



International Conference
**Deinstitutionalisation
of Childcare:**
Investing in Change

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**Psychopathology and Competence Following Severe Early Deprivation:
Early and Subsequent Experiences**



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Overview

Part 1 Mental health outcomes following the conclusion of the randomized controlled trial.

Part 2 Mental health outcomes at 12 years.

Part 3 Mental health outcomes at 16 years.

Part 4 Factors reducing mental health problems.

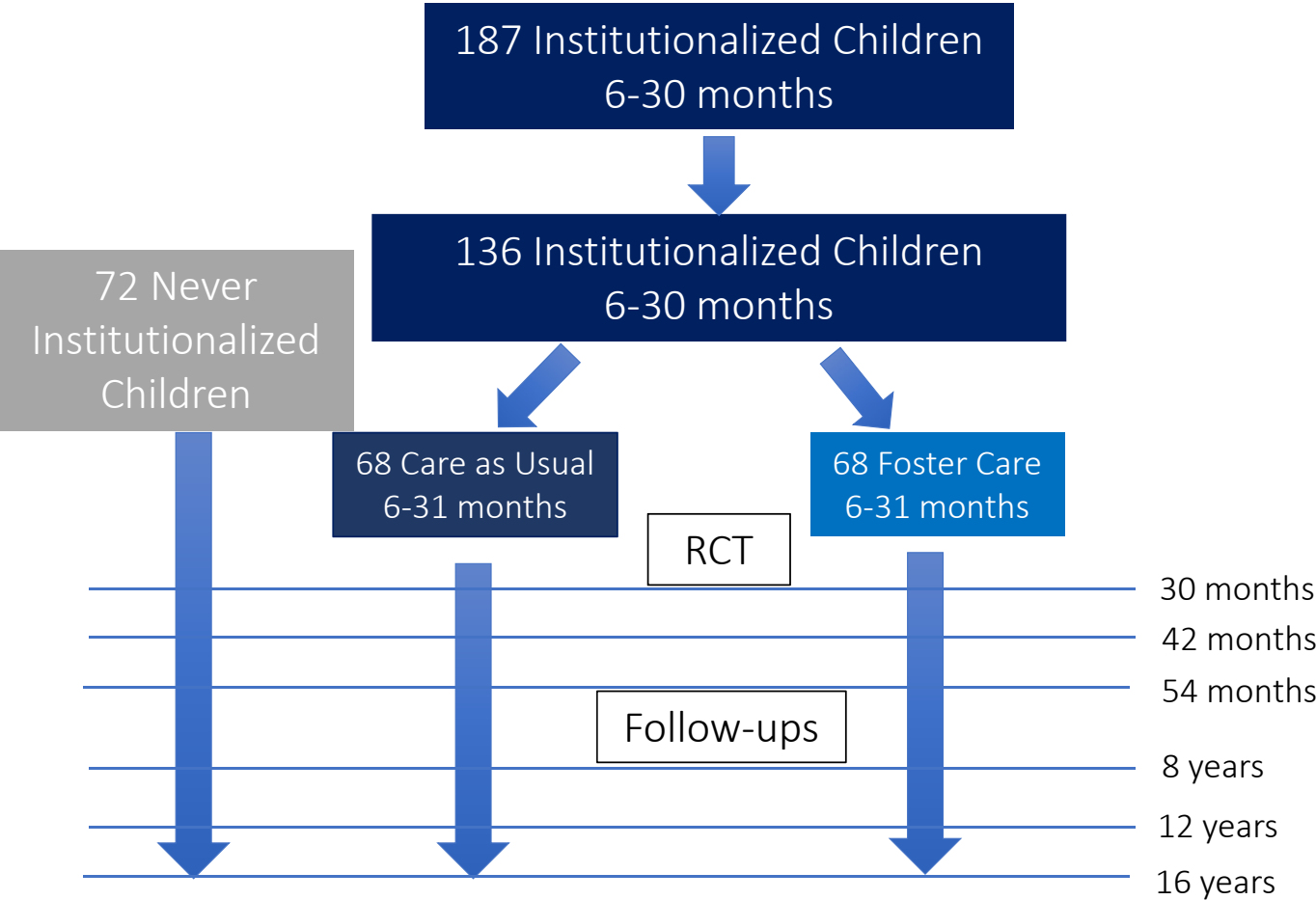
Part 5 Competence at 8, 12 and 16 years.



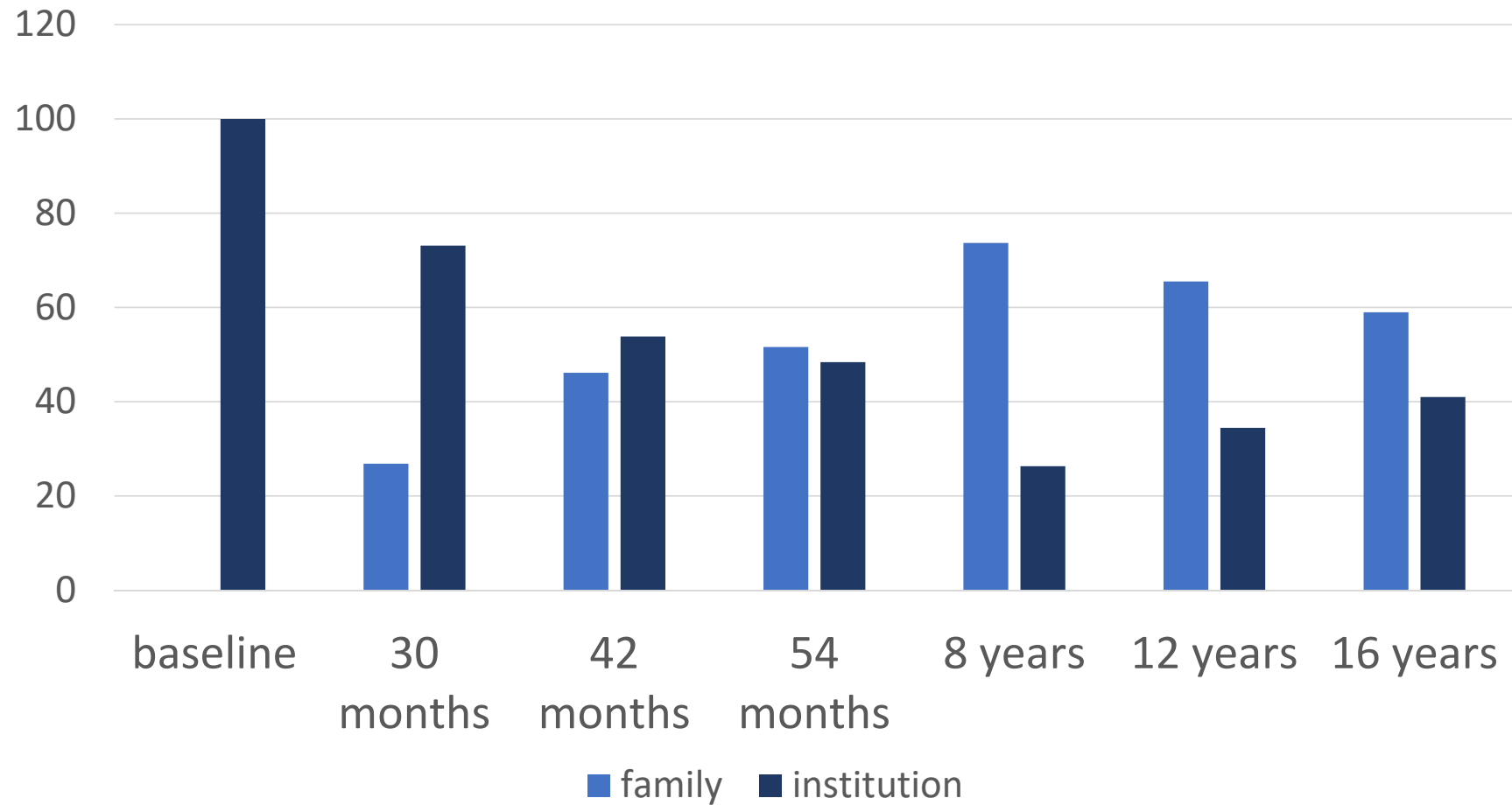
Abbreviations to remember...

- **NIG** never institutionalized group (community children in families)
- **FCG** foster care group (children institutionalize in infancy and later randomized to foster care)
- **CAUG** care as usual group (children institutionalized in infancy and randomized to care as usual—placements determined solely by child protection authorities)
- **EIG** ever institutionalized group (FCG + CAUG)

BEIP Study Design



CAUG placement at different ages



Assessing Psychopathology

- Structured psychiatric interviews
 - PAPA at 54 months
 - DISC at 12 and 16 years
- 4 types of disorders:
 - Internalizing disorders (depression and anxiety disorders)
 - Externalizing disorders (oppositional and conduct disorders)
 - ADHD
 - Substance use disorders (only at 16)

