.08) | −0.03 (0.04) | 0.08*** (0.02) |
| Baseline characteristic: Grandmother present | | | |
| Physical development index | 0.11 (0.11) | 0.05 (0.14) | 0.07 (0.10) |
| Cognitive development index | 0.09 (0.14) | −0.06 (0.16) | 0.25*** (0.08) |
| Socio-emotional development index | −0.17 (0.14) | 0.12 (0.20) | 0.04 (0.11) |
| Child survival index | 0.36*** (0.13) | −0.36* (0.19) | 0.25 (0.15) |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: N=585. Summary indices were created (following [Kling et al. \(2007\)](#); [Anderson \(2008\)](#)) such that they are mean 0 and standard deviation of 1 in the control group, with positive values always associated with more favorable outcomes. Description of the construction of the indices can be found in Appendix Section 4.1. Tables D.1 and D.2 show the summary statistics for the variables included in each index. Heteroskedasticity robust standard errors, clustered by Union Council, in parentheses. Controls include interviewer FEs and date of interviewer.

Table H.25 – Heterogeneous treatment effects for specific outcomes

| | Coefficient on: | | |
|--|-------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| | (1) Treat | (2) Treat × Baseline characteristic | (3) Baseline characteristic |
| Baseline characteristic: Mother's education | | | |
| Mother controls spending (7y) | 0.03 (0.05) | 0.01 (0.01) | 0.01 (0.01) |
| HOME inventory | 0.45 (0.94) | 0.25* (0.15) | 0.51*** (0.12) |
| Private school | 0.11 (0.07) | 0.01 (0.01) | 0.02*** (0.01) |
| BMI-for-age (z) | -0.08 (0.16) | 0.04 (0.03) | -0.04** (0.02) |
| WPPSI Full Scale IQ | 0.17 (1.16) | 0.11 (0.21) | 0.57*** (0.18) |
| Baseline characteristic: Younger mother (age < 27) | | | |
| Mother controls spending (7y) | 0.10** (0.05) | -0.05 (0.07) | -0.00 (0.05) |
| HOME inventory | 2.69** (1.14) | -1.25 (1.49) | -0.33 (1.02) |
| Private school | 0.17* (0.08) | -0.02 (0.09) | 0.03 (0.08) |
| BMI-for-age (z) | -0.01 (0.16) | 0.15 (0.20) | -0.05 (0.13) |
| WPPSI Full Scale IQ | 2.49 (1.70) | -2.45 (1.94) | 0.75 (1.41) |
| Baseline characteristic: First child | | | |
| Mother controls spending (7y) | 0.08** (0.04) | -0.03 (0.11) | -0.01 (0.07) |
| HOME inventory | 2.02*** (0.71) | -0.28 (1.41) | 1.02 (0.97) |
| Private school | 0.16** (0.06) | -0.07 (0.12) | 0.18* (0.10) |
| BMI-for-age (z) | 0.01 (0.12) | 0.34 (0.27) | -0.15 (0.21) |
| WPPSI Full Scale IQ | 0.62 (1.26) | 2.56 (2.25) | 2.02 (1.41) |
| Baseline characteristic: Wealth index | | | |
| Mother controls spending (7y) | 0.07** (0.03) | 0.01 (0.02) | 0.01 (0.01) |
| HOME inventory | 1.60** (0.63) | 0.26 (0.29) | 1.24*** (0.19) |
| Private school | 0.13** (0.05) | 0.02 (0.02) | 0.05*** (0.01) |
| BMI-for-age (z) | 0.08 (0.11) | 0.11** (0.05) | -0.12*** (0.03) |
| WPPSI Full Scale IQ | 0.75 (1.06) | 0.45 (0.56) | 1.01** (0.40) |
| Baseline characteristic: Grandmother present | | | |
| Mother controls spending (7y) | 0.14*** (0.05) | -0.16* (0.08) | 0.12** (0.06) |
| HOME inventory | 2.25** (0.84) | -0.81 (1.17) | 1.54 (0.92) |
| Private school | 0.10 (0.07) | 0.08 (0.07) | 0.08 (0.05) |
| BMI-for-age (z) | -0.03 (0.15) | 0.23 (0.20) | -0.22* (0.12) |
| WPPSI Full Scale IQ | 1.22 (1.64) | -0.68 (1.82) | 2.48** (1.06) |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: N=585. Heteroskedasticity robust standard errors, clustered by Union Council, in parentheses. Controls include interviewer FEs and date of interviewer.

I Treatment effects for individual outcomes in other indices

Table I.26 – Mother’s depression trajectory

| | Full sample | | | | By child gender | | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---|--|------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| | (1) Control mean | (2) No controls β (s.e.) | (3) All controls β (s.e.) | (4) FWER p-value | (5) Girl control mean | (6) Boy control mean | (7) β^{Girl} (s.e.) | (8) β^{Boy} (s.e.) | (9) $\beta^{Girl} =$ β^{Boy} p-value |
| Depression trajectory | 0.00 (1.00) | -0.59*** (0.09) | -0.58*** (0.07) | 0.00*** | 0.01 | -0.01 | -0.66*** (0.09) | -0.49*** (0.10) | 0.18 |
| Depressed (6m) | 0.52 (0.50) | -0.32*** (0.05) | -0.33*** (0.04) | 0.00*** | 0.48 | 0.56 | -0.31*** (0.05) | -0.35*** (0.06) | 0.56 |
| Depressed (1y) | 0.58 (0.49) | -0.33*** (0.05) | -0.32*** (0.04) | 0.00*** | 0.58 | 0.58 | -0.36*** (0.06) | -0.27*** (0.05) | 0.20 |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: N=585. Summary indices were created (following [Kling et al. \(2007\)](#); [Anderson \(2008\)](#)) such that they are mean 0 and standard deviation of 1 in the control group, with positive values always associated with more favorable outcomes. Description of the construction of the indices can be found in Appendix Section 4.1. Tables D.1 and D.2 show the summary statistics for the variables included in each index. Heteroskedasticity robust standard errors, clustered by Union Council, in parentheses. All models control for interview date and interviewer fixed effects. Specifications with all controls additionally adjust for baseline characteristics (all centered and interacted with the treatment indicator). The set of baseline characteristics include mother’s age and its square, parity, family structure, presence of grandmother (mother or mother-in-law of depressed mother), mother’s education, father’s education, if mother was employed, if mother empowered, PCA-weighted wealth index, depression severity (Hamilton score), and perceived social support (MSPSS). Inference is conducted using p -values which control for the family-wise error rate (FWER), calculated using a free step-down resampling method ([Westfall and Young, 1993](#)). Columns 7 and 8 report treatment effects by gender of the index child (controlling for all baseline characteristics) and Column 9 reports the test of equality in treatment effects between the two samples.

