

Abstract  
Poster Session C

Friday, November 15, 2019 8:00 am – 9:30 am

DEVELOPMENTAL AND PEDIATRIC: OTHER

C-48

**Attachment and SES at Newborn, Two, and Four Months Related to Communication Development at Nine and Twelve Months**

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**Objective:** Previous literature linked secure infant attachment to subsequent communication competency (Murray & Yingling, 2000). Less is known about that relationship in families of varying SES. This study explores how attachment and income at newborn, two, and four months correspond with communication development at nine and twelve months. **Methods:** Longitudinal ( $n = 30$ ) and cross-sectional ( $n = 102$ ) reports from PediaTrac<sup>®</sup>, a parent-report web-based survey to track development (Lajiness-O'Neill, et al., 2018), were collected at newborn (NB;  $n = 41$ ), two (2m;  $n = 38$ ), four (4m;  $n = 37$ ), nine (9m;  $n = 38$ ), and twelve months (12m;  $n = 36$ ). The cross-sectional sample had higher income ( $p = .01$ ). Attachment was measured using PediaTrac<sup>®</sup> and the Postpartum Bonding Questionnaire (PBQ; Brockington, Fraser & Wilson, 2006). Communication was measured using PediaTrac<sup>®</sup>. **Results:** A linear regression model predicted communication development at 9m and 12m from attachment and income at NB, 2m, and 4m. PBQ attachment at 2m significantly predicted communication at 9m ( $b = 0.12$ ,  $t = 2.28$ ,  $p = .049$ ). However, income was not significant, and neither attachment nor income at NB, 2m, or 4m predicted communication at 12m. **Conclusions:** More secure attachment at two months was related to better communication outcomes at nine months regardless of SES. This finding highlights the importance of parent-infant relationships at two months of age on development, indicating further research on methods to promote secure attachment and positive parent-infant interaction in families of varying SES.