**Mental health outcomes at the end
of the randomized controlled trial
(54 months)**

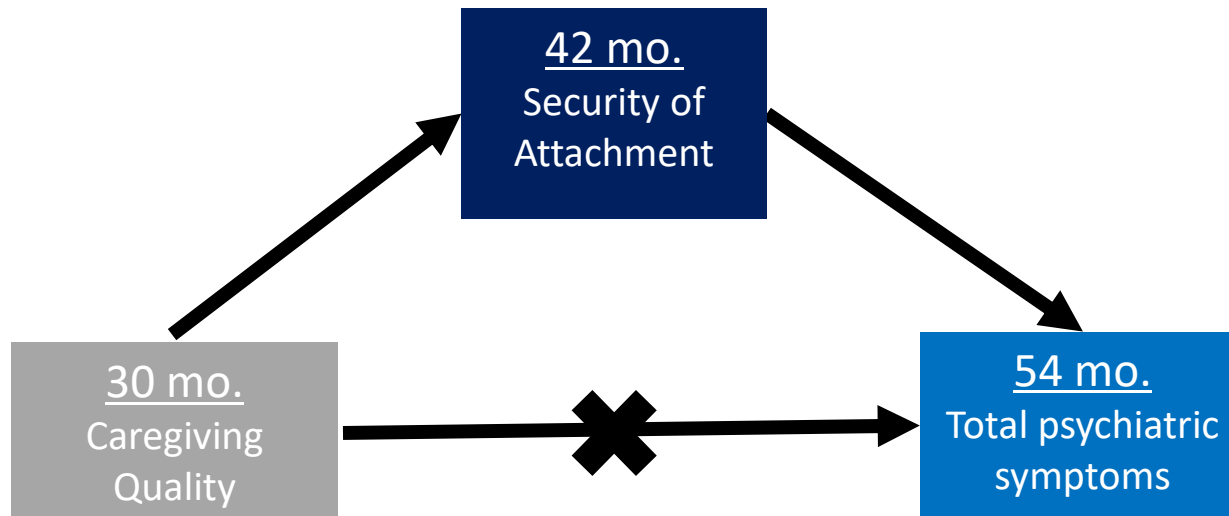
Main effects of the intervention at trial completion



Psychopathology

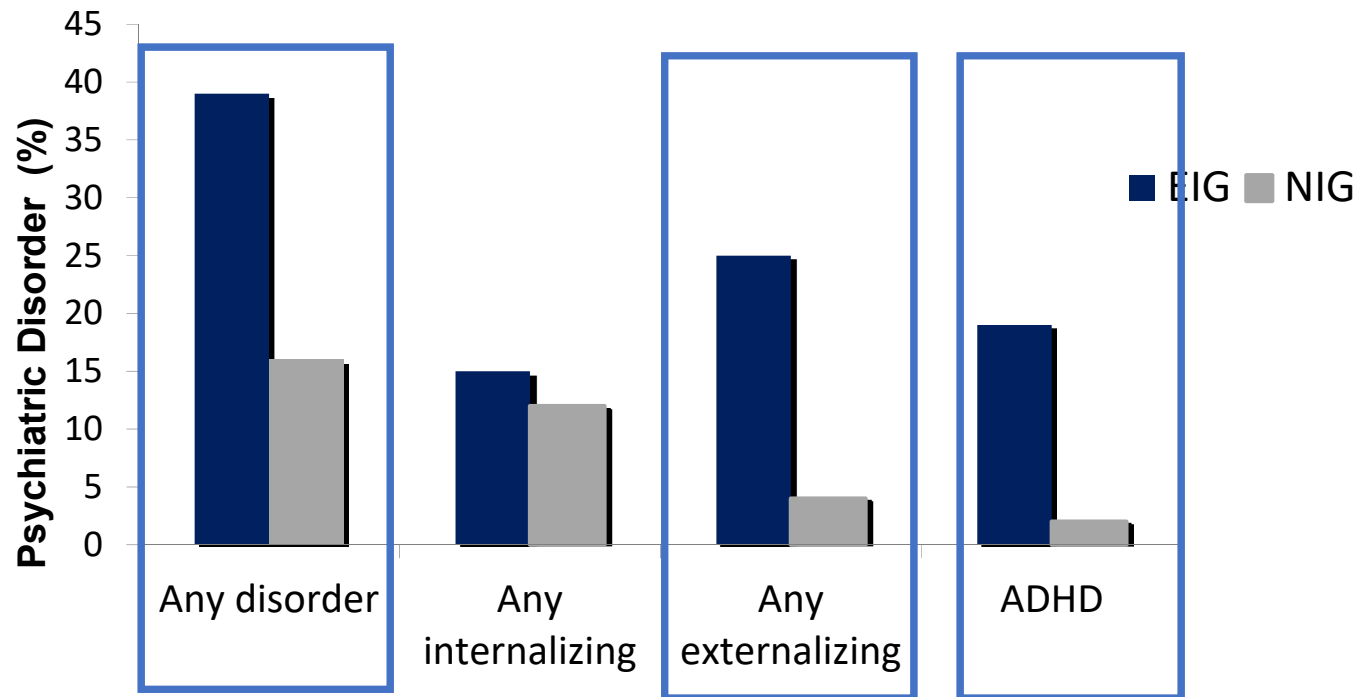
- Significantly more impairing mental health problems in 4.5-year-old children raised in institutions than children raised in families.
- Fewer psychiatric symptoms
- Fewer psychiatric disorders
- Less impairment from disorders
- Primarily accounted for by reductions in internalizing disorders for girls only

