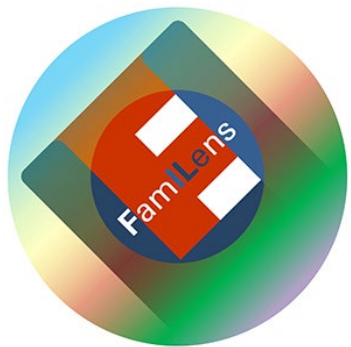




11ICSSM: 11TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
SOCIAL SCIENCE METHODOLOGY



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Developing Family Impact Analysis Tools in Italy: A Methodological Study

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A Specific Theoretical Approach to Family Impact Assessment (VIF)

- **Participatory, constructivist, transformative approach to evaluation (Cousin & Whitmore, 1998; Zamagni, Venturi, Rago, 2015)**
- **Evidence based (Bogenschnneider, K., Little, O. M., Ooms, T., Benning, S., Cadigan, K., & Corbett, T. 2012, Wong, 2020;**
- **Mixed method**
- **Relational (relational impact analysis unit)**
- **Reflective lever to rethink social services and interventions in terms of justice and equitable well-being (family flourishing, Theory of Change)**

Elisabetta Carrà
Matteo Moscatelli

Il manuale del FamLens

Modelli e strumenti per l'analisi
dell'impatto familiare

Quaderni del Centro Famiglia 35



VITA E PENSIERO

Il framework del FamILens

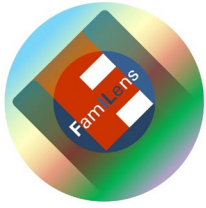




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State of the art of research with FamLens

- Analysis of the family impact of government policies during the Covid-19 pandemic in Italy (2020-2021)
- Participatory research for the innovation of policies and interventions for the Family of the Lombardy Region (2020-2021)
- Evaluation of the Family Centers of the Lombardy Region (2021-2022)
- Evaluation of DAMA (disabled advanced medical assistance) (2021)
- The action-research for the Ligurian Forum of Family Actions (2020)
- Research on Family Relational Agency (family flourishing) (2020-2022)
- **D32- Multifaceted FamLens, construction of family impact assessment checklists in different contexts (2023-2025):**
 - family mediation,
 - protection of minors,
 - home care,
 - corporate welfare
- Family impact assessment for the Veneto Region, construction of checklists for the evaluation of the family impact of the interventions of the (2024-2025):
 - Local welfare Planning
 - Alliances for the Family
 - Family Desks
- Construction of a checklist for the VIF of the catechesis of Christian initiation (2025)

