

COMMITTEE-IN-CONFIDENCE

**Health and Wellbeing Check for Three Year Olds Expert Group  
MINUTES  
Meeting 3  
Friday, 30 March 2012**

**Scarborough House, Level 1, Conference Room 3,  
Department of Health and Ageing, Canberra**

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Friday, 30 March 2012, 9:30am- 4:15pm

**Members**

Professor Frank Oberklaid (Chair)  
Dr Elisabeth Murphy (Deputy Chair)  
Professor Lyn Littlefield  
Dr Michael Fasher  
Dr Elspeth McInnes  
Professor Helen Milroy (via teleconference 10:00am-3pm)  
Dr Jan Pratt  
Dr Cathrine Neilsen-Hewett  
Professor Sue Kruske  
Professor Stewart Einfeld  
Ms Christine Long, APHDPC representative  
Ms Pam Cahir (apology)

**Department of Health and Ageing**

Ms Sue Campion, A/g First Assistant Secretary, Mental Health and Drug Treatment Division  
(present 9:30am-12:30pm)  
Mr David Mackay, Assistant Secretary, Mental Health Early Intervention and Prevention  
Branch  
Ms Tracy Thompson, Director, Medicare Financing and Analysis GP, Nursing and  
Midwifery Section (present 11:00am-12:30pm)

**Secretariat –Department of Health and Ageing, Child Mental Health Section**

Ms Renaye Lucchese, Director  
Mr Bruce Hogbin  
Ms Karen Dobinson  
Ms Natalie Bortolotto

**The meeting commenced at 9:30am.**

**ITEM 1. ADMINISTRATION**

**Item 1.1 Welcome and Conflicts of Interest**

- The Chair welcomed members and advised apologies.
- The Chair invited members to raise any perceived or actual conflicts of interest in addition to those previously noted. There were no conflicts of interest raised.

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Decision/s

- Members **NOTED** apologies.

**Item 1.2 Minutes and Action list**

- The Chair tabled the minutes and action list and invited comments from members.
- There were no comments from members.

Decision/s

- Members **ENDORSED** the minutes and action list from the second meeting.

**ITEM 2. OVERVIEW**

**Item 2.1 Briefing: overview of progress against work priorities**

- The Chair invited Mr David Mackay to speak to this item.
- An update was provided on progress against the work priorities.
- The process for advice to Minister Butler was outlined with a letter/report from the Chair to be provided at the conclusion of formal meetings, detailing the expert group's final recommendations.

Decision/s

- Members **AGREED** to recommendations being provided to the Minister through a letter/report from the Chair.

**Item 2.2 Briefing and discussion: domains and indicators**

- The Chair invited Ms Renaye Lucchese to speak to this item.
- An overview of the various sources of information for health providers was outlined including item descriptors and supporting documentation (checklist).
- Members indicated that social/emotional/behavioural and language/cognition are domains that cannot be considered in isolation from each other.

Decision/s

Action/s

**ITEM 3. DISCUSSION: EMOTIONAL WELLBEING AND DEVELOPMENT INDICATORS OF THE CHECK**

- The Chair introduced the agenda item and invited members to discuss indicators.
- Members noted the four indicators under the Australian Early Development Index (AEDI), 'Emotional maturity' domain used to assess five year old children, and the

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Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) developmental milestones for social and environmental development in three year olds.

- Members discussed the appropriateness of 'hyperactivity' as an indicator. Concerns were raised about its interpretation as a diagnosis rather than a behavioural symptom, and there was a preference for the term 'over-activity' instead.
- Dr Cathrine Neilsen-Hewett was invited to present on the predictors of social-emotional outcomes and indicators appropriate for the target age of three years.
- Members agreed on seven indicators for emotional wellbeing and development across social/emotional/behavioural and language/cognition domains which cannot be separated.
  1. Social confidence;
  2. Self-regulation;
  3. Aggressive behaviour;
  4. Anxious behaviour;
  5. Language/cognition: expressive, speech and cognitive development;
  6. Family issues; and
  7. Environment.
- Members suggested including a probing question for health practitioners for example, 'do you have any further concerns about your child's behaviour?'
- Members also discussed the family/environment domain which may include a prompt for health practitioners to review or note possible risk factors such as domestic violence.