Caregiving reduces psychopathology through effects on attachment

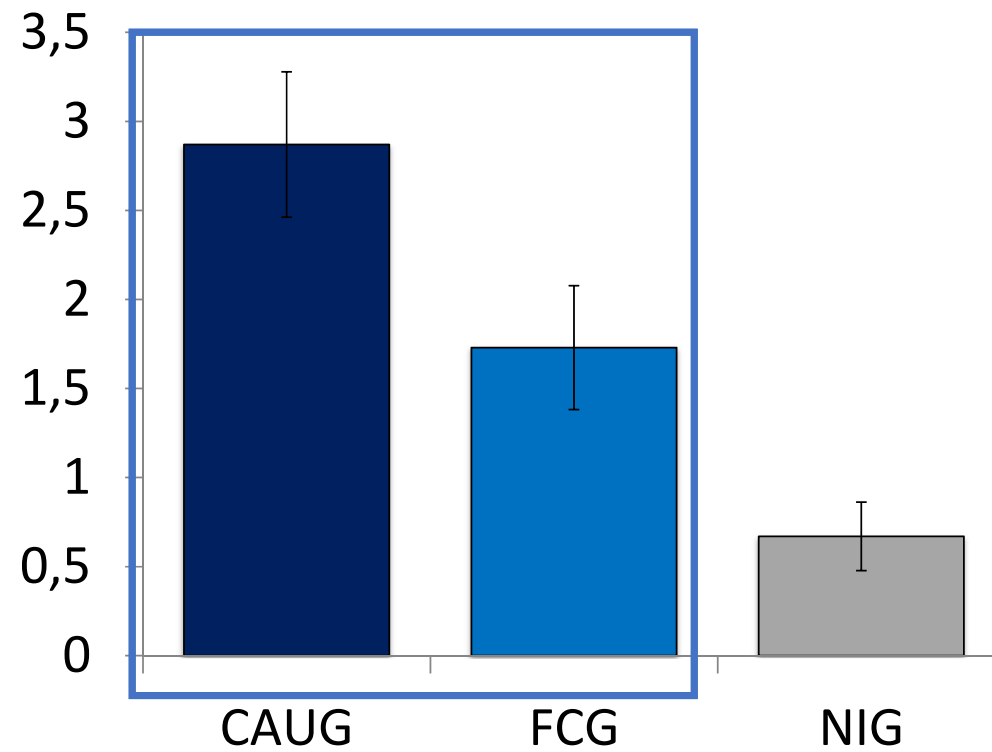


Mental health outcomes at age 12

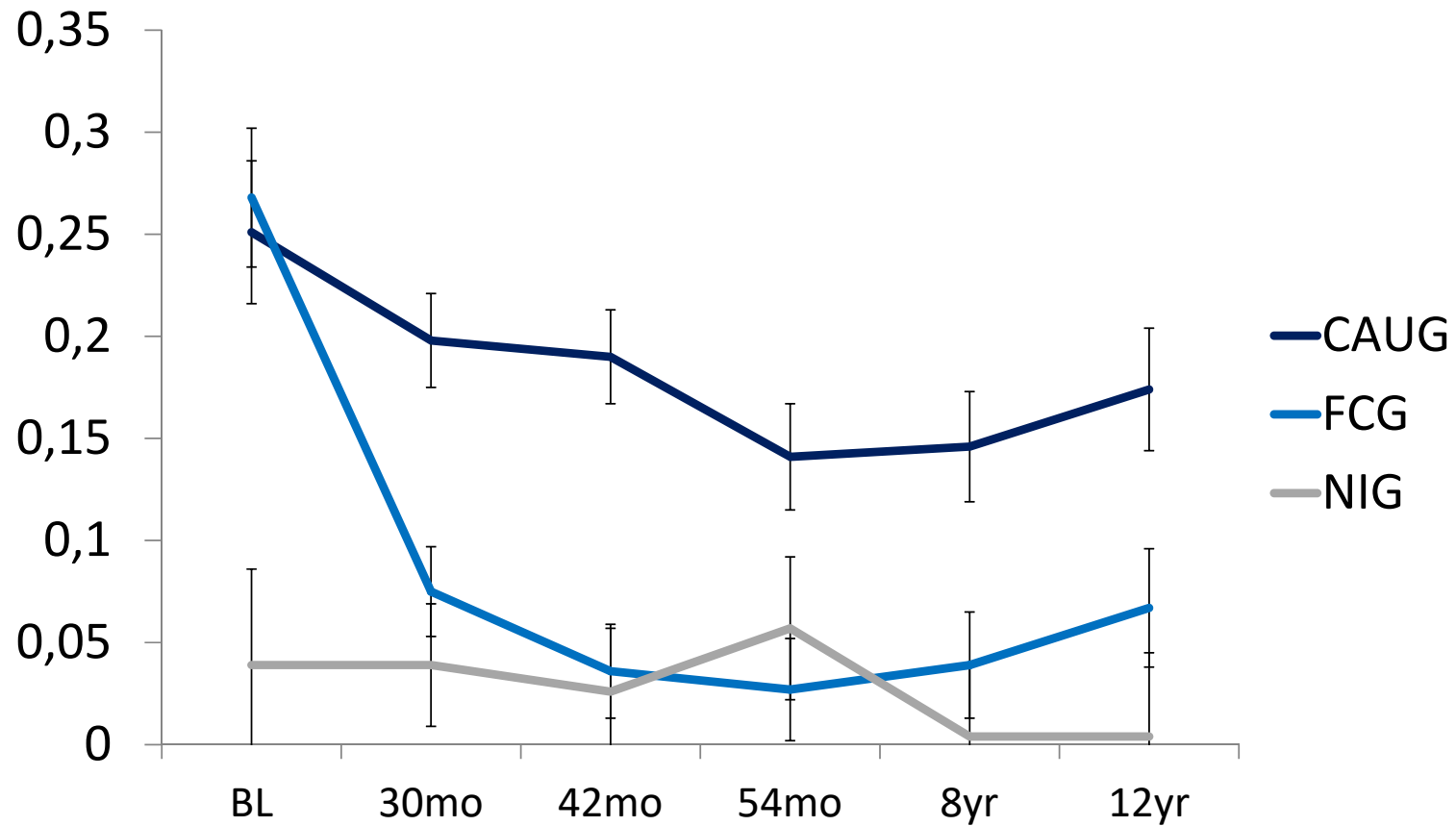
Psychiatric Disorders at 12 Years



Externalizing Signs in Boys

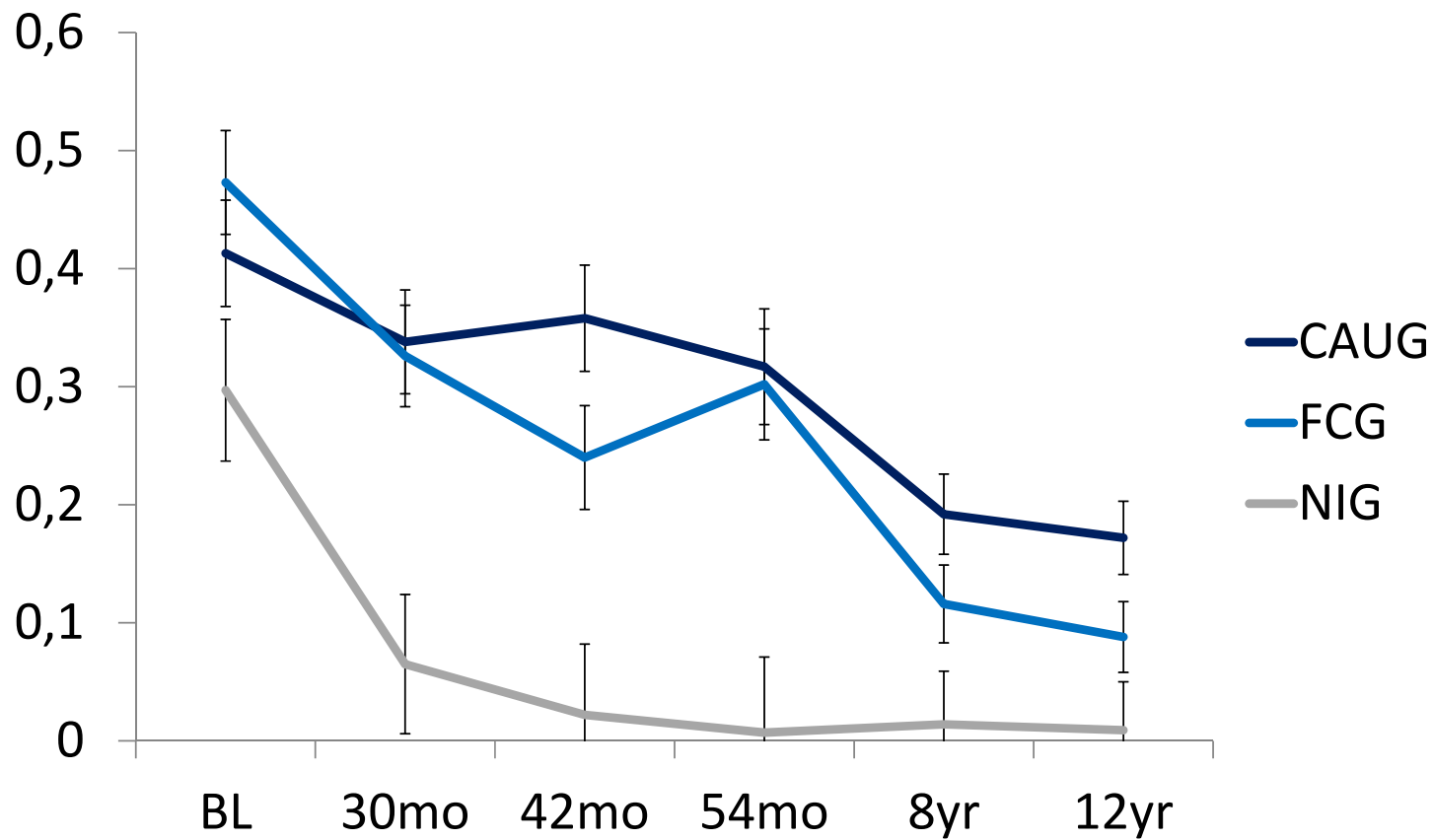


Signs of Reactive Attachment Disorder