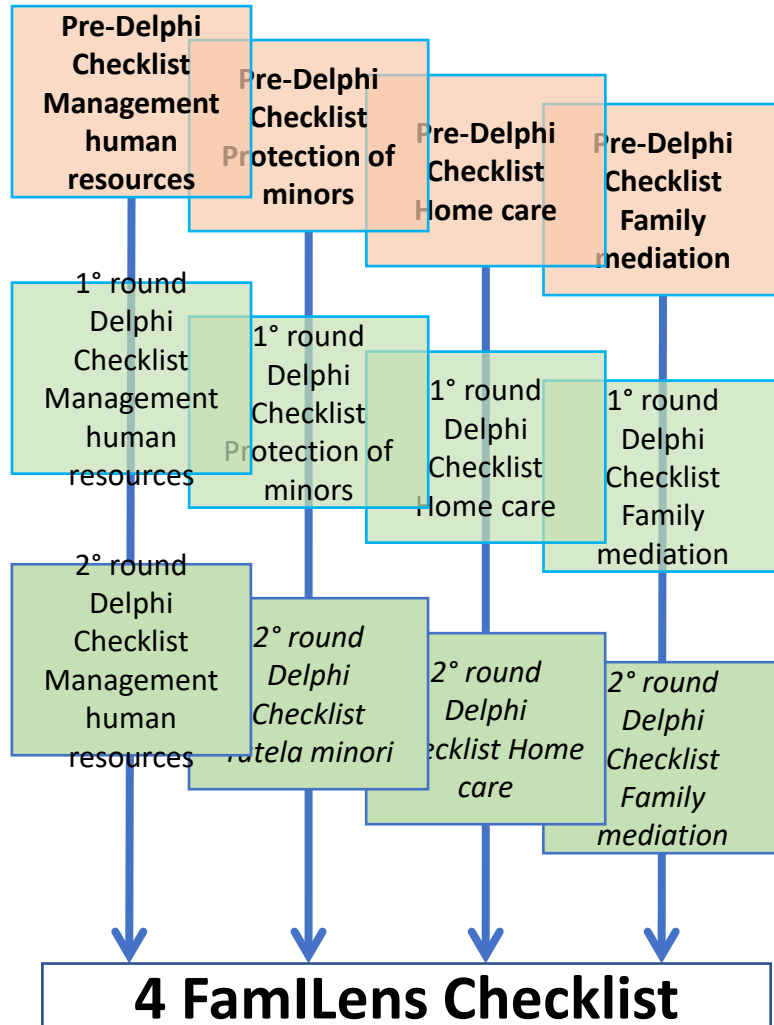


The Multifaceted Project FamLens

Co-Design (WP2) and validation (WP3) of Family Impact Checklist

WP2

WP3



Co-design 05/2023-09/2023

1° incontro

Participant knowledge
Framework Explained
Declination in the specific context

2° incontro

Definition of principles with respect to the context
Operational actions for family impact

Tra 2° e 3° incontro

Proposal of items by the facilitators
Judgment on the clarity and usefulness of the items by the experts

3° incontro

Proofreading the checklist
Review of items
Identification of experts for validation

Definition and operationalization (with attention to the target and context)

1° round
11/2023
12/2023

Involvement of experts throughout Italy in the field of reference

Qualtrics questionnaire: judgment on the clarity of the items and proposed changes, reporting items to be eliminated

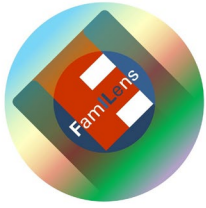
2° round
02/2023-03/2024

Checklist changes directly on One drive

Qualtrics Validation Questionnaire and Disposable Item Identifications
2 Amazon vouchers to all participants



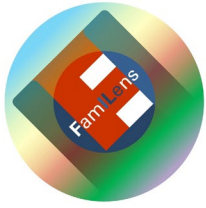
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The Multifaceted FamLens Project

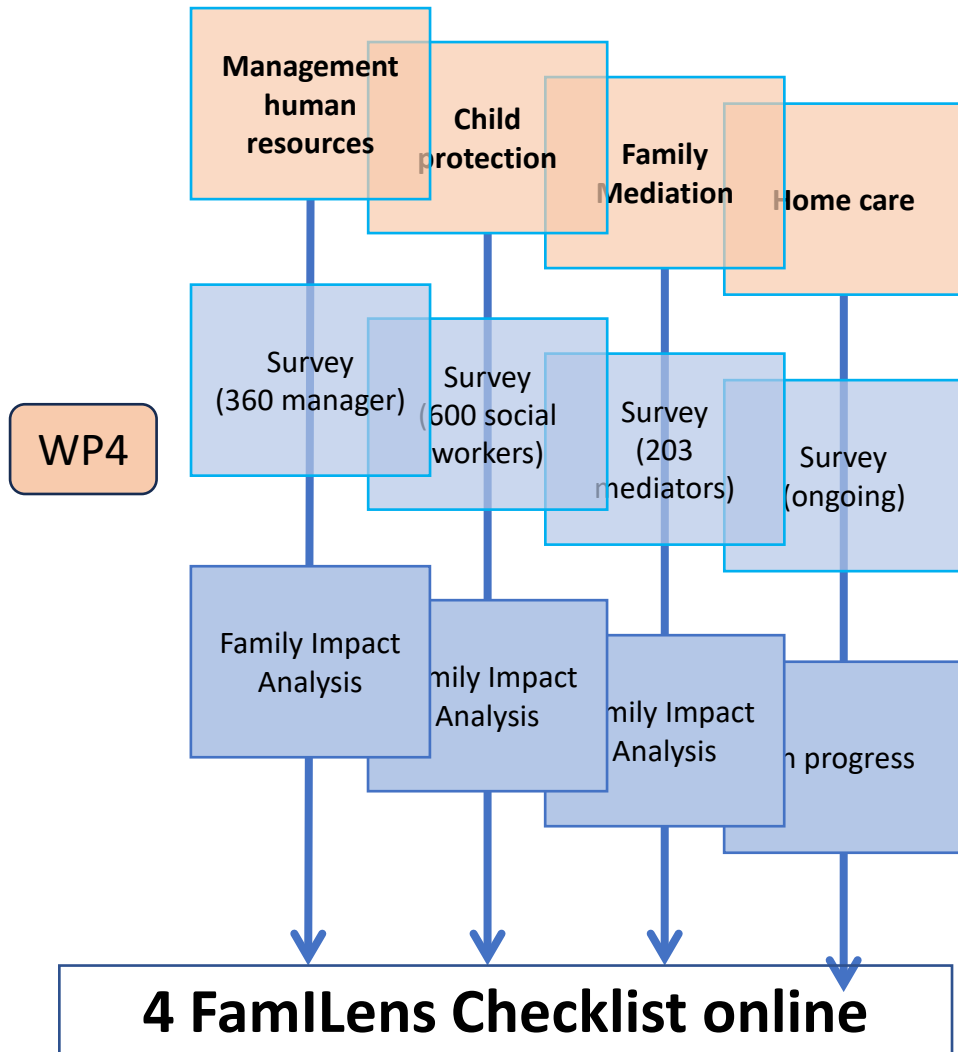
Data on the validation of Family Impact Checklists

