

PAT Conference 2011 – Presentation Nov. 8, 2011 Lanfranchi, Zurich/Switzerland

1. Applicant	
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2. Institution/Organisation of Principal Applicant	
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3. Title of the workshop	
PAT Switzerland: ZEPPELIN – Support from birth Website: www.zepelin-hfh.ch	
4. Overall objective of the workshop	
Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) of children from families in psychosocial risk constellations with the objective of increasing their long-term educational opportunities by means of professional implementation of the programme "PAT – Parents as teachers."	
5. Brief description	
<p>The University of Applied Sciences of Special Needs Education Zurich (HfH) is currently implementing a so far unknown support and integration programme to Switzerland, for the purpose of effective support for families in psychosocial risk constellations (particularly immigrants). ZEPPELIN (Zurich Equity Prevention Project with Parents Participation and Integration) is an intervention study with two objectives: First, interdisciplinary <i>early recognition</i> of children jeopardised in their development for psychosocial reasons. Secondly, intensive and case-related <i>early support</i> of these children, in order to increase their long-term educational opportunities. Within the framework of a <i>home-based</i> and <i>centre-based</i> approach, a qualified female specialist for child care of the counselling service for small children visits families from the target group at home, one to four times a month, and invites them to the monthly group meetings in the family centre. The specialist applies the renowned US-American programme (adapted to Swiss standards) „PAT – Parents as teachers“ for children from 0 to 3, to raise the parents' awareness for the age-specific needs of their children, to prepare them for a close collaboration with the educational institutions and to give optimum support to the children's language development.</p> <p>Since the autumn of 2009, ZEPPELIN has been implemented successfully as feasibility study (ZEPPELIN/M) with 15 families. Now (from autumn 2011) the master study is running with 252 families (132 intervention group, 120 control group) in 14 communities in the agglomeration of Zurich. The project takes 48 months (with a 3-year PAT full programme implementation), including staff recruitment, setup of intervention and research group, recruitment period and introduction of follow-up solutions after the end of the programme. Being a case-related intervention study, ZEPPELIN is personnel-intensive and thus expensive (2.8 million \$ spread over four years, i.e. 7000 \$ per family and year). The accompanying research with randomised test arrangement will be financed by a grant of the Swiss National Swiss National Science Foundation (664'000 \$).</p>	