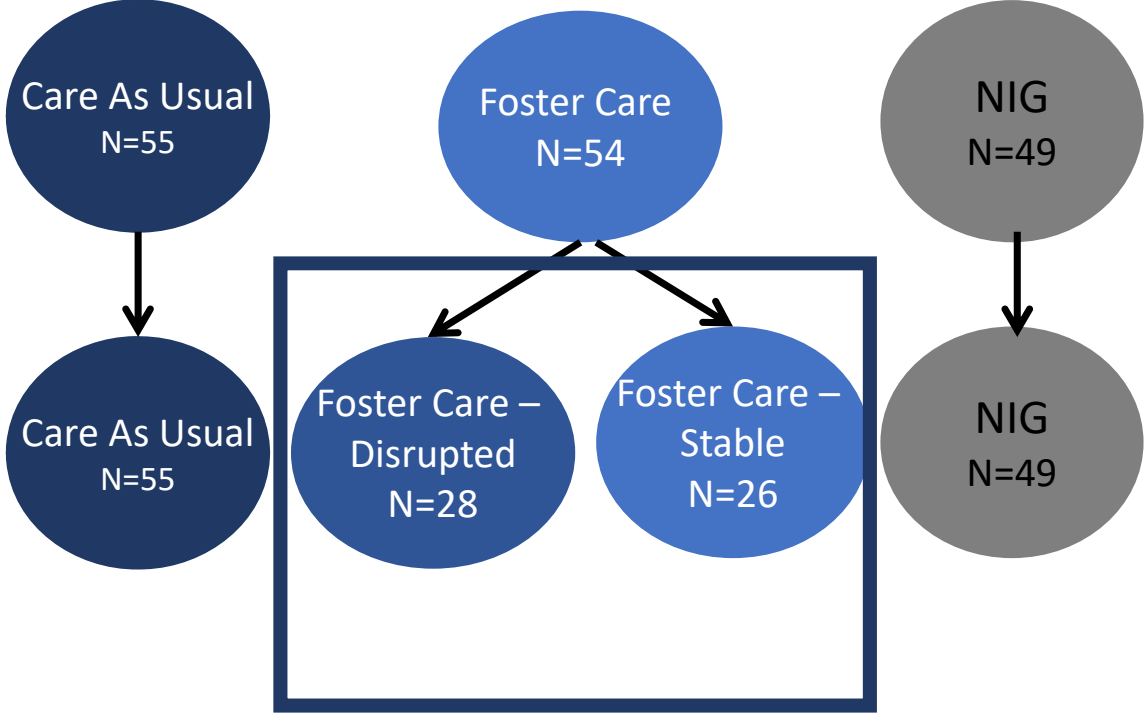


Guyon Harris et al., 2019, *Attachment and Human Development*

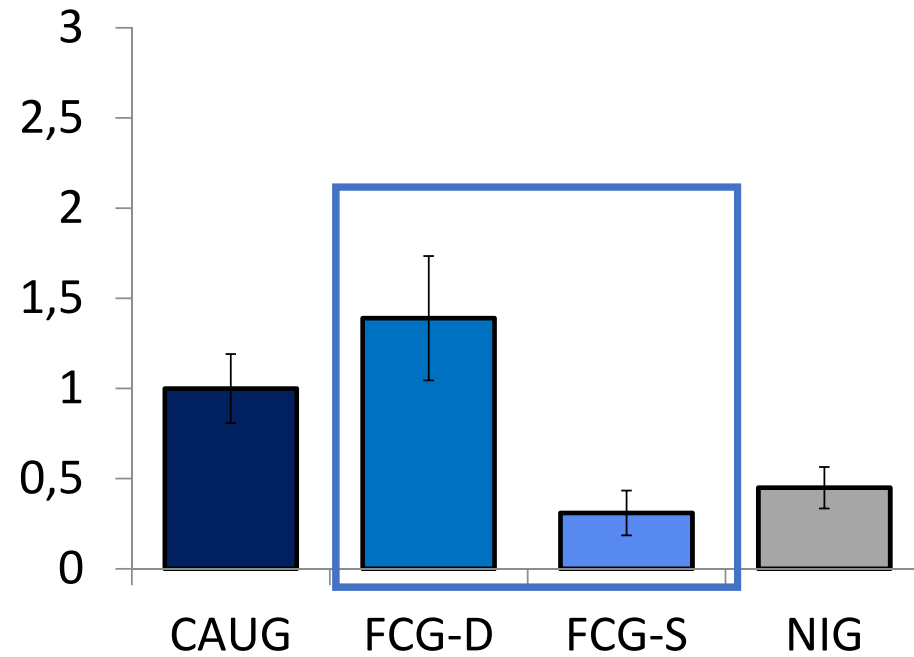
Disinhibited Social Engagement Disorder



Examining Stability of Placements at age 12

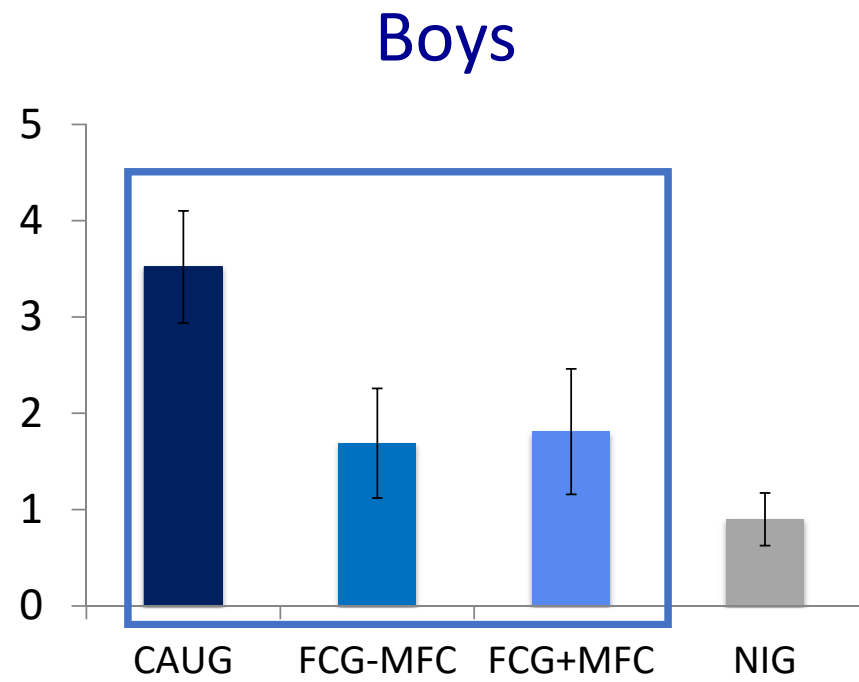
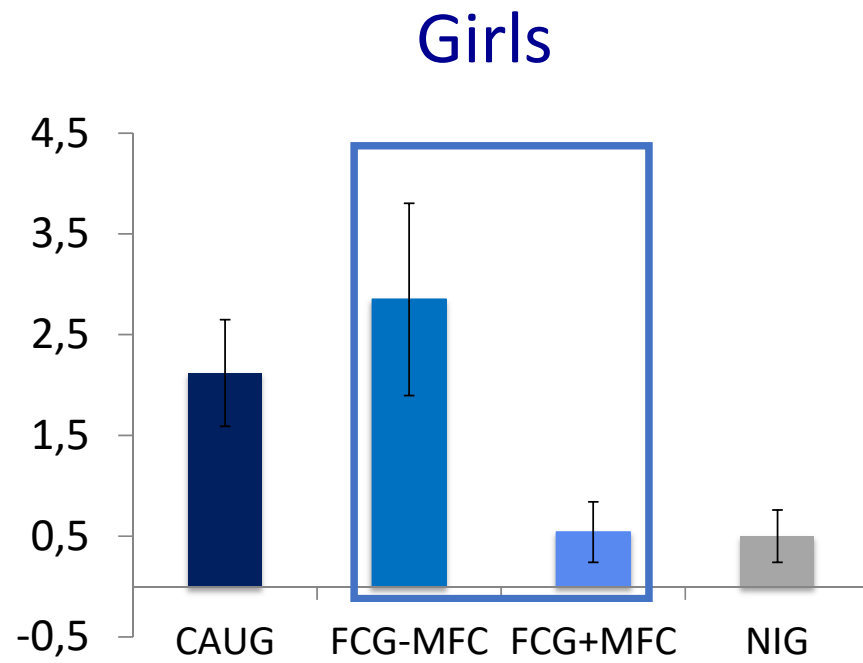


