

Appendix 3

Criteria for selecting topics

There were a number of criteria used for selecting the topic for each practice resource. These included:

- *Importance of the issue in relation to children's health and development*

There are a number of issues that are very prevalent and impact both on the immediate health and development of the child as well as the impact over the life course.
- *Provider need*

Through various forums providers have requested easier access to research based information that will assist directly in their daily interactions with children and families.
- *Community need*

Around Australia there is increasing community activity focusing on early childhood. A number of these communities have begun to articulate the desire to support families more effectively through providing services that engage in family centred practice and use research based strategies to address issues that concern parents.
- *Parent need and concern*

National consultations have highlighted the issues that parents want more information about. In addition, Australian research has shown that there are a small number of issues that cause parents the most concern about their children.
- *Perceived gap between evidence and practice*

There are a number of areas of practice which in general do not reflect research evidence in spite of sound evidence from that research.
- *Can be readily incorporated into routine practice*

The primary aim of each resource is to assist professionals in their interactions with children and families. Priority was given to issues about which strategies could be relatively easily incorporated into practice.
- *No duplicating of effort*

Consideration was given to whether issues had been addressed elsewhere in similar ways for the same audience.