Evidence-based Practice and Practice-based Evidence:

Challenges and opportunities for maternal and child health

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Framework: the starting point

- Focusing on the development of partnerships with families, communities, service providers and State and Local Government including a family centred approach to practice and partnership with state and local government
- Focusing on universal access and participation for all children through key age and state visits
- Providing services for children and families recognising a continuum of need

- Focusing on prevention, promotion, early detection and intervention of health and wellbeing needs of children
- Local planning, flexibility and collaboration
- Support to provide a quality service
Levels of Intervention: Points of Attack

Hertzman, 2004

civil society, universal
targeted, clinical
vulnerability threshold

% of Children

Low

High
Program resource guide: an opportunity

- Activities at each age and stage visit
- Data collection guidelines
- Performance measures and targets
Many questions

- How does the resource guide link to the activities outlined in the strategic framework?
- How does the “work” of the MCHN articulate with other relevant policy initiatives in Victoria?
- What are the best practice principles that should underline the work of the MCHN?
- What are the best evidence based activities that could take place at each visit?
- How can data collection be maximised to include service, administrative and population data?
KAS: the context for maternal and child health practice

- Family Centred
- Evidence based
- Focused on promotion and prevention
Each KAS visit:

- Response to concern elicited about the health and development of the child, the parent and the family and then addressed through information, counselling, referral=family centred approach
- Promotion and prevention activity (anticipatory guidance)
- Responsive written information for parent (that reinforces visit’s messages-responsive and anticipatory guidance and might include information for the child health record)
- Trigger questions for interventions
- Data entry: population health and service delivery data variables
‘The gap between what we know and what we don’t know is much less than the gap between what we know and what we do.’

Don Berwick
Not everything that is faced
Can be changed
But nothing can be changed
Until it is faced

James Baldwin 1924-87