Internalizing Signs



Humphreys et al., 2015, *Lancet Psychiatry*

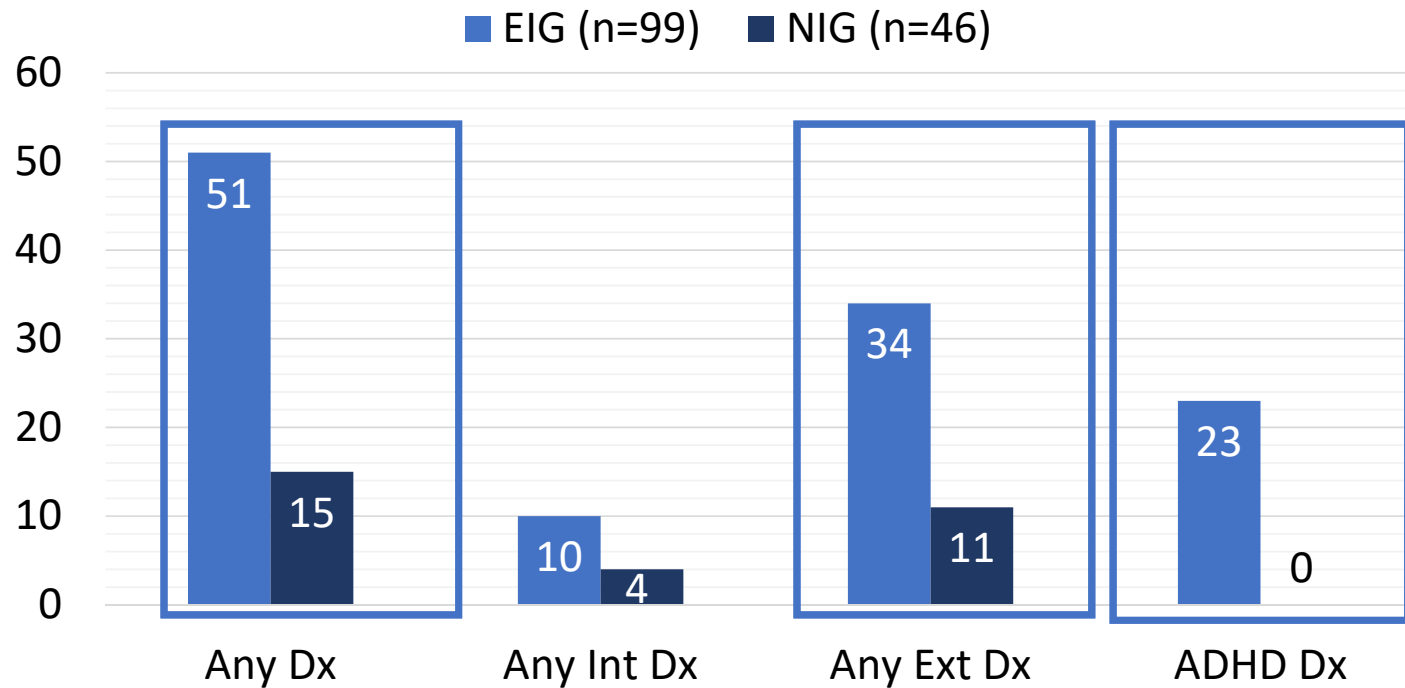
Externalizing Signs



Humphreys et al., 2015, *Lancet Psychiatry*

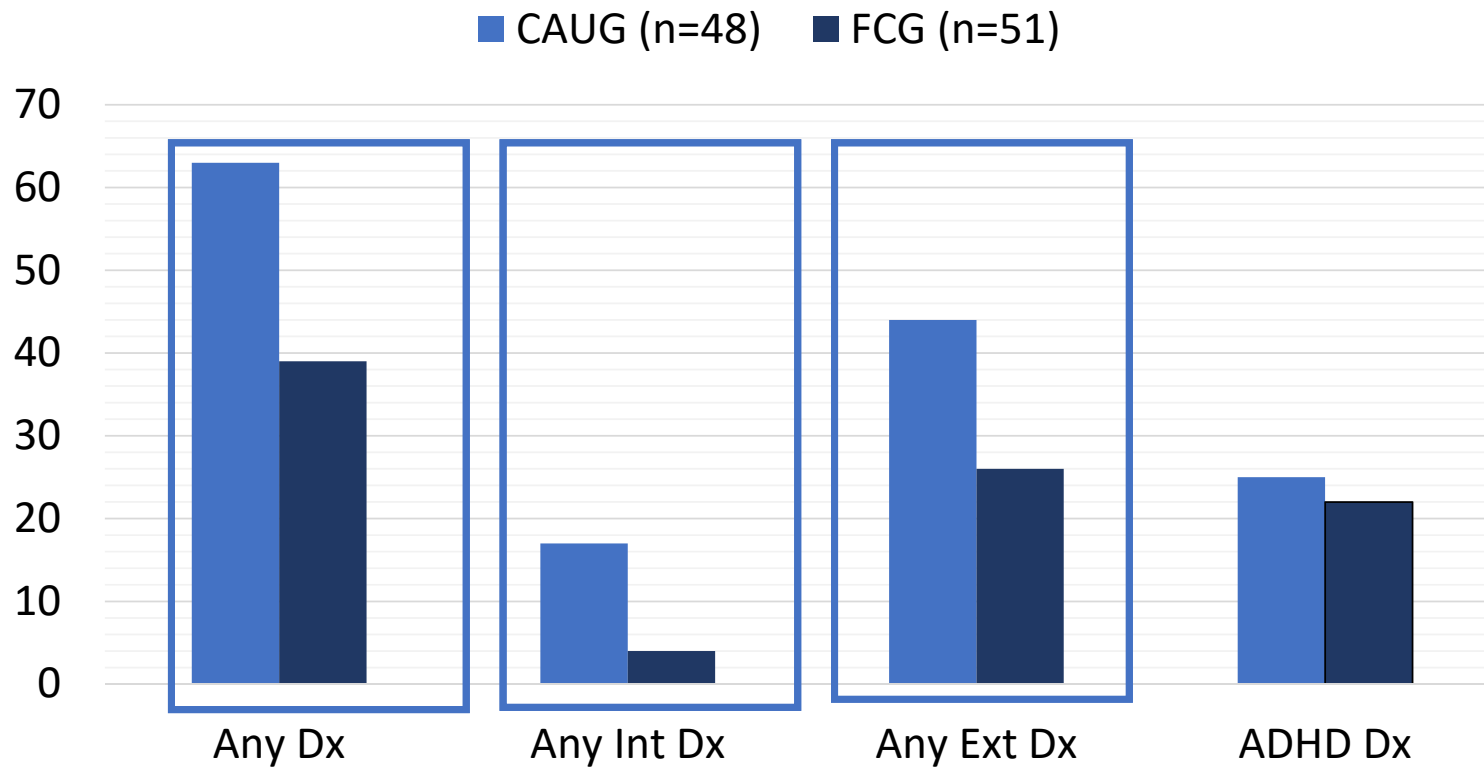
Mental health outcomes at age 16

Diagnoses at 16 years in Children Ever and Never Institutionalized

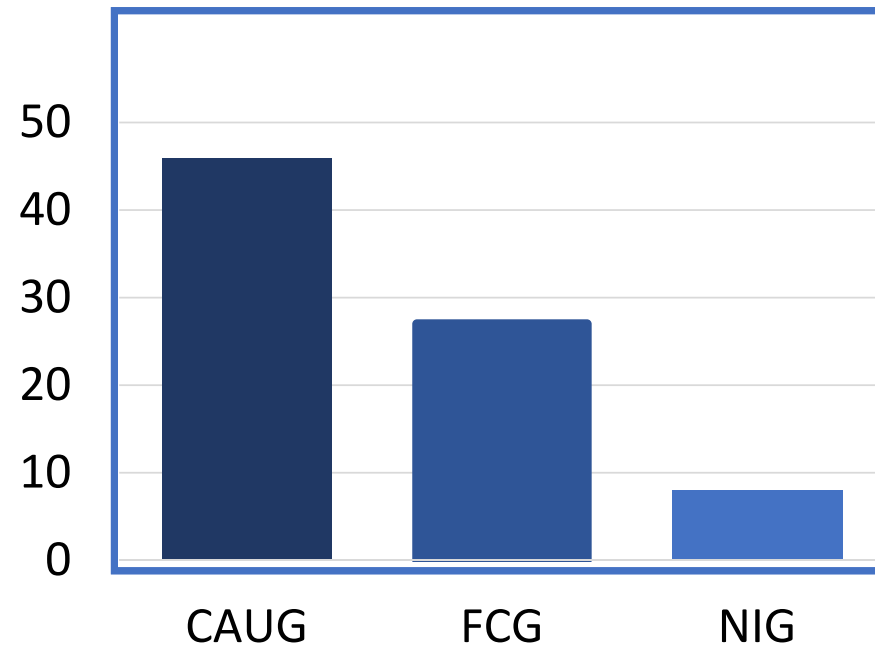


Intervention effects at 16 years on psychiatric disorders