Table I.27 – Mother’s financial empowerment (at 7-year follow-up)

| | Full sample | | | | By child gender | | | | |
|---|------------------------|---|--|------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| | (1) Control mean | (2) No controls β (s.e.) | (3) All controls β (s.e.) | (4) FWER p-value | (5) Girl control mean | (6) Boy control mean | (7) β^{Girl} (s.e.) | (8) β^{Boy} (s.e.) | (9) $\beta^{Girl} =$ β^{Boy} p-value |
| Mother’s financial autonomy (7y) | −0.00 (1.00) | 0.18* (0.09) | 0.18** (0.07) | 0.02** | −0.10 | 0.09 | 0.32*** (0.10) | 0.03 (0.14) | 0.11 |
| Mother controls spending (7y) | 0.52 (0.50) | 0.08** (0.03) | 0.09*** (0.03) | 0.02** | 0.44 | 0.59 | 0.20*** (0.05) | −0.03 (0.05) | 0.01 |
| Mother gets pocket money (7y) | 0.57 (0.50) | 0.08*** (0.03) | 0.09*** (0.03) | 0.01** | 0.51 | 0.63 | 0.18*** (0.05) | −0.00 (0.05) | 0.03 |
| Mother employed (7y) | 0.10 (0.30) | 0.02 (0.03) | 0.01 (0.03) | 0.76 | 0.11 | 0.09 | −0.00 (0.03) | 0.03 (0.04) | 0.57 |
| Mother’s income (100s PKR) | 3.09 (12.07) | 1.41 (1.70) | 0.85 (1.39) | 0.76 | 3.09 | 3.08 | 0.49 (1.57) | 1.27 (1.82) | 0.69 |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: Summary indices were created (following [Kling et al. \(2007\)](#); [Anderson \(2008\)](#)) such that they are mean 0 and standard deviation of 1 in the control group, with positive values always associated with more favorable outcomes. Description of the construction of the indices can be found in Appendix Section 4.1. Tables D.1 and D.2 show the summary statistics for the variables included in each index. Heteroskedasticity robust standard errors, clustered by Union Council, in parentheses. All models control for interview date and interviewer fixed effects. Specifications with all controls additionally adjust for baseline characteristics (all centered and interacted with the treatment indicator). The set of baseline characteristics include mother’s age and its square, parity, family structure, presence of grandmother (mother or mother-in-law of depressed mother), mother’s education, father’s education, if mother was employed, if mother empowered, PCA-weighted wealth index, depression severity (Hamilton score), and perceived social support (MSPSS). Inference is conducted using p -values which control for the family-wise error rate (FWER), calculated using a free step-down resampling method ([Westfall and Young, 1993](#)). Columns 7 and 8 report treatment effects by gender of the index child (controlling for all baseline characteristics) and Column 9 reports the test of equality in treatment effects between the two samples.

Table I.28 – Child physical development and health at age 7

| | Full sample | | | | By child gender | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|---|--|------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| | (1) Control mean | (2) No controls β (s.e.) | (3) All controls β (s.e.) | (4) FWER p-value | (5) Girl control mean | (6) Boy control mean | (7) β^{Girl} (s.e.) | (8) β^{Boy} (s.e.) | (9) $\beta^{Girl} =$ β^{Boy} p-value |
| Physical development index | −0.00 (1.00) | 0.15 (0.09) | 0.14 (0.09) | 0.13 | 0.01 | −0.01 | 0.19 (0.13) | 0.08 (0.12) | 0.49 |
| Height-for-age (z) | −0.83 (1.11) | −0.02 (0.09) | −0.05 (0.08) | 0.98 | −0.76 | −0.90 | −0.13 (0.13) | 0.03 (0.14) | 0.47 |
| BMI-for-age (z) | −0.98 (1.18) | 0.06 (0.11) | 0.05 (0.11) | 0.98 | −1.08 | −0.88 | 0.34*** (0.12) | −0.28* (0.15) | 0.00 |
| Not stunted (height > 2SD) | 0.84 (0.36) | 0.03 (0.03) | 0.02 (0.03) | 0.98 | 0.87 | 0.83 | −0.01 (0.04) | 0.05 (0.04) | 0.32 |
| Motor function | −0.02 (0.68) | 0.03 (0.05) | 0.05 (0.05) | 0.96 | −0.15 | 0.10 | 0.14* (0.08) | −0.01 (0.06) | 0.12 |
| No hospitalization | 0.81 (0.39) | 0.05 (0.03) | 0.06 (0.04) | 0.59 | 0.84 | 0.79 | 0.05 (0.05) | 0.07 (0.05) | 0.70 |
| No severe illness | 0.70 (0.46) | 0.03 (0.03) | 0.02 (0.03) | 0.98 | 0.72 | 0.68 | −0.02 (0.05) | 0.06 (0.04) | 0.15 |
| No eyesight problems | 0.94 (0.23) | 0.01 (0.02) | 0.01 (0.02) | 0.97 | 0.97 | 0.92 | −0.01 (0.02) | 0.03 (0.03) | 0.28 |
| No hearing problems | 0.98 (0.14) | 0.01 (0.01) | 0.01 (0.01) | 0.98 | 0.98 | 0.98 | 0.02 (0.02) | −0.00 (0.02) | 0.44 |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: N=585. Summary indices were created (following [Kling et al. \(2007\)](#); [Anderson \(2008\)](#)) such that they are mean 0 and standard deviation of 1 in the control group, with positive values always associated with more favorable outcomes. Description of the construction of the indices can be found in Appendix Section 4.1. Tables D.1 and D.2 show the summary statistics for the variables included in each index. Heteroskedasticity robust standard errors, clustered by Union Council, in parentheses. All models control for interview date and interviewer fixed effects. Specifications with all controls additionally adjust for baseline characteristics (all centered and interacted with the treatment indicator). The set of baseline characteristics include mother’s age and its square, parity, family structure, presence of grandmother (mother or mother-in-law of depressed mother), mother’s education, father’s education, if mother was employed, if mother empowered, PCA-weighted wealth index, depression severity (Hamilton score), and perceived social support (MSPSS). Inference is conducted using p -values which control for the family-wise error rate (FWER), calculated using a free step-down resampling method ([Westfall and Young, 1993](#)). Columns 7 and 8 report treatment effects by gender of the index child (controlling for all baseline characteristics) and Column 9 reports the test of equality in treatment effects between the two samples.

