



Update for ACT and VIC Partners: September 2014

Dear Partners,

Welcome! This newsletter is to provide an update on the progress for the kContact study.

In our last newsletter in May, we provided a progress report on the literature search and invited stakeholders to participate in interviews to direct the content of the guidelines. These guidelines will be published at the end of the research project and will set out recommendations for good contact practice and the evidence they are based on.

Progress

- A draft literature review to inform the guidelines has been completed.
- Two workshops were held in August with our stakeholder staff in the ACT and Victoria to present the preliminary literature review, interview findings, and obtain input on key components for the intervention.
- The preliminary literature review findings were presented at the Association of Children's Welfare Agencies Conference in August 2014.
- A small number of key stakeholders have participated in interviews to help further direct the content of the guidelines. These have included parents, carers and young people.
- The ethics application was submitted to the ACU Human Research Ethics Committee for stage two of the study.
- Research approval was obtained from DHS in Victoria to conduct interviews and obtain data for stage one.
- Rhys Thorpe completed and received his confirmation of candidature for his PhD project.

What we hope to achieve over the next few months...

- Develop the proposed intervention (practice enhancement) to be trialled and finalise the questionnaires to be used.
- Complete key stakeholder interviews and integrate content into the draft guidelines.
- Hold an expert panel session to review the background document for the guidelines and develop the intervention (practice enhancement) to be trialled.
- Children's reference group will be held to develop the methodology for the children's study in the ACT.

Save the date

For members of the Stakeholder Advisory Groups we have scheduled our next meetings for:

Victoria: 7 October 2014, 9.15am -10.45am

ACT: 18 November 2014, 11am – 12.30pm

Please contact us if there are any issues or concerns in the meantime. Morag, Stephanie, Cathy, Tracey, Margaret, Simon and Rhys.

Project Team

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