*

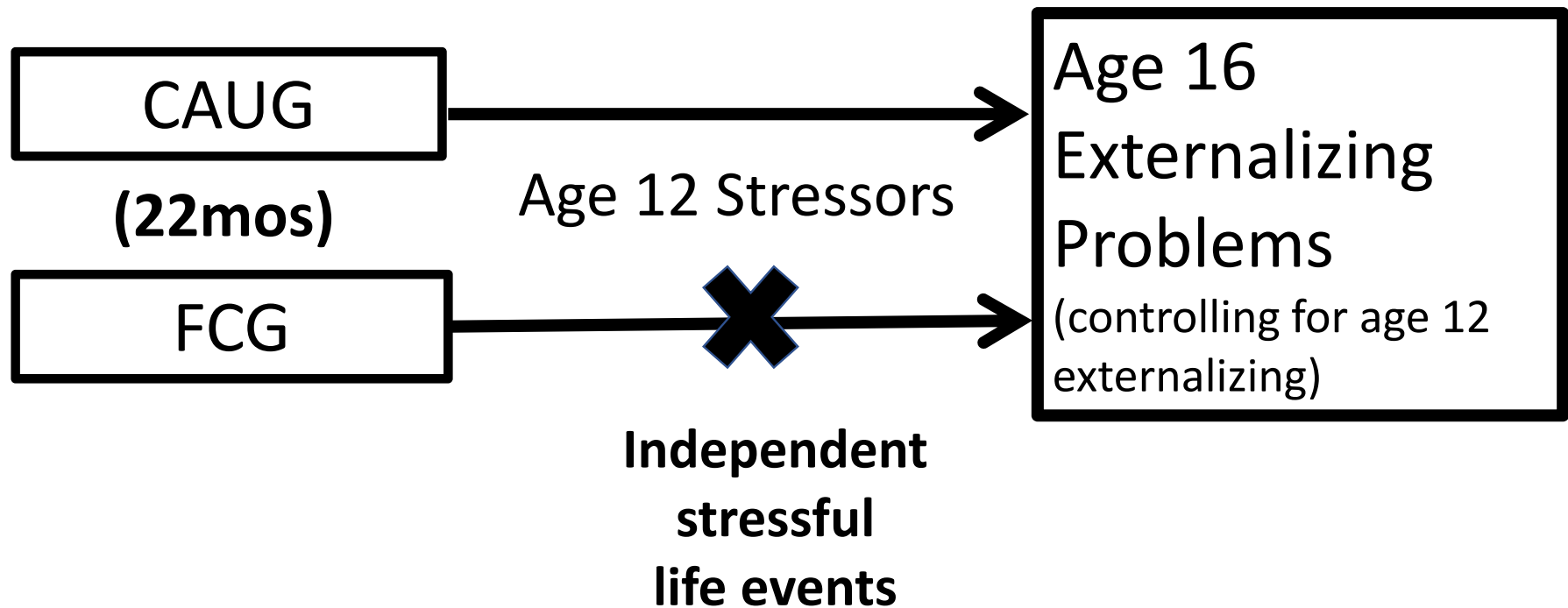


Disruptive Mood Dysregulation Disorder

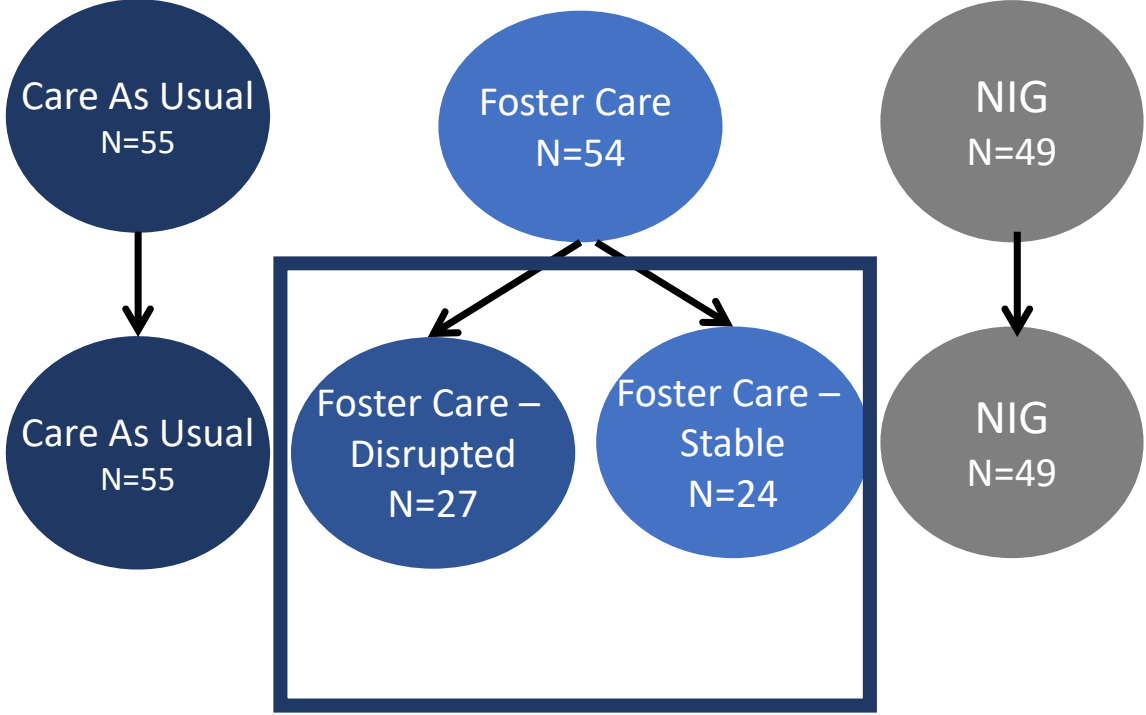


Chi-square (2) = 13.73, $p < .001$

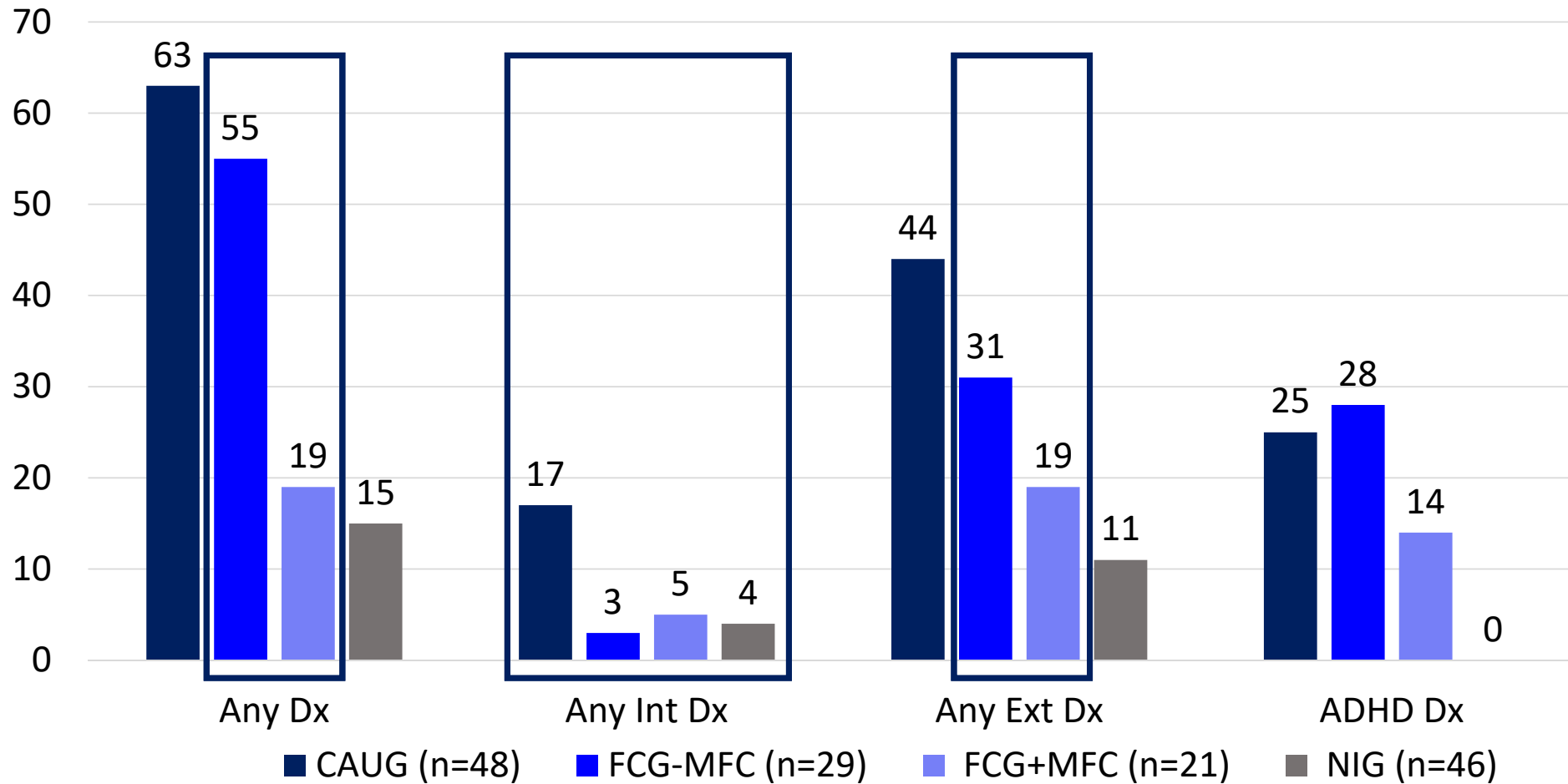
Stress sensitization is a later emerging effect of early experiences



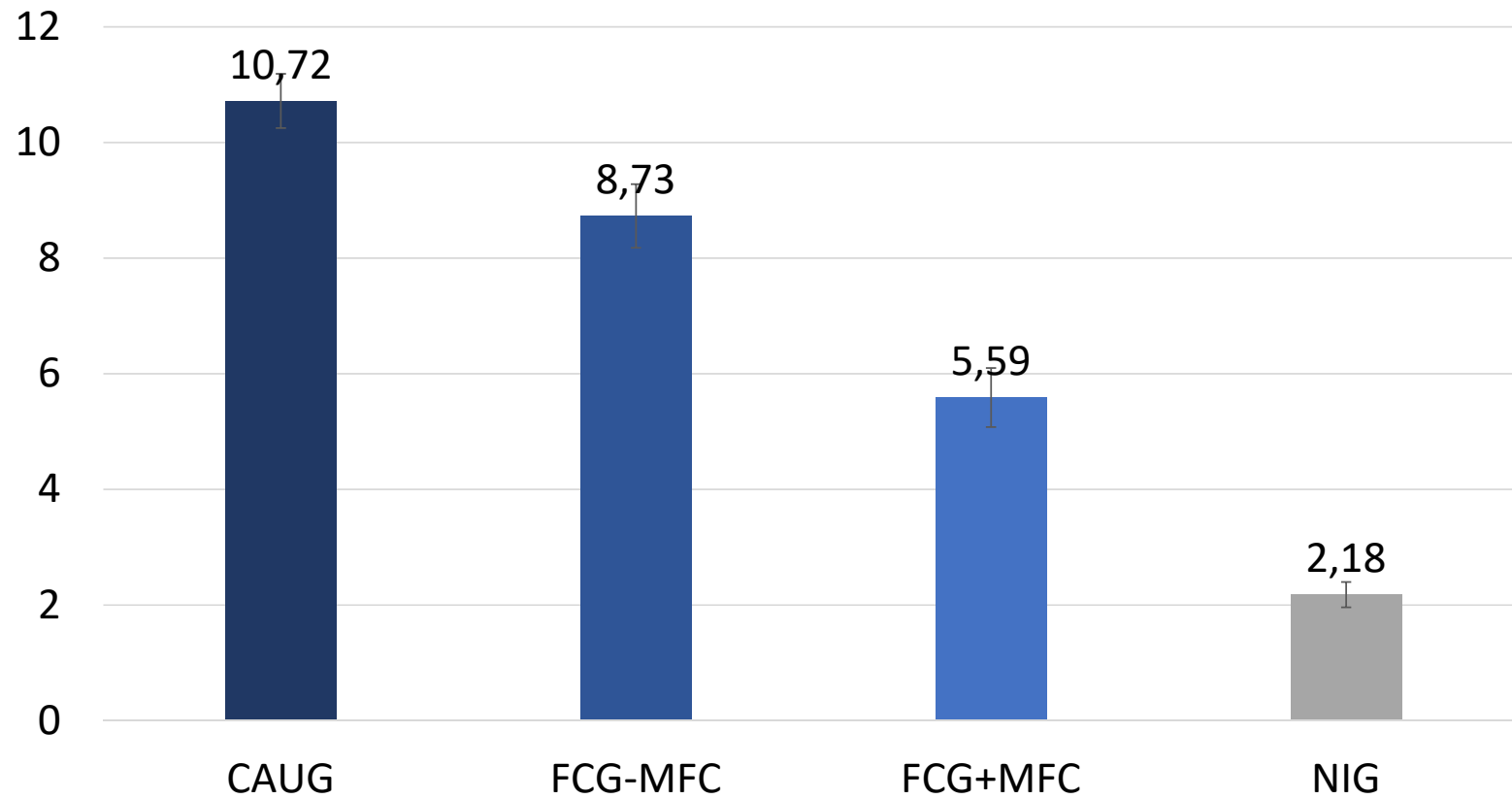
Examining Stability of Placements at age 16