Table I.29 – Child cognitive development at age 7

| | Full sample | | | | By child gender | | | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|---|--|------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| | (1) Control mean | (2) No controls β (s.e.) | (3) All controls β (s.e.) | (4) FWER p-value | (5) Girl control mean | (6) Boy control mean | (7) β^{Girl} (s.e.) | (8) β^{Boy} (s.e.) | (9) $\beta^{Girl} =$ β^{Boy} p-value |
| Cognitive development index | −0.00 (1.00) | 0.09 (0.08) | 0.04 (0.08) | 0.62 | 0.03 | −0.02 | 0.11 (0.11) | −0.04 (0.11) | 0.30 |
| WPPSI: Verbal comprehension | 85.15 (13.59) | 1.54 (1.37) | 0.67 (1.30) | 0.98 | 85.31 | 84.99 | 1.75 (1.65) | −0.43 (1.56) | 0.27 |
| WPPSI: Visual spatial | 87.34 (15.06) | −0.41 (1.07) | −0.83 (1.05) | 0.96 | 86.74 | 87.88 | 0.41 (1.60) | −2.03 (1.49) | 0.29 |
| WPPSI: Fluid reasoning | 77.26 (11.42) | 1.76** (0.80) | 1.43* (0.76) | 0.39 | 76.65 | 77.82 | 3.19*** (1.05) | −0.37 (1.32) | 0.06 |
| WPPSI: Working memory | 99.57 (15.69) | 0.88 (1.10) | 0.42 (1.02) | 0.98 | 99.26 | 99.85 | 1.37 (1.59) | −0.30 (1.35) | 0.42 |
| WPPSI: Processing speed | 76.32 (9.58) | 2.44*** (0.74) | 2.52*** (0.77) | 0.02** | 77.28 | 75.43 | 3.29*** (1.15) | 1.30 (1.05) | 0.22 |
| Urdu score | 6.33 (3.50) | 0.37 (0.31) | 0.04 (0.25) | 0.98 | 6.69 | 6.01 | 0.16 (0.32) | −0.20 (0.40) | 0.49 |
| Math score | 8.98 (3.63) | 0.54* (0.32) | 0.25 (0.30) | 0.96 | 8.90 | 9.06 | 0.73** (0.35) | −0.27 (0.39) | 0.03 |
| Executive function (Stroop) | 14.11 (3.20) | 0.08 (0.24) | −0.09 (0.24) | 0.98 | 13.98 | 14.24 | 0.05 (0.34) | −0.19 (0.31) | 0.61 |
| Grade-for-age | 0.75 (0.33) | −0.02 (0.03) | −0.02 (0.03) | 0.98 | 0.78 | 0.73 | −0.03 (0.04) | −0.02 (0.04) | 0.82 |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: N=585. Summary indices were created (following Kling et al. (2007); Anderson (2008)) such that they are mean 0 and standard deviation of 1 in the control group, with positive values always associated with more favorable outcomes. Description of the construction of the indices can be found in Appendix Section 4.1. Tables D.1 and D.2 show the summary statistics for the variables included in each index. Heteroskedasticity robust standard errors, clustered by Union Council, in parentheses. All models control for interview date and interviewer fixed effects. Specifications with all controls additionally adjust for baseline characteristics (all centered and interacted with the treatment indicator). The set of baseline characteristics include mother's age and its square, parity, family structure, presence of grandmother (mother or mother-in-law of depressed mother), mother's education, father's education, if mother was employed, if mother empowered, PCA-weighted wealth index, depression severity (Hamilton score), and perceived social support (MSPSS). Inference is conducted using p -values which control for the family-wise error rate (FWER), calculated using a free step-down resampling method (Westfall and Young, 1993). Columns 7 and 8 report treatment effects by gender of the index child (controlling for all baseline characteristics) and Column 9 reports the test of equality in treatment effects between the two samples.

Table I.30 – Child’s socio-emotional development at age 7

| | Full sample | | | | By child gender | | | | |
|--|------------------------|---|--|------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| | (1) Control mean | (2) No controls β (s.e.) | (3) All controls β (s.e.) | (4) FWER p-value | (5) Girl control mean | (6) Boy control mean | (7) β^{Girl} (s.e.) | (8) β^{Boy} (s.e.) | (9) $\beta^{Girl} =$ β^{Boy} p-value |
| Socio-emotional development index | 0.00 (1.00) | -0.11 (0.07) | -0.08 (0.07) | 0.22 | -0.02 | 0.01 | -0.02 (0.09) | -0.14 (0.13) | 0.51 |
| SDQ: Emotional | 2.34 (2.06) | 0.14 (0.14) | 0.14 (0.14) | 0.95 | 2.50 | 2.19 | -0.07 (0.23) | 0.35* (0.20) | 0.19 |
| SDQ: Conduct problems | 3.33 (2.04) | -0.05 (0.16) | -0.14 (0.17) | 0.95 | 3.18 | 3.46 | -0.50*** (0.18) | 0.36 (0.26) | 0.01 |
| SDQ: Hyperactivity | 3.50 (2.56) | 0.13 (0.18) | 0.02 (0.17) | 0.95 | 2.99 | 3.96 | 0.09 (0.22) | 0.09 (0.30) | 0.99 |
| SDQ: Peer problems | 1.93 (1.57) | 0.04 (0.10) | 0.08 (0.10) | 0.95 | 1.99 | 1.88 | 0.12 (0.16) | 0.03 (0.16) | 0.70 |
| SDQ: Prosocial | 2.49 (2.53) | -0.09 (0.18) | -0.09 (0.17) | 0.95 | 2.06 | 2.87 | -0.19 (0.20) | 0.17 (0.27) | 0.27 |
| SCAS: Panic and agoraphobia | 1.54 (2.71) | 0.31 (0.22) | 0.33 (0.20) | 0.57 | 1.64 | 1.46 | 0.23 (0.34) | 0.42 (0.33) | 0.73 |
| SCAS: Separation | 5.96 (4.05) | 0.24 (0.28) | 0.16 (0.27) | 0.95 | 6.50 | 5.48 | -0.21 (0.43) | 0.45 (0.34) | 0.26 |
| SCAS: Injury fear | 6.07 (3.65) | -0.05 (0.27) | -0.08 (0.27) | 0.95 | 7.15 | 5.10 | -0.26 (0.38) | -0.25 (0.39) | 0.99 |
| SCAS: Social phobia | 2.40 (2.93) | -0.11 (0.21) | -0.19 (0.21) | 0.95 | 2.71 | 2.12 | -0.63 (0.41) | 0.25 (0.35) | 0.17 |
| SCAS: Obsessive-compulsive | 1.18 (1.93) | 0.56*** (0.17) | 0.50*** (0.18) | 0.08* | 1.16 | 1.20 | 0.65*** (0.20) | 0.31 (0.28) | 0.32 |
| SCAS: General anxiety | 3.40 (3.28) | 0.23 (0.26) | 0.28 (0.27) | 0.95 | 3.77 | 3.06 | -0.06 (0.39) | 0.56 (0.37) | 0.25 |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: N=585. Summary indices were created (following Kling et al. (2007); Anderson (2008)) such that they are mean 0 and standard deviation of 1 in the control group, with positive values always associated with more favorable outcomes. Description of the construction of the indices can be found in Appendix Section 4.1. Tables D.1 and D.2 show the summary statistics for the variables included in each index. Heteroskedasticity robust standard errors, clustered by Union Council, in parentheses. All models control for interview date and interviewer fixed effects. Specifications with all controls additionally adjust for baseline characteristics (all centered and interacted with the treatment indicator). The set of baseline characteristics include mother’s age and its square, parity, family structure, presence of grandmother (mother or mother-in-law of depressed mother), mother’s education, father’s education, if mother was employed, if mother empowered, PCA-weighted wealth index, depression severity (Hamilton score), and perceived social support (MSPSS). Inference is conducted using p -values which control for the family-wise error rate (FWER), calculated using a free step-down resampling method (Westfall and Young, 1993). Columns 7 and 8 report treatment effects by gender of the index child (controlling for all baseline characteristics) and Column 9 reports the test of equality in treatment effects between the two samples.

