

Watch, Wait, and Wonder® Intervention

Introductory Training

A Dyadic Infant-led Approach to Problems
in Infancy and Early Childhood

12–14th November 2025

with Dr Denise Guy and Marion Doherty
Maximum participants 16

This Intervention directly involves the infant in therapy. For half the session the parent is asked to get down on the floor with his/her infant, to observe the activities that their infant introduces, and to interact only when the infant indicates they want the parent to interact. During the second half of the session the parent is asked to talk about what they have observed about their infant's activity, their infant, and their own experiences during the session.

The primary idea is to place the parent in the position of becoming more knowing about their infant. This supports a parent developing their own way of relating and becoming comfortable and confident in their capacity to resolve difficulties in the relationship with their infant. The infant, too, uses play and activity to master difficulties in relation to the parent. Although some parents talk about their early relationships with their own parents, this is not necessary for the therapy to be effective.

The Watch, Wait, and Wonder® intervention research has evidence demonstrating its capacity to improve the child's self-regulation, cognitive development and attachment security, and parent's levels of depression and sense of competency in their parenting.

This intervention is applied to a range of infants and young children with relational, behavioural, regulatory, and developmental difficulties.

It is recommended for clinicians who are working with infants, pre-schoolers, and their families and who preferably [but not necessarily] have psychotherapy experience.

Goals of the Training

- To provide participants with a basic theoretical and technical foundation in the Watch, Wait, and Wonder® Intervention as researched and manualised.
- Discuss how to create the therapeutic space for the WWW Intervention
- To view film of WWW Intervention case work and with the training group, be introduced to the process of observing, and reflecting on the dyad's experience and their own experience.
- Discuss how to explore the particular difficulties in the process of following the infant/child, and dyad's lead.
- To address supervision needs for those participants who wish to incorporate the WWW Intervention into their practice fulfilling the recommended standards for independent practice [Lojkasek, Cohen and Muir; 1999]

Participants will be asked to do some filming prior to the course. A copy of the Watch, Wait, and Wonder® Manual will be provided at the training.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Pilot Study WWW Intervention: Muir E., Stupples A. and Guy D. [1986-1988] Presented WAIMH Congress, Lugano 1990

Evaluations comparing WWW Intervention and Psychodynamic Parent-Infant Psychotherapy: Before, After and at 6 Months Cohen N., Lojkasek M., Muir E., Muir R., and Parker C.J. [1999 and 2002]

Manual describing the WWW Intervention: Muir E., Lojkasek M. and Cohen N. [1999]

Guy D. and Doherty M. (2024) Watch, Wait, and Wonder in *Psychological Treatment Approaches for Young Children and Their Families*. Edited by Stiefel I., Brand M. & Hanstock T. Australian Academic Press

Watch, Wait and Wonder Intervention Training

www.watchwaitwonderdownunder.com

www.watchwaitandwonder.com

Trainers

Denise Guy ONZM

Dr Denise Guy is a Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist with specialty expertise in Infant and Young Children's Mental Health.

She was involved with the Pilot Study of WWW Intervention [1986-7] and has continued clinical use of the intervention since then. She supervises its use in New Zealand and Australia and coordinates training in Australasia.

Marion Doherty

Marion Doherty is a Consultant Clinical Psychologist, the coordinator of Koanga Tupu (Infant Mental Health Team - Kari Centre) and the Vice President of IMHAANZ (Infant Mental Health Association Aotearoa New Zealand). She has been specialising in work with infants/young children under 4yrs and their parents/caregivers for the past 13 years and supervises other infant mental health clinicians.

Registration Form

Name: _____

Position: _____

Work Address: _____

Mobile: _____

Email: _____

Dietary Requirements: _____

Email this completed registration form to incrediblefamiliesnz@gmail.com

Cost: NZ dollars.

Three-day training + Manual + GST	\$1,217.39 + \$182.61 GST
Total fees	\$1,400.00

Watch, Wait and Wonder® Intervention Training in Australasia is provided by Incredible Families. This Charitable Trust also provides Incredible Years parenting programmes, the Incredible Years Autism programme, and Incredible Beginnings.

Dr Denise Guy is a Trustee of the Organisation.

Payment: *Internet Banking Preferred*

Internet Banking Account: 38-9005-0654004-00
Account: Incredible Families
Specify Transaction: WWW Intro, Name and/or Organisation

Incredible Families Charitable Trust GST Number
93 693 523

Payment by invoice:

An invoice will be issued on receipt of an official, authorized purchase order.

Final Registration

The final registration date is 18th October 2025.

The course is limited to 16 participants and your application will be accepted on receipt of course fees.

General enquiries to Jane Dunbier: Administrator for Incredible Families incrediblefamiliesnz@gmail.com

Training enquiries to:

contact@watchwaitwonderdownunder.com or
denise.guy@xtra.co.nz

Cancellation Policy:

An administration fee of \$50 NZ will be charged for all cancellations. For a refund, notice of cancellation must be received in writing on or before 24th October 2025. We regret that a refund cannot be offered after the cancellation deadline. In the event that there are insufficient numbers confirmed by 17th October Incredible Families will either, run a shorter course for fewer participants or defer the course to a later date. If the latter a full refund of fees will be made.

Times and Location:

The Training will take place at St. Andrews on The Terrace Conference venue, 30 The Terrace, Wellington. The course is fully catered. The days will begin at 9.00am and end at 5pm. A map with directions will be emailed with your confirmation letter before the training begins.



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