### Decision/s

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#### ITEM 4. DISCUSSION: EARLY CHILDHOOD SCREENING TOOLS

- The Chair invited Dr Neilsen-Hewett to speak to this item.
- Important key features of early childhood screening tools were outlined. This included scope of measure: single versus multidimensional, suitability to population (cultural sensitivity), validity and reliability, implementation characteristics (scoring time and ease), level of training and psychometric properties.
- Professor Oberklaid discussed the qualities of the Parents' Evaluation of Developmental Status (PEDS). Professor Kruske suggested the PEDS Developmental Milestones (PEDS:DM) and recommended it for its ease of use for other health practitioners. Members requested a copy of the PEDS:DM for further examination.
- Professor Lyn Littlefield and Dr Neilsen-Hewett noted the limited coverage on emotional wellbeing and development in the PEDS and PEDS:DM.
- Members noted that the PEDS and PEDS:DM were designed to be used in conjunction and agreed further discussion is required on valid tools for assessment of emotional wellbeing and development.

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- Ms Tracy Thompson reminded the expert group of the specific pre-assessment screening tool the Australian Type 2 Diabetes Risk Assessment Tool (AUSDRISK), undertaken as a precursor to the Medicare Type 2 Diabetes Risk Evaluation. Ms Thompson advised the item has had very low uptake (3% of the eligible population) and that any item that is complex is a deterrent for GPs. Members requested a copy of the AUSDRISK.
- Members were provided a copy of the AUSDRISK, PEDS:DM Family Book. Professor Oberklaid also distributed a Parent Engagement Resource, by the Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne and Victorian Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

### Decision/s

- Members **NOTED** the PEDS:DM Family Book, AUSDRISK and the Parent Engagement Resource.

### Action/s

- Secretariat circulated copies of the PEDS:DM Family Book and AUSDRISK.
- Members **AGREED** to establish a working group to progress work on the assessment of emotional wellbeing and development, led by Professor Oberklaid.

## ITEM 5. DISCUSSION: LINKAGES TO OTHER PROJECTS

- The Chair invited Professor Lyn Littlefield to speak to this item.
- A draft map of referral pathways, programs, agencies, training and services linking to the three year old health check was outlined in a diagram.
- Members agreed that the draft map of linkages might be developed into a template that could be provided to Medicare Locals and other service providers for the purpose of local service mapping.
- Members agreed for Professor Littlefield to work with the secretariat to produce the next draft map of linkages.

### Decision/s

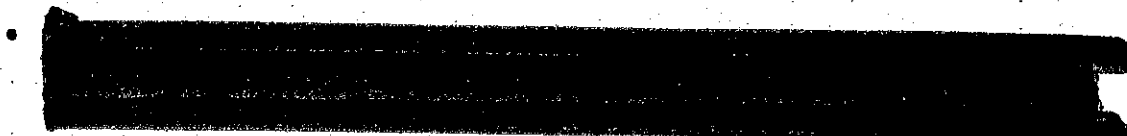
- Members **AGREED** for Professor Littlefield to work with secretariat to develop the next draft map of linkages to the expanded Medicare Healthy Kids Check.

### Action/s

- Members **AGREED** to establish a working group to progress a template for local mapping of programs, services and referral pathways linking to the expanded Medicare Healthy Kids Check, led by Professor Littlefield.

## ITEM 6. OTHER BUSINESS, NEXT MEETING

- Members discussed options to test the useability of the check with GPs/other health practitioners.



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[REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
- Members discussed consulting with the Australian Medical Association and the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners on the training resource to support implementation and quality assurance.
- Members noted the training resource should be available online, and be multidisciplinary - appropriate for GPs and other health practitioners, such as child and family health nurses.
- Members discussed an initial list of inclusions for the training package:
  - child development – including social/emotional development;
  - cultural sensitivity;
  - intersection with mandated activities – child protection; and
  - overview of key domains.
- Members agreed to establish a working group to progress work on the training resource by identifying learning objectives, led by Dr Michael Fasher.

**Decision/s**

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

**Action/s**

- Members **AGREED** to establish a working group to progress work on the training resource by identifying learning objectives, led by Dr Fasher.

- [REDACTED]

- Members were advised to work on the assumption that the next meeting is the final meeting, with time for a June contingency meeting if required.
- The Chair proposed Friday 18 May 2012 for the next meeting.

**Decision/s**

- Members **NOTED** the next meeting scheduled for 18 May 2012 as the final meeting.

The meeting closed at 3:30pm.

**List of acronyms**

AUSDRISK	Australian Type 2 Diabetes Risk Assessment Tool
PEDS	Parents' Evaluation of Developmental Status
PEDS:DM	Parents' Evaluation of Developmental Status: Developmental Milestones