Table I.31 – Sibling survival

| | Full sample | | | | By child gender | | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|---|--|------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| | (1) Control mean | (2) No controls β (s.e.) | (3) All controls β (s.e.) | (4) FWER p-value | (5) Girl control mean | (6) Boy control mean | (7) β^{Girl} (s.e.) | (8) β^{Boy} (s.e.) | (9) $\beta^{Girl} =$ β^{Boy} p-value |
| Child survival index | 0.00 (1.00) | 0.19** (0.08) | 0.17** (0.08) | 0.04** | 0.15 | -0.14 | 0.27*** (0.09) | -0.02 (0.10) | 0.02 |
| Share of boys | 0.52 (0.25) | -0.03 (0.02) | -0.04* (0.02) | 0.21 | 0.40 | 0.63 | -0.03 (0.02) | 0.00 (0.02) | 0.23 |
| # died <1 year of age | 0.29 (0.62) | -0.02 (0.05) | 0.00 (0.05) | 1.00 | 0.33 | 0.25 | -0.05 (0.07) | 0.05 (0.06) | 0.18 |
| # died btw 1 & 5 years old | 0.05 (0.23) | -0.02 (0.01) | -0.01 (0.01) | 0.64 | 0.05 | 0.05 | -0.02 (0.02) | -0.00 (0.02) | 0.67 |
| # died > 5 years old | 0.04 (0.19) | -0.03* (0.02) | -0.02 (0.02) | 0.30 | 0.06 | 0.01 | -0.05* (0.02) | -0.01 (0.02) | 0.10 |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: N=585. Summary indices were created (following Kling et al. (2007); Anderson (2008)) such that they are mean 0 and standard deviation of 1 in the control group, with positive values always associated with more favorable outcomes. Description of the construction of the indices can be found in Appendix Section 4.1. Tables D.1 and D.2 show the summary statistics for the variables included in each index. Heteroskedasticity robust standard errors, clustered by Union Council, in parentheses. All models control for interview date and interviewer fixed effects. Specifications with all controls additionally adjust for baseline characteristics (all centered and interacted with the treatment indicator). The set of baseline characteristics include mother's age and its square, parity, family structure, presence of grandmother (mother or mother-in-law of depressed mother), mother's education, father's education, if mother was employed, if mother empowered, PCA-weighted wealth index, depression severity (Hamilton score), and perceived social support (MSPSS). Inference is conducted using p -values which control for the family-wise error rate (FWER), calculated using a free step-down resampling method (Westfall and Young, 1993). Columns 7 and 8 report treatment effects by gender of the index child (controlling for all baseline characteristics) and Column 9 reports the test of equality in treatment effects between the two samples.

Table I.32 – Husband's income trajectory

| | Full sample | | | | By child gender | | | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|---|--|------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| | (1) Control mean | (2) No controls β (s.e.) | (3) All controls β (s.e.) | (4) FWER p-value | (5) Girl control mean | (6) Boy control mean | (7) β^{Girl} (s.e.) | (8) β^{Boy} (s.e.) | (9) $\beta^{Girl} =$ β^{Boy} p-value |
| Husband's income trajectory | 0.00 (1.00) | -0.02 (0.10) | -0.04 (0.10) | 0.70 | 0.05 | -0.05 | -0.05 (0.13) | -0.03 (0.12) | 0.93 |
| Monthly income (ln) (7y) | 8.94 (1.40) | 0.11 (0.18) | 0.03 (0.17) | 0.99 | 9.00 | 8.89 | 0.06 (0.21) | -0.01 (0.18) | 0.76 |
| Monthly income (ln) (1y) | 7.16 (2.33) | 0.05 (0.20) | 0.06 (0.21) | 0.99 | 7.12 | 7.20 | 0.36 (0.30) | -0.30 (0.33) | 0.16 |
| Monthly income (ln) (6m) | 7.24 (2.19) | 0.04 (0.21) | 0.04 (0.22) | 0.99 | 7.40 | 7.09 | -0.03 (0.29) | 0.11 (0.31) | 0.73 |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: N=585. Summary indices were created (following Kling et al. (2007); Anderson (2008)) such that they are mean 0 and standard deviation of 1 in the control group, with positive values always associated with more favorable outcomes. Description of the construction of the indices can be found in Appendix Section 4.1. Tables D.1 and D.2 show the summary statistics for the variables included in each index. Heteroskedasticity robust standard errors, clustered by Union Council, in parentheses. All models control for interview date and interviewer fixed effects. Specifications with all controls additionally adjust for baseline characteristics (all centered and interacted with the treatment indicator). The set of baseline characteristics include mother's age and its square, parity, family structure, presence of grandmother (mother or mother-in-law of depressed mother), mother's education, father's education, if mother was employed, if mother empowered, PCA-weighted wealth index, depression severity (Hamilton score), and perceived social support (MSPSS). Inference is conducted using p -values which control for the family-wise error rate (FWER), calculated using a free step-down resampling method (Westfall and Young, 1993). Columns 7 and 8 report treatment effects by gender of the index child (controlling for all baseline characteristics) and Column 9 reports the test of equality in treatment effects between the two samples.

