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**Embedding evidence-informed practice in the Victorian child and family service system**

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**Objectives/aims**

To strengthen families and help more children grow up in a safe and nurturing environment, the Victorian Government is undertaking a bold new redesign of its child and family system. A unified practice framework for child and family services is being developed to underpin the reformed service system. It will contribute to a consistent approach for assessment, planning, action and review activities based on a common understanding of needs and risk across the system.

The development of the unified practice framework is a unique opportunity to embed evidence-informed practices in service delivery that will support sustained and meaningful engagement and improve outcomes for vulnerable children and families.

**Methods**

Stage one (to be completed by July 2018) involves the systematic identification of evidence-informed practices that could support the delivery of child and family services.

Consultation with the sector is critical input into the selection of these practices. Once the have been selected, practice and implementation models, and an implementation readiness checklist will be developed for each practice.

Stage two (completed by December 2018) involves the testing the evidence-informed practices in a variety of service settings to further refine the practice and implementation models. This includes establishing data collections that will enable ongoing monitoring of implementation and impact.

**Main findings**

We will present on the outcomes of stage one including the practices selected and the feedback from the sector, and the early findings from the commencement of stage two including the testing methodology and initial results.