GROUP	NUMBER OF EXPERTS AND NUMBER OF PROPOSED CHANGES	INITIAL ITEMS->ITEMS VALIDATED AFTER 2ND ROUND	DYNAMIC PREVAILING	PROPOSED FREQUENCY FOR USING THE TOOL
FAMILY MEDIATION	18 EXPERTS (5 dropout)→ 78 CHANGES	31-> 29	Average "transformative" High number of changes (Only 3 items not modified, 2 items deleted)	Semiannual/ annual
HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT	7 EXPERTS→ 27 CHANGES	33->34	Less "transformative" experts High number of changes (3 items added and 2 removed between 1st and 2nd round)	Annual
CHILD PROTECTION	17 EXPERTS (6 dropout) → 119 CHANGES	36->36	More "transformative" experts. Low number of changes (11 items proposed for exclusion, but then "preserved")	Any case/ every month
HOME CARE	15 EXPERTS (1 dropout)→ 36 CHANGES	29->29	Experts who are on average "transformative" High number of changes (14 items modified)	Semiannual/ annual

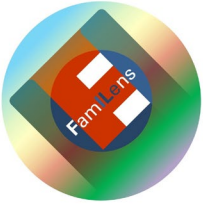


The Project Multifaceted FamLens

Family Impact Analysis con le checklist (WP4)



1. Content validity: Methodological review on items
2. Definition of structural variables to be added to the questionnaire
3. Selection of any measurement scales on constructs that you want to associate with the dimensions of the checklist
4. Façade validity: Preparation for pilot administration of the complete questionnaire to targets who had not participated in WP2 and WP3
5. Insertion of changes to the questionnaire following the pilot
6. Administration (Sampling, privacy, filters, control questions)
7. Calculation of final scores of the principles
8. Structure analysis (exploratory and confirmatory factor analyses)
9. Items analysis (missing, outliers, distribution)
10. Multivariate Analysis
11. Implementation of checklists on the IT platform



Ex. First results from the survey (1) HR management (n. 360)

Responsibility

4.32

Diversity

4.24

Stability

4.09

Family Relations

4.08

Networking

3.92

Envolvement

3.91

0

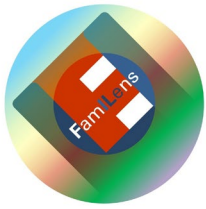
1.5

3

4.

Participation in the Family Impact Evaluation

	Strengths / Opportunities	Weaknesses / Criticalities
Onboarding	Autonomy, accessibility, and clarity for those familiar with the processes and framework	Risk of disorientation for those who are less familiar, objectives and roles that are not always clear
Selection of participants	Variety of approaches and experiences, participation on a voluntary basis	Selection effect; doubts about the democratic nature of the process
Dropout	Possibility to observe dynamics of participation and commitment over time	Abandonment of participants, reduced representativeness throughout the process
Digital research	Geographical accessibility, flexibility of time and use of collaborative tools (Teams, OneDrive, Jamboard)	Reduction of informal exchanges, digital exclusion, difficulty in maintaining engagement
Multivision	Enrichment of perspectives, multifaceted reading of services	Difficulties of synthesis and mediation, shared language to be built



Target of the family impact evaluation

More tools: For effective assessment, it is useful to use diversified tools to grasp the complexity of interventions on family systems.

Multiple informant: This means the collection of data from multiple points of view: not only from a single operator or beneficiary, but from different actors involved (operators with different roles, family members, project referents, etc.). It would be essential to understand how the service/intervention is perceived from within the family itself, not only from the operators.

Specificity of points of view: Operators evaluate different things: each operator has access and control over only some dimensions of the intervention (e.g. an educator sees relational aspects, an administrative one sees organizational ones). In addition, not all operators have the same possibilities of intervention (maneuver), and this also influences their perception of the impact.

In my/our company...

I believe that my service ...

**OPERATOR VS INSTITUTION
ACTIONS**

In the course of my activity as a family mediator...