Table I.33 – Trajectory of mother’s physical health

| | Full sample | | | | By child gender | | | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|---|--|------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| | (1) Control mean | (2) No controls β (s.e.) | (3) All controls β (s.e.) | (4) FWER p-value | (5) Girl control mean | (6) Boy control mean | (7) β^{Girl} (s.e.) | (8) β^{Boy} (s.e.) | (9) $\beta^{Girl} =$ β^{Boy} p-value |
| Mother’s physical health | –0.00 (1.00) | 0.07 (0.07) | 0.07 (0.08) | 0.42 | 0.05 | –0.05 | 0.14 (0.10) | –0.04 (0.13) | 0.25 |
| Mother never been unwell | 0.63 (0.48) | –0.01 (0.03) | –0.01 (0.03) | 0.98 | 0.67 | 0.59 | –0.06 (0.04) | 0.05 (0.06) | 0.17 |
| Overall health (0-4) | 1.83 (0.97) | 0.06 (0.07) | 0.05 (0.08) | 0.94 | 1.84 | 1.83 | 0.12 (0.11) | –0.04 (0.11) | 0.32 |
| Healthy days in past 30 | 26.16 (7.66) | 0.20 (0.57) | 0.05 (0.62) | 0.98 | 26.22 | 26.10 | 0.32 (0.91) | –0.36 (0.99) | 0.63 |
| Weight (kg) (6m) | 53.87 (11.08) | 0.39 (0.80) | 0.46 (0.81) | 0.94 | 53.93 | 53.82 | 2.41** (1.15) | –1.90 (1.30) | 0.02 |
| Weight (kg) (1y) | 52.41 (10.93) | 1.15 (0.84) | 1.14 (0.87) | 0.61 | 52.60 | 52.23 | 2.98** (1.29) | –1.07 (1.22) | 0.04 |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: N=585. Summary indices were created (following Kling et al. (2007); Anderson (2008)) such that they are mean 0 and standard deviation of 1 in the control group, with positive values always associated with more favorable outcomes. Description of the construction of the indices can be found in Appendix Section 4.1. Tables D.1 and D.2 show the summary statistics for the variables included in each index. Heteroskedasticity robust standard errors, clustered by Union Council, in parentheses. All models control for interview date and interviewer fixed effects. Specifications with all controls additionally adjust for baseline characteristics (all centered and interacted with the treatment indicator). The set of baseline characteristics include mother’s age and its square, parity, family structure, presence of grandmother (mother or mother-in-law of depressed mother), mother’s education, father’s education, if mother was employed, if mother empowered, PCA-weighted wealth index, depression severity (Hamilton score), and perceived social support (MSPSS). Inference is conducted using p -values which control for the family-wise error rate (FWER), calculated using a free step-down resampling method (Westfall and Young, 1993). Columns 7 and 8 report treatment effects by gender of the index child (controlling for all baseline characteristics) and Column 9 reports the test of equality in treatment effects between the two samples.

Table I.34 – Trajectory of social support: presence of grandmothers in the household

| | Full sample | | | | By child gender | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|---|--|------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| | (1) Control mean | (2) No controls β (s.e.) | (3) All controls β (s.e.) | (4) FWER p-value | (5) Girl control mean | (6) Boy control mean | (7) β^{Girl} (s.e.) | (8) β^{Boy} (s.e.) | (9) $\beta^{Girl} =$ β^{Boy} p-value |
| Grandmother trajectory index | –0.00 (1.00) | 0.34*** (0.08) | 0.16** (0.07) | 0.02** | 0.01 | –0.01 | 0.13 (0.10) | 0.20** (0.08) | 0.56 |
| Grandmother present (7y) | 0.31 (0.46) | 0.11*** (0.04) | 0.06 (0.04) | 0.16 | 0.33 | 0.30 | 0.06 (0.06) | 0.06 (0.05) | 0.98 |
| Grandmother present (1y) | 0.42 (0.49) | 0.15*** (0.04) | 0.06** (0.03) | 0.08* | 0.43 | 0.41 | 0.04 (0.05) | 0.08** (0.03) | 0.55 |
| Grandmother present (6m) | 0.47 (0.50) | 0.16*** (0.04) | 0.07** (0.03) | 0.08* | 0.45 | 0.48 | 0.05 (0.04) | 0.11** (0.05) | 0.30 |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: N=585. Summary indices were created (following Kling et al. (2007); Anderson (2008)) such that they are mean 0 and standard deviation of 1 in the control group, with positive values always associated with more favorable outcomes. Description of the construction of the indices can be found in Appendix Section 4.1. Tables D.1 and D.2 show the summary statistics for the variables included in each index. Heteroskedasticity robust standard errors, clustered by Union Council, in parentheses. All models control for interview date and interviewer fixed effects. Specifications with all controls additionally adjust for baseline characteristics (all centered and interacted with the treatment indicator). The set of baseline characteristics include mother’s age and its square, parity, family structure, presence of grandmother (mother or mother-in-law of depressed mother), mother’s education, father’s education, if mother was employed, if mother empowered, PCA-weighted wealth index, depression severity (Hamilton score), and perceived social support (MSPSS). Inference is conducted using p -values which control for the family-wise error rate (FWER), calculated using a free step-down resampling method (Westfall and Young, 1993). Columns 7 and 8 report treatment effects by gender of the index child (controlling for all baseline characteristics) and Column 9 reports the test of equality in treatment effects between the two samples.

