

Research Reviews

Measuring Social Support in Adolescent Mothers

Perrin, K. M., & McDermott, R.J. (1997), Instruments to Measure Social Support and Related Constructs in Pregnant Adolescents: A Review. *Adolescence*, 32 (4), 533-557.

Literature indicates that social support is a key factor in promoting positive pregnancy outcome in adolescent mothers. The measurement of social support, therefore, should be a key outcome variable in research studies and program implementation. This article describes key issues related to measuring social support and identifies 28 instruments that have been used in research with pregnant adolescents. Guidance is given in the choice of social support instruments. Measurement properties and availability of instruments are listed.