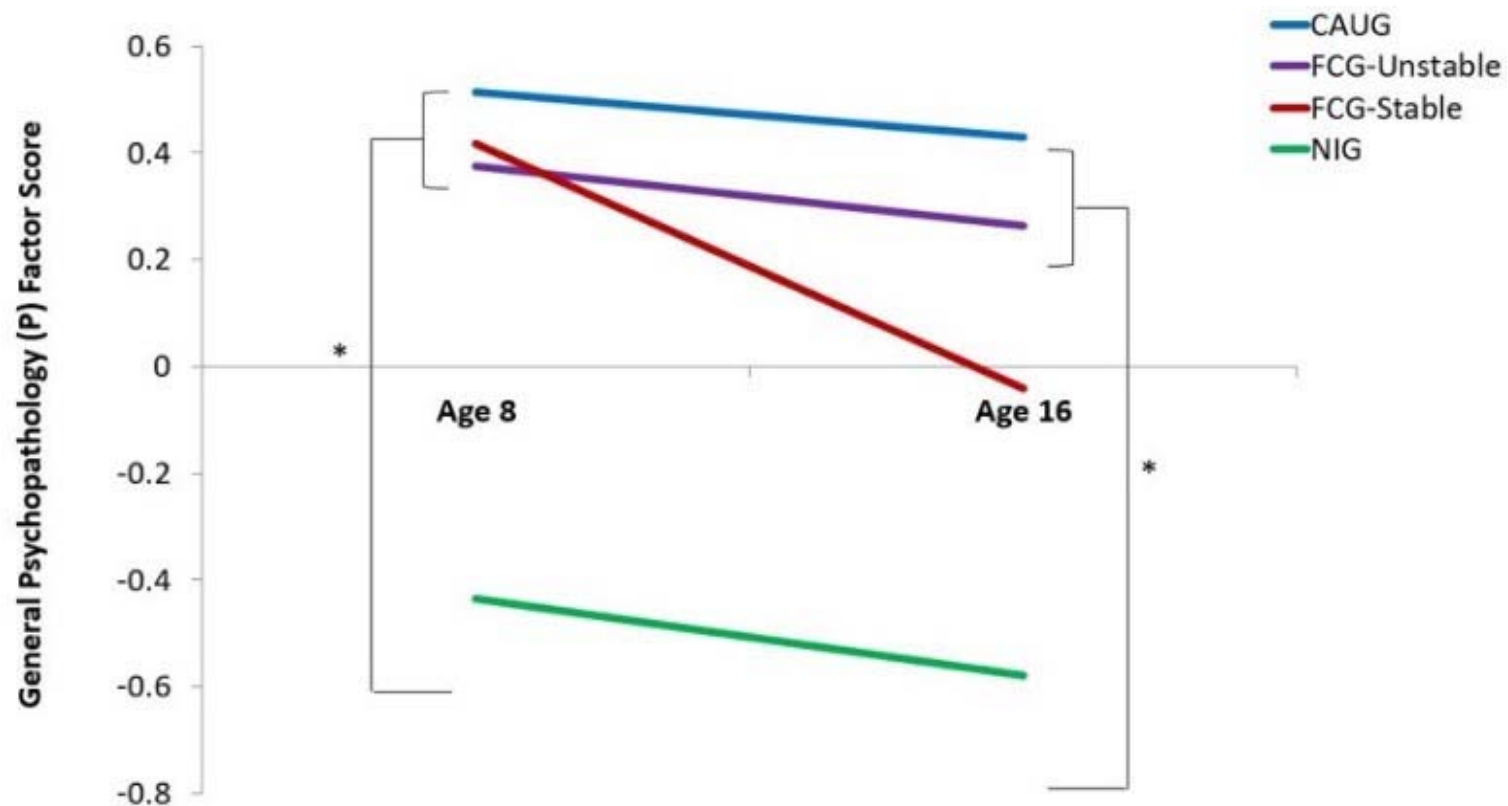
Age 16 Stability and Psychopathology



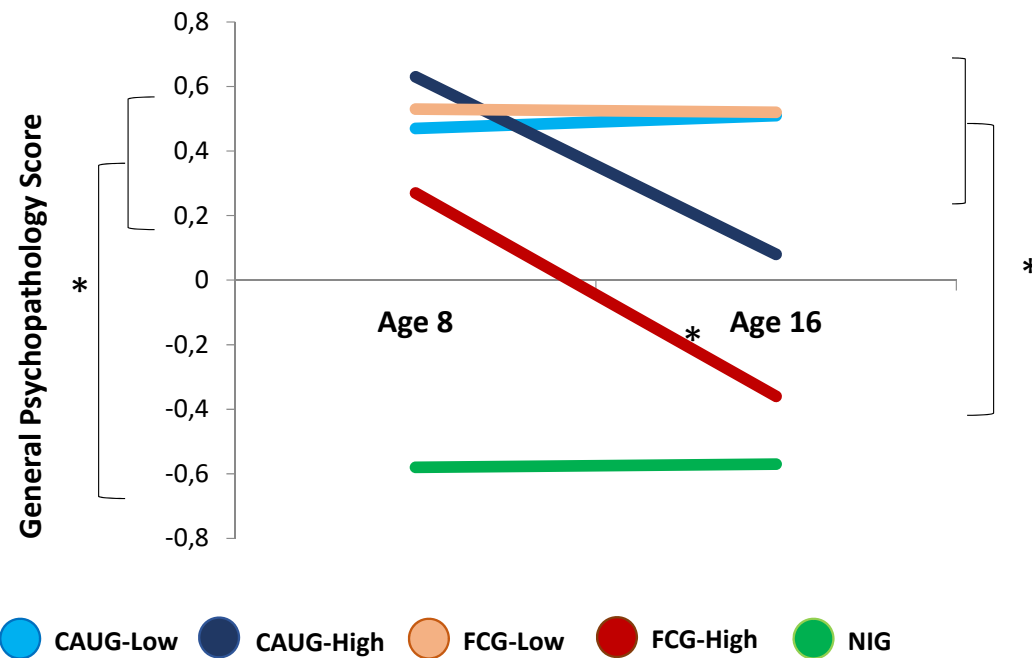
Age 16 Stability and Total Symptoms



Stability of placements over time (4 years to 16 years)



Quality of Caregiving and General Psychopathology at 8 and 16 Years



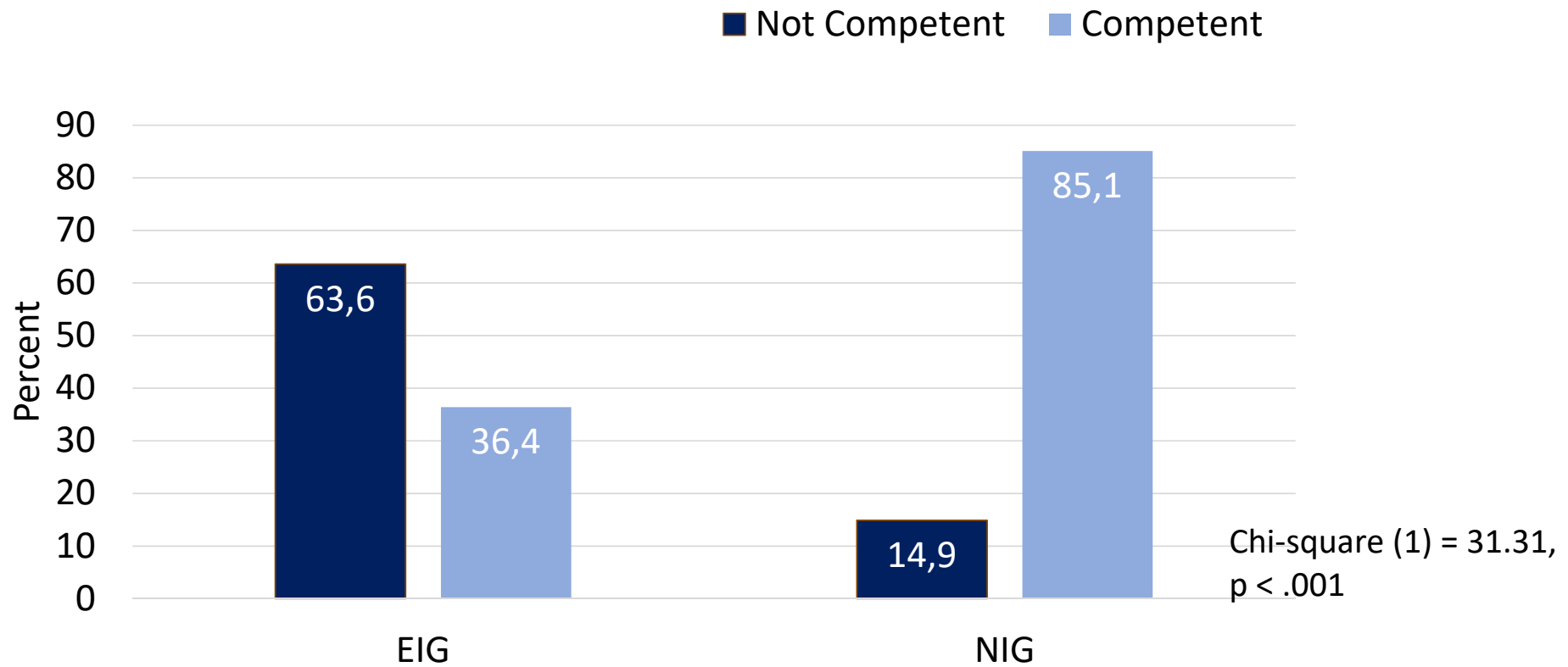
Competence



Domains of competence

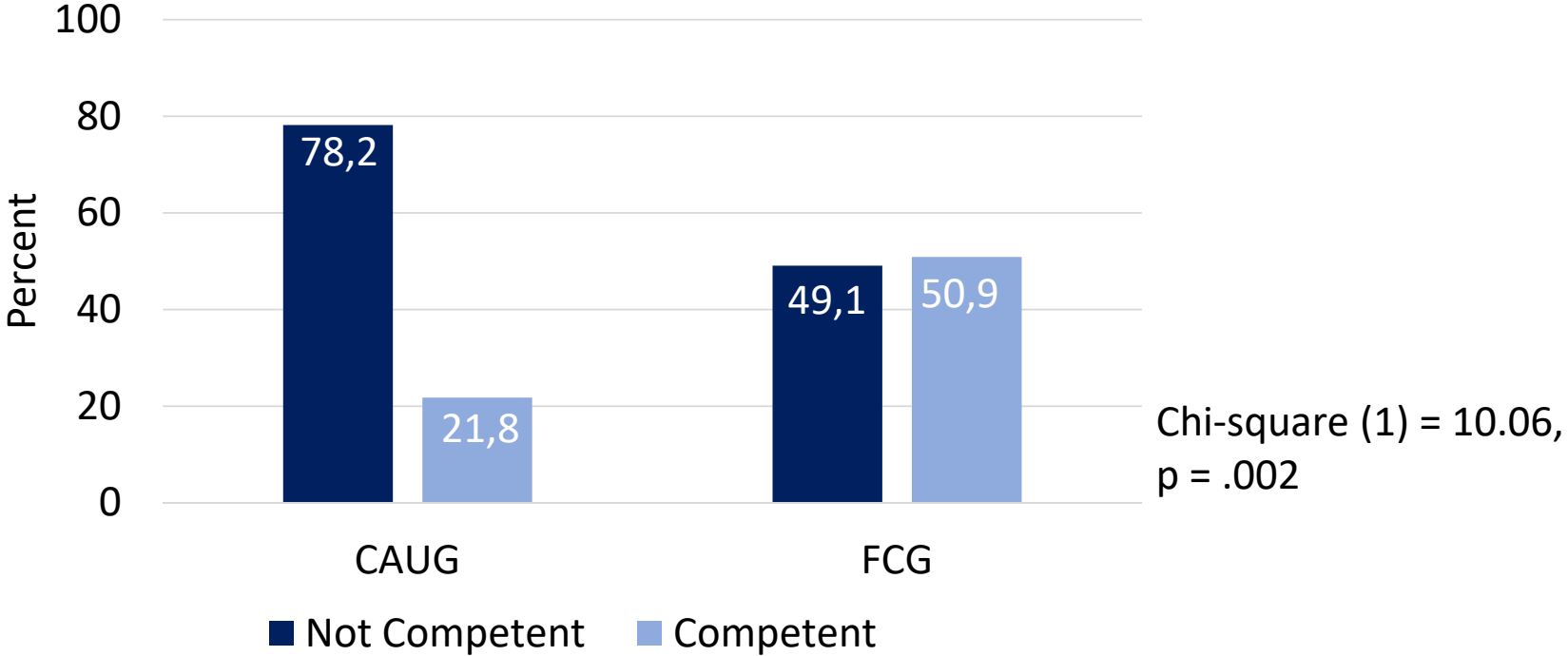
- Family relations
- Peer relations
- Academic competence
- Physical health
- Impairment from psychopathology
- Tobacco and alcohol use
- Risk-taking