Table I.35 – Trajectory of relationship quality with husband and mother-in-law

| | Full sample | | | | By child gender | | | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|---|--|------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| | (1) Control mean | (2) No controls β (s.e.) | (3) All controls β (s.e.) | (4) FWER p-value | (5) Girl control mean | (6) Boy control mean | (7) β^{Girl} (s.e.) | (8) β^{Boy} (s.e.) | (9) $\beta^{Girl} =$ β^{Boy} p-value |
| Relationships | -0.00 (1.00) | 0.14* (0.09) | 0.16* (0.09) | 0.08* | 0.05 | -0.04 | 0.14 (0.12) | 0.19 (0.12) | 0.76 |
| Marital quality scale (7y) | 5.10 (1.59) | 0.11 (0.13) | 0.17 (0.13) | 0.66 | 5.18 | 5.03 | 0.11 (0.16) | 0.22 (0.20) | 0.64 |
| Relationship husband (7y) | 3.91 (0.98) | 0.03 (0.08) | 0.05 (0.08) | 0.74 | 3.93 | 3.90 | 0.01 (0.11) | 0.12 (0.11) | 0.49 |
| Husband nonviolent (7y) | 0.74 (0.44) | -0.01 (0.04) | -0.02 (0.04) | 0.74 | 0.75 | 0.73 | -0.04 (0.05) | 0.01 (0.07) | 0.52 |
| Relationship m-in-law (7y) | 3.27 (1.10) | 0.15 (0.11) | 0.16 (0.13) | 0.66 | 3.30 | 3.25 | 0.15 (0.18) | 0.17 (0.15) | 0.90 |
| Marital quality scale (1y) | 3.49 (1.07) | 0.13 (0.10) | 0.16 (0.10) | 0.48 | 3.59 | 3.40 | 0.10 (0.12) | 0.20 (0.13) | 0.54 |
| Relationship husband (1y) | 3.91 (0.89) | 0.26*** (0.09) | 0.25** (0.10) | 0.10* | 3.97 | 3.85 | 0.22* (0.12) | 0.28** (0.13) | 0.67 |
| Husband nonviolent (1y) | 0.70 (0.46) | 0.06 (0.04) | 0.04 (0.03) | 0.66 | 0.71 | 0.69 | 0.04 (0.04) | 0.04 (0.05) | 0.96 |
| Relationship m-in-law (1y) | 4.72 (2.68) | 0.17 (0.19) | 0.40** (0.20) | 0.26 | 4.80 | 4.65 | 0.31 (0.29) | 0.51* (0.27) | 0.62 |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: N=585. Summary indices were created (following [Kling et al. \(2007\)](#); [Anderson \(2008\)](#)) such that they are mean 0 and standard deviation of 1 in the control group, with positive values always associated with more favorable outcomes. Description of the construction of the indices can be found in Appendix Section 4.1. Tables D.1 and D.2 show the summary statistics for the variables included in each index. Heteroskedasticity robust standard errors, clustered by Union Council, in parentheses. All models control for interview date and interviewer fixed effects. Specifications with all controls additionally adjust for baseline characteristics (all centered and interacted with the treatment indicator). The set of baseline characteristics include mother's age and its square, parity, family structure, presence of grandmother (mother or mother-in-law of depressed mother), mother's education, father's education, if mother was employed, if mother empowered, PCA-weighted wealth index, depression severity (Hamilton score), and perceived social support (MSPSS). Inference is conducted using p -values which control for the family-wise error rate (FWER), calculated using a free step-down resampling method ([Westfall and Young, 1993](#)). Columns 7 and 8 report treatment effects by gender of the index child (controlling for all baseline characteristics) and Column 9 reports the test of equality in treatment effects between the two samples.

Table I.36 – Parenting inputs during infancy

| | Full sample | | | | By child gender | | | | |
|--|------------------------|---|--|------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| | (1) Control mean | (2) No controls β (s.e.) | (3) All controls β (s.e.) | (4) FWER p-value | (5) Girl control mean | (6) Boy control mean | (7) β^{Girl} (s.e.) | (8) β^{Boy} (s.e.) | (9) $\beta^{Girl} =$ β^{Boy} p-value |
| Parenting inputs by 1y | –0.00 (1.00) | 0.63*** (0.11) | 0.59*** (0.11) | 0.00*** | 0.08 | –0.07 | 0.55*** (0.15) | 0.62*** (0.15) | 0.73 |
| Exclusive breastfeeding (6mo) | 0.11 (0.32) | 0.09** (0.04) | 0.09** (0.04) | 0.06* | 0.11 | 0.11 | 0.09* (0.05) | 0.10* (0.06) | 0.89 |
| Breastfeeding (6mo) | 0.91 (0.28) | 0.00 (0.02) | –0.00 (0.02) | 0.91 | 0.93 | 0.90 | –0.01 (0.03) | 0.00 (0.03) | 0.83 |
| Mother play frequency with infant (12mo) | 2.37 (0.77) | 0.39*** (0.07) | 0.35*** (0.07) | 0.00*** | 2.35 | 2.39 | 0.38*** (0.11) | 0.32*** (0.09) | 0.69 |
| Father play frequency with infant (12mo) | 2.28 (0.91) | 0.28*** (0.09) | 0.24*** (0.09) | 0.04** | 2.35 | 2.21 | 0.20 (0.14) | 0.27** (0.11) | 0.69 |
| Completed immunization | 0.84 (0.36) | 0.10*** (0.03) | 0.11*** (0.03) | 0.01** | 0.84 | 0.85 | 0.10** (0.04) | 0.11** (0.04) | 0.90 |
| Discussed child’s development with family (12mo) | 0.14 (0.35) | 0.07* (0.04) | 0.05 (0.03) | 0.21 | 0.19 | 0.10 | 0.02 (0.05) | 0.08** (0.04) | 0.21 |
| Selected appropriate place for delivery | 0.75 (0.44) | 0.18*** (0.04) | 0.16*** (0.04) | 0.00*** | 0.74 | 0.75 | 0.19*** (0.05) | 0.15*** (0.05) | 0.58 |
| Arranged transport for delivery | 0.70 (0.46) | 0.22*** (0.05) | 0.19*** (0.05) | 0.00*** | 0.69 | 0.71 | 0.20*** (0.06) | 0.19*** (0.06) | 0.78 |
| Arranged finances for delivery | 0.75 (0.44) | 0.17*** (0.05) | 0.16*** (0.05) | 0.01** | 0.74 | 0.75 | 0.17*** (0.06) | 0.14** (0.06) | 0.69 |
| Practicing birth spacing (12mo) | 0.55 (0.50) | 0.10** (0.04) | 0.11*** (0.04) | 0.02** | 0.55 | 0.55 | 0.13* (0.07) | 0.10** (0.04) | 0.76 |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: N=585. Summary indices were created (following Kling et al. (2007); Anderson (2008)) such that they are mean 0 and standard deviation of 1 in the control group, with positive values always associated with more favorable outcomes. Description of the construction of the indices can be found in Appendix Section 4.1. Tables D.1 and D.2 show the summary statistics for the variables included in each index. Heteroskedasticity robust standard errors, clustered by Union Council, in parentheses. All models control for interview date and interviewer fixed effects. Specifications with all controls additionally adjust for baseline characteristics (all centered and interacted with the treatment indicator). The set of baseline characteristics include mother’s age and its square, parity, family structure, presence of grandmother (mother or mother-in-law of depressed mother), mother’s education, father’s education, if mother was employed, if mother empowered, PCA-weighted wealth index, depression severity (Hamilton score), and perceived social support (MSPSS). Inference is conducted using p -values which control for the family-wise error rate (FWER), calculated using a free step-down resampling method (Westfall and Young, 1993). Columns 7 and 8 report treatment effects by gender of the index child (controlling for all baseline characteristics) and Column 9 reports the test of equality in treatment effects between the two samples.