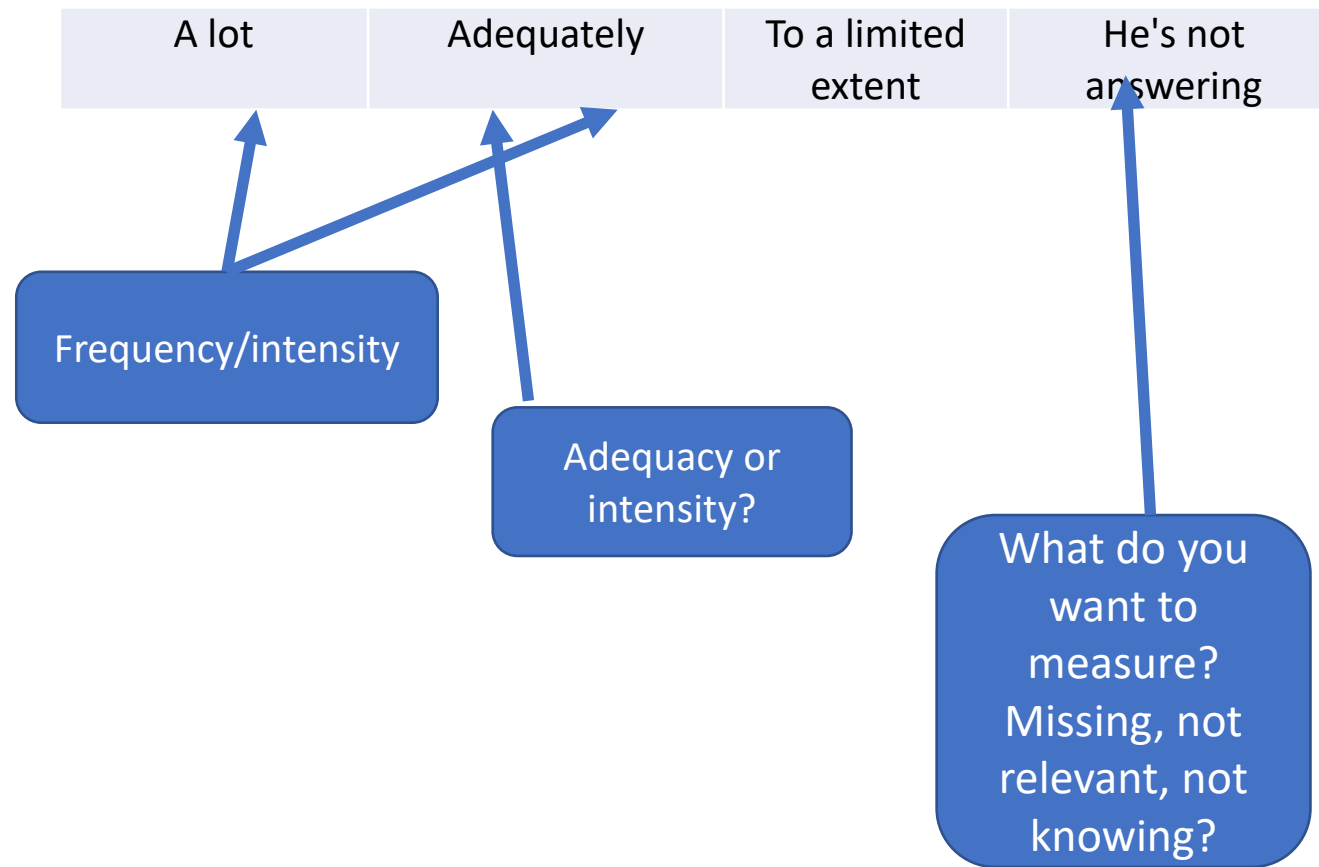
In the course of my home care activity...

AUTO VS HETERO RATING

Mixed method integration and validity of the Family Impact Evaluation

- **Mixed-methods:** qualitative ↔ quantitative (open Qs, pre-test, Likert, open survey)
- **Principle adaptation:** theory → experts → practitioners
- **Previous assessment tools:** guidelines, grids, operator instruments (when present)
- **Structural analysis:** item coherence, sub-dimensions, associations, regional/target differences
- **Operationalization & refinement:** clarify wording, reassign/move items, split double-meaning items, delete/revise where needed

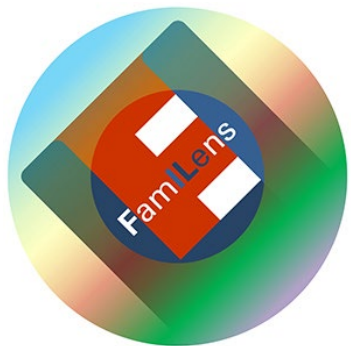
Response options and that measure different aspects





Conclusions and continuity

- **Good resilience of the evaluation model and its adaptation and integration**
- **Innovative and articulated research design for the first family impact analyses big project involving professionals throughout all Italy**
- **Challenging standards and non-standards in 4 heterogeneous contexts**
- **This think family perspective helps to overcome fragmentation and standardization, restoring centrality to the relational and dialogical dimension of local welfare.**



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Thank you!

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