ARTICLE:

SUMMARY:
The purpose of this study is to determine if a revision to the NICHD Forensic Interviewing Protocol which seeks to enhance rapport-building with children increases their rates of disclosure in a forensic interview.

Subjects/Design:
- 426 Israeli children
  - Gender
    - Males – 232
    - Females - 194
  - Ages – 4-13 years old
  - Abuse Type
    - Physical - 408
    - Sexual - 18
  - Perpetrators – family members
  - Type of Forensic Interview:
    - Standard Protocol - 165
    - Revised Protocol - 261
- Before using the Revised Protocol, interviewers received two days of training; and also received monthly expert supervision from authors
- Interviews were selected from the 1,424 forensic interviews conducted by 7 interviewers
- Only cases included were deemed highly likely to be true - corroborated by:
  - Suspect admissions
  - Eyewitness testimony
  - Medical evidence

Findings:
1. 56.1% of children made allegations of abuse across all interviews
2. Disclosure rates by interviewer ranged from 43.2% to 70.4%.
3. Disclosure rates by protocol:
   1. Standard Protocol –50.3%
   2. Revised Protocol - 59.8%

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Research to Practice Summaries was supported by Grant No. 2012-CI-FX-K006 awarded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. Points of views or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.

Allegation rates in forensic child abuse investigations: Comparing the revised and standard NICHD protocols.