Percent in each competence group by institutional care history

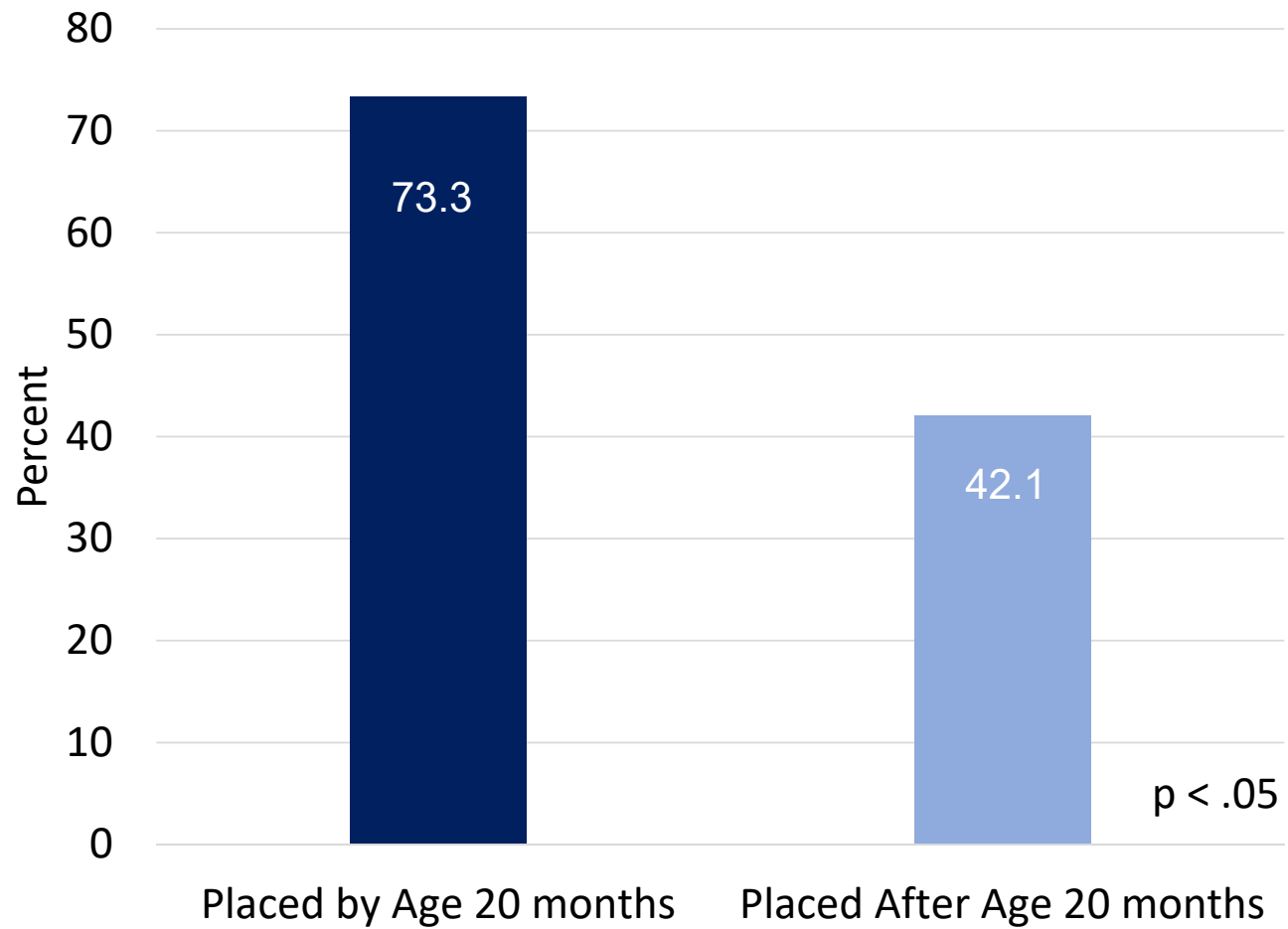


Humphreys et al., 2018, *JCPP*

Percent competent in CAUG and FCG



Competence within FCG



Humphreys et al., 2018, *JCPP*

Competence at 8, 12 and 16

- Age 8

- Family relations
- Peer relations
- Mental health
- Physical health
- Academic performance
- Risk taking

Overall 5/6

- Ages 12 and 16

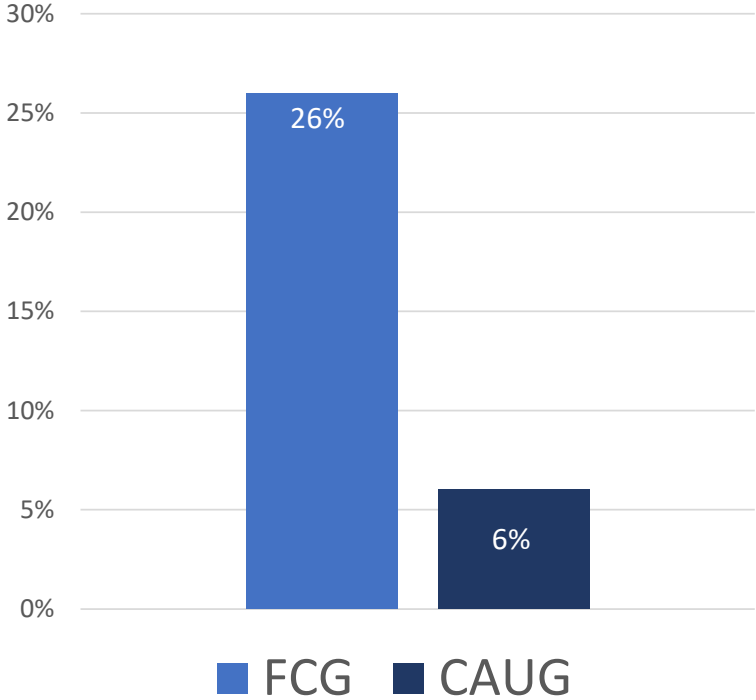
- Family relations
- Peer relations
- Mental health
- Physical health
- Academic performance
- Risk taking
- Substance use

Overall 6/7

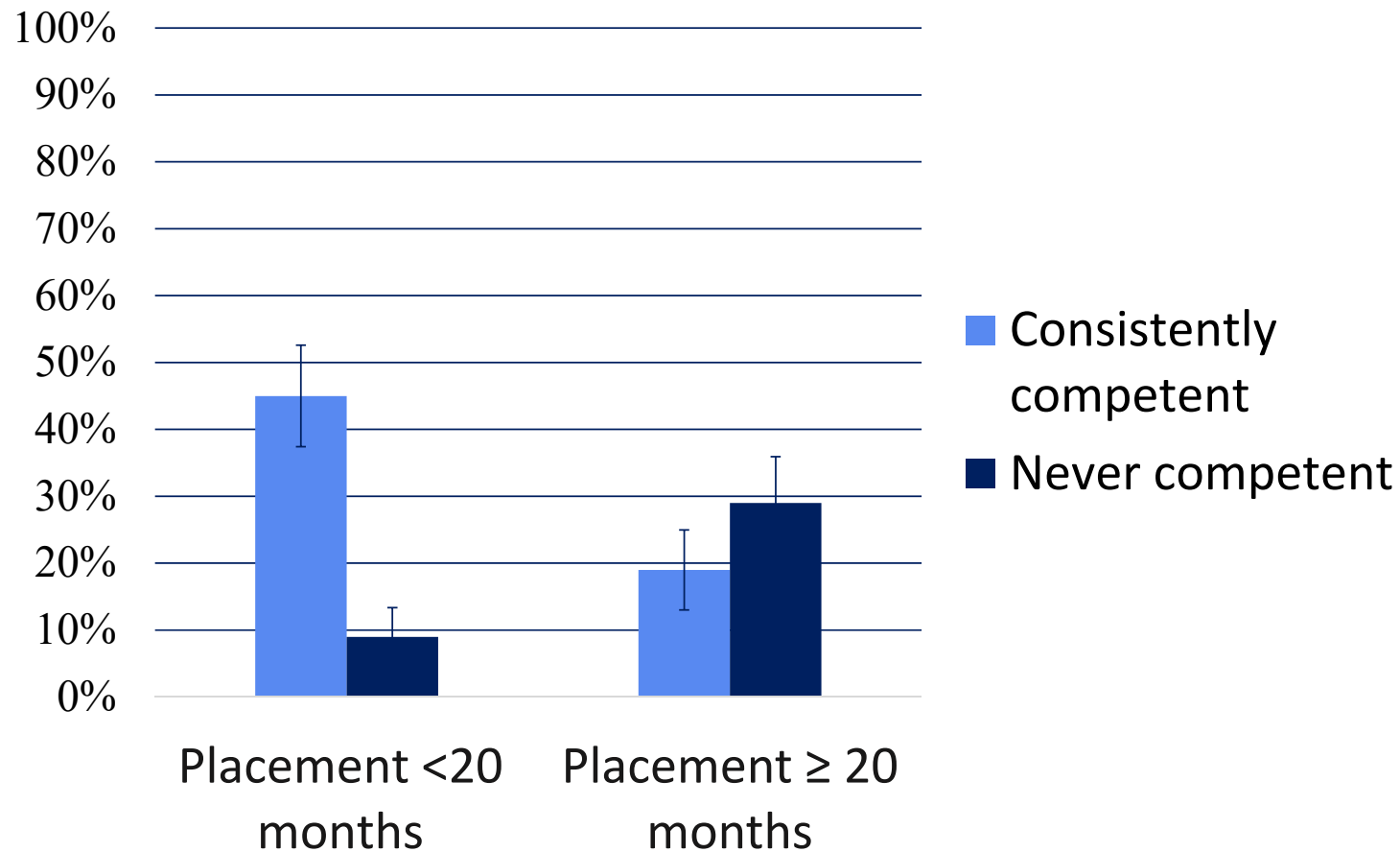
Longitudinal perspective on competence 8-16 years



Consistently competent FCG v. CAUG



Earlier placements increases likelihood of consistent competence



Psychopathology and Competence Following Early Deprivation: Factors Affecting Risk and Recovery

- Deprivation inherent in institutional rearing increases risks for serious psychopathology and decreased competence.
- Recovery is enhanced by:
 - Placement into families
 - Family placement as early as possible
 - Higher quality of care
 - Stability of placements over time

Thanks!