Table I.37 – Infant development

| | Full sample | | | | By child gender | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|---|--|------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| | (1) Control mean | (2) No controls β (s.e.) | (3) All controls β (s.e.) | (4) FWER p-value | (5) Girl control mean | (6) Boy control mean | (7) β^{Girl} (s.e.) | (8) β^{Boy} (s.e.) | (9) $\beta^{Girl} =$ β^{Boy} p-value |
| Infant development index | –0.00 (1.00) | 0.38*** (0.09) | 0.32*** (0.08) | 0.00*** | 0.10 | –0.09 | 0.34*** (0.11) | 0.28** (0.12) | 0.70 |
| Height-for-age (z) 6m | –0.70 (0.98) | 0.07 (0.08) | 0.01 (0.07) | 0.96 | –0.58 | –0.82 | 0.03 (0.09) | –0.04 (0.12) | 0.63 |
| Weight-for-age (z) 6m | –0.82 (0.99) | 0.02 (0.08) | –0.03 (0.08) | 0.96 | –0.74 | –0.90 | 0.00 (0.11) | –0.09 (0.12) | 0.60 |
| No Diarrhea episodes (6mo) | 0.55 (0.50) | 0.09** (0.04) | 0.06 (0.04) | 0.47 | 0.57 | 0.53 | 0.04 (0.05) | 0.07 (0.06) | 0.68 |
| No Acute Respiratory Infection (6mo) | 0.55 (0.50) | 0.06 (0.04) | 0.06 (0.04) | 0.54 | 0.55 | 0.55 | 0.09 (0.06) | 0.03 (0.06) | 0.54 |
| Height-for-age (z) 1y | –1.34 (1.18) | 0.23** (0.09) | 0.16** (0.08) | 0.21 | –1.11 | –1.56 | 0.09 (0.13) | 0.19 (0.13) | 0.61 |
| Weight-for-age (z) 1y | –2.12 (1.04) | 0.06 (0.08) | 0.02 (0.07) | 0.96 | –1.95 | –2.28 | 0.06 (0.11) | –0.07 (0.12) | 0.49 |
| No Diarrhea episodes (12mo) | 0.58 (0.49) | 0.08* (0.05) | 0.06 (0.05) | 0.54 | 0.60 | 0.57 | 0.05 (0.06) | 0.08 (0.06) | 0.77 |
| No Acute Respiratory Infection (12mo) | 0.47 (0.50) | 0.24*** (0.04) | 0.24*** (0.04) | 0.00*** | 0.46 | 0.48 | 0.26*** (0.05) | 0.22*** (0.05) | 0.60 |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: N=585. Summary indices were created (following Kling et al. (2007); Anderson (2008)) such that they are mean 0 and standard deviation of 1 in the control group, with positive values always associated with more favorable outcomes. Description of the construction of the indices can be found in Appendix Section 4.1. Tables D.1 and D.2 show the summary statistics for the variables included in each index. Heteroskedasticity robust standard errors, clustered by Union Council, in parentheses. All models control for interview date and interviewer fixed effects. Specifications with all controls additionally adjust for baseline characteristics (all centered and interacted with the treatment indicator). The set of baseline characteristics include mother’s age and its square, parity, family structure, presence of grandmother (mother or mother-in-law of depressed mother), mother’s education, father’s education, if mother was employed, if mother empowered, PCA-weighted wealth index, depression severity (Hamilton score), and perceived social support (MSPSS). Inference is conducted using p -values which control for the family-wise error rate (FWER), calculated using a free step-down resampling method (Westfall and Young, 1993). Columns 7 and 8 report treatment effects by gender of the index child (controlling for all baseline characteristics) and Column 9 reports the test of equality in treatment effects between the two samples.

