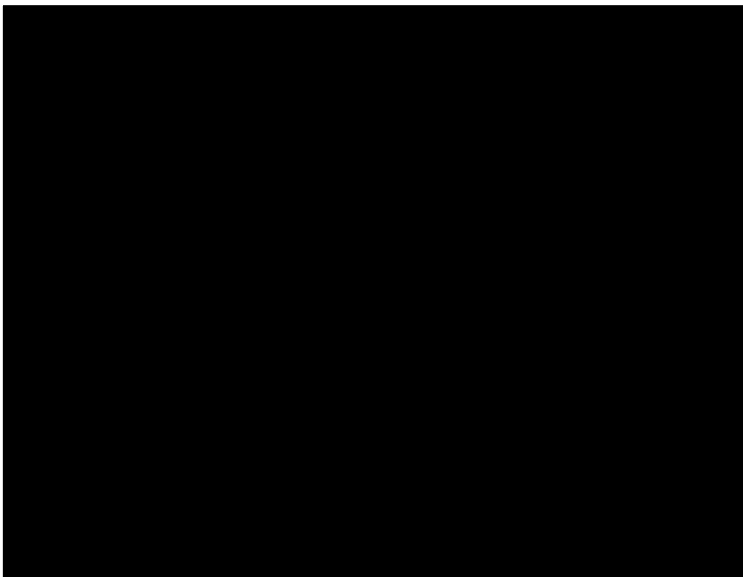


Accounting for Quality in the Early Childhood Workforce: The Role of Quality Ratings and Improvement Systems

Michal Perlman

Applied Psychology and Human Development,
OISE, University of Toronto

Quality Assurance in ECEC: Quality Ratings Systems



Common restaurant rating system

Current status of QRIS in the United States



Assessment for Quality Improvement

Perlman, Brunsek, Hepditch,
Gray, & Falenchuck, (2016)

Perlman & Falenchuk (2010)



Assessment for Quality Improvement (AQI)

Global measure of structural and process quality

Three versions:

- Preschool

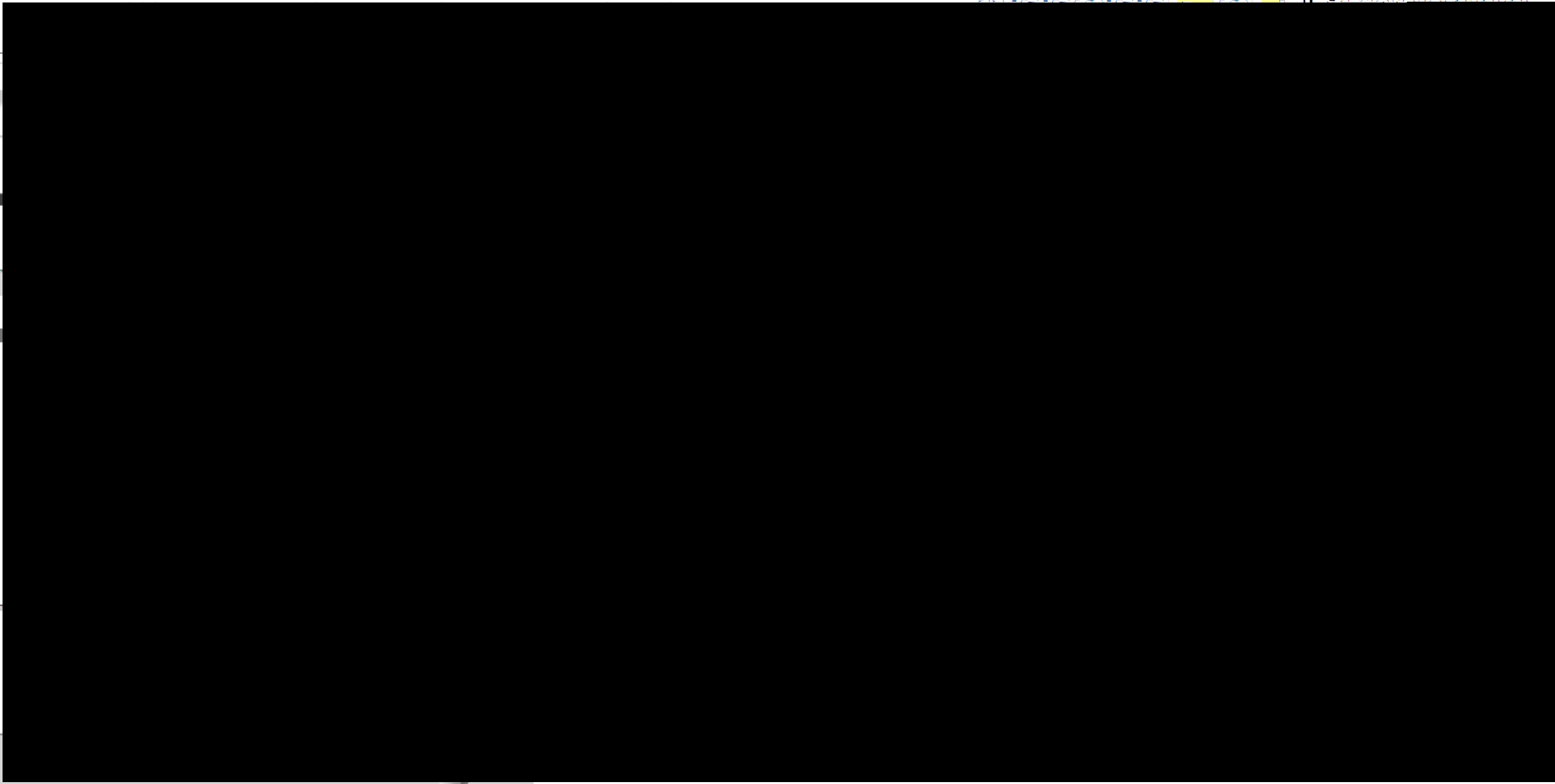
- Infant/Toddler

- Home Child Care

Range from 24 – 43 items

Currently on 5-point scale (validation work for preschool version was done on a 4-point scale)

Approximately 90-minutes to administer per classroom, so more efficient than other measures (e.g., ECERS-R or CLASS)



Concurrent Validation Study of the AQI in Centres

A sample of 240 centres per version, randomly selected
IRT Analyses, Strong psychometric properties

| | ECERS-R Total | CLASS Emotional Support | CLASS Classroom Organization | CLASS Instructional Support |
|---------------|------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| AQI Preschool | .61** | .39** | .36** | .47** |

** p<.01

Challenges

Some of the constructs we are most interested in measuring are very hard to measure

Tensions between measurement for accountability purposes and for quality improvement

Stressful for ECEC workforce

