

Is advice enough to improve child nutrition in Pakistan?

In Pakistan, more than a third of children under age 5 are stunted, or too short for their age. What interventions can tackle this problem? Researchers leading a SIEF-funded [evaluation in Pakistan](#) recently published a [paper](#) in the *American Journal of Public Health*, presenting results from a randomized control trial that tested three variants of a program of increasing complexity – one in which community health workers provided in-home growth monitoring and nutritional counselling, one in which an interactive growth chart was also installed in homes, and one in which both a growth chart and a small monthly cash transfer were added on to the home-based growth monitoring and nutritional counselling. Compared to a matched control group, the program variants reduced the prevalence of stunting by 10 percentage points on average. The findings suggest, however, that the program add-ons did not add value and that effects were driven by the simplest variant of the program, with impacts statistically indistinguishable across the different treatment groups.

Our collection of Evidence to Policy notes

Speaking of keeping it simple... our [Evidence to Policy](#) briefs take the findings of SIEF-funded studies and condense them into four-page notes. Take a look to quickly learn about results in [early childhood development](#), [education](#), [health](#), [water & sanitation](#), [social protection](#), and [skills & jobs](#).