J Treatment effects for specific scales and their subcomponents

Table J.38 – HOME score components

| | Full sample | | | | By child gender | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|---|--|------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| | (1) Control mean | (2) No controls β (s.e.) | (3) All controls β (s.e.) | (4) FWER p-value | (5) Girl control mean | (6) Boy control mean | (7) β^{Girl} (s.e.) | (8) β^{Boy} (s.e.) | (9) $\beta^{Girl} =$ β^{Boy} p-value |
| HOME inventory | 34.01 (8.98) | 1.92*** (0.67) | 1.72*** (0.63) | 0.01** | 33.45 | 34.52 | 3.65*** (0.81) | -0.35 (0.93) | 0.00 |
| HOME: Responsivity | 8.75 (1.75) | 0.21 (0.13) | 0.22* (0.12) | 0.19 | 8.58 | 8.91 | 0.63*** (0.15) | -0.22 (0.19) | 0.00 |
| HOME: Encouragement of maturity | 5.25 (1.56) | -0.11 (0.14) | -0.16 (0.13) | 0.34 | 5.36 | 5.15 | -0.03 (0.16) | -0.36* (0.20) | 0.20 |
| HOME: Emotional climate | 4.50 (1.93) | 0.35** (0.16) | 0.37** (0.17) | 0.15 | 4.43 | 4.57 | 0.90*** (0.21) | -0.24 (0.25) | 0.00 |
| HOME: Learning materials | 2.64 (1.48) | 0.32*** (0.11) | 0.31** (0.12) | 0.10* | 2.56 | 2.70 | 0.40*** (0.14) | 0.23 (0.15) | 0.37 |
| HOME: Enrichment | 2.65 (1.39) | 0.31** (0.13) | 0.31** (0.13) | 0.10 | 2.50 | 2.79 | 0.51*** (0.15) | 0.14 (0.16) | 0.07 |
| HOME: Family companionship | 2.95 (1.77) | 0.38*** (0.12) | 0.31** (0.12) | 0.10 | 2.77 | 3.11 | 0.64*** (0.16) | -0.02 (0.19) | 0.01 |
| HOME: Family integration | 2.61 (0.92) | 0.20** (0.07) | 0.17** (0.06) | 0.10* | 2.61 | 2.62 | 0.21* (0.11) | 0.11 (0.10) | 0.52 |
| HOME: Physical environment | 4.65 (2.37) | 0.27 (0.17) | 0.20 (0.15) | 0.34 | 4.64 | 4.66 | 0.39* (0.20) | 0.00 (0.28) | 0.31 |
| Positive parenting (interviewer obs.) | 9.18 (2.33) | 0.30 (0.18) | 0.33* (0.17) | 0.19 | 8.92 | 9.41 | 0.84*** (0.21) | -0.19 (0.27) | 0.00 |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: Heteroskedasticity robust standard errors, clustered by Union Council, in parentheses. All models control for interview date and interviewer fixed effects. Specifications with all controls additionally adjust for baseline characteristics (all centered and interacted with the treatment indicator). The set of baseline characteristics include mother's age and its square, parity, family structure, presence of grandmother (mother or mother-in-law of depressed mother), mother's education, father's education, if mother was employed, if mother empowered, PCA-weighted wealth index, depression severity (Hamilton score), and perceived social support (MSPSS). Inference is conducted using p -values which control for the family-wise error rate (FWER), calculated using a free step-down resampling method (Westfall and Young, 1993). Columns 7 and 8 report treatment effects by gender of the index child (controlling for all baseline characteristics) and Column 9 reports the test of equality in treatment effects between the two samples.

Table J.39 – School quality components

| | Full sample | | | | By child gender | | | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|---|--|------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| | (1) Control mean | (2) No controls β (s.e.) | (3) All controls β (s.e.) | (4) FWER p-value | (5) Girl control mean | (6) Boy control mean | (7) β^{Girl} (s.e.) | (8) β^{Boy} (s.e.) | (9) $\beta^{Girl} =$ β^{Boy} p-value |
| School quality | −0.42 (2.21) | 0.64*** (0.21) | 0.51** (0.23) | 0.04** | −0.65 | −0.21 | 0.80** (0.36) | 0.19 (0.24) | 0.14 |
| Classroom amenities | 2.94 (0.26) | −0.02 (0.03) | −0.02 (0.03) | 0.96 | 2.96 | 2.93 | −0.05* (0.03) | 0.02 (0.04) | 0.04 |
| School has office | 0.76 (0.43) | 0.08* (0.04) | 0.06 (0.04) | 0.73 | 0.68 | 0.84 | 0.17** (0.07) | −0.05 (0.04) | 0.01 |
| School has playground | 0.81 (0.39) | 0.06 (0.04) | 0.06 (0.04) | 0.67 | 0.79 | 0.83 | 0.04 (0.04) | 0.09 (0.06) | 0.53 |
| School has library | 0.38 (0.49) | 0.10* (0.05) | 0.08 (0.05) | 0.67 | 0.34 | 0.42 | 0.15* (0.08) | 0.00 (0.05) | 0.16 |
| Library books visibly in use | 0.35 (0.48) | 0.10** (0.05) | 0.09* (0.05) | 0.55 | 0.32 | 0.39 | 0.15* (0.08) | 0.03 (0.05) | 0.18 |
| School has water source | 0.89 (0.32) | 0.03 (0.04) | 0.02 (0.03) | 0.96 | 0.87 | 0.90 | 0.05 (0.04) | −0.01 (0.04) | 0.15 |
| School has clean drinking water | 0.92 (0.26) | −0.01 (0.03) | −0.00 (0.03) | 0.96 | 0.89 | 0.96 | 0.04 (0.05) | −0.05 (0.03) | 0.13 |
| School has fencing | 0.97 (0.16) | 0.02 (0.01) | 0.01 (0.01) | 0.83 | 0.96 | 0.98 | 0.03 (0.02) | −0.01 (0.02) | 0.19 |
| School has computers | 0.26 (0.44) | 0.12*** (0.04) | 0.09* (0.04) | 0.46 | 0.24 | 0.28 | 0.10 (0.07) | 0.08 (0.06) | 0.86 |
| Computers visibly in use | 0.24 (0.43) | 0.13*** (0.04) | 0.09* (0.05) | 0.46 | 0.21 | 0.25 | 0.10 (0.07) | 0.09 (0.06) | 0.90 |
| Has toilets for girls | 0.46 (0.50) | 0.07 (0.04) | 0.06 (0.04) | 0.67 | 0.51 | 0.41 | 0.08 (0.06) | 0.03 (0.06) | 0.51 |
| Total teachers (ln) | 2.10 (0.70) | 0.19*** (0.07) | 0.14* (0.07) | 0.47 | 2.01 | 2.18 | 0.20** (0.10) | 0.09 (0.08) | 0.29 |
| Total rooms (ln) | 1.99 (0.78) | 0.17** (0.08) | 0.12 (0.09) | 0.73 | 1.88 | 2.09 | 0.23* (0.13) | 0.02 (0.10) | 0.12 |
| Class size | 20.21 (10.74) | 0.85 (1.26) | 0.86 (1.38) | 0.96 | 19.48 | 20.88 | 1.54 (1.59) | 0.24 (1.79) | 0.50 |

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Notes: The school quality index is computed as the principal component of individual measures. Heteroskedasticity robust standard errors, clustered by Union Council, in parentheses. All models control for interview date and interviewer fixed effects. Specifications with all controls additionally adjust for baseline characteristics (all centered and interacted with the treatment indicator). The set of baseline characteristics include mother's age and its square, parity, family structure, presence of grandmother (mother or mother-in-law of depressed mother), mother's education, father's education, if mother was employed, if mother empowered, PCA-weighted wealth index, depression severity (Hamilton score), and perceived social support (MSPSS). Inference is conducted using p -values which control for the family-wise error rate (FWER), calculated using a free step-down resampling method (Westfall and Young, 1993). Columns 7 and 8 report treatment effects by gender of the index child (controlling for all baseline characteristics) and Column 9 reports the test of equality in treatment effects between the two samples.