



The national COPMI initiative Research and Evaluation Consultation Group Terms of Reference

Desired Outcome:

The role of the national COPMI initiative *Research and Evaluation Consultation Group* is to provide advice regarding the development of accessible information

- to assist service planners and practitioners to implement evidence-based practice in relation to children and families affected by parental mental illness
- to assist service planners and practitioners to evaluate their programs and services for children and/or families affected by parental mental illness.

The Key Performance Indicator for this area of work within the COPMI initiative will be a reported

- increased availability of information regarding the efficacy of programs services and/or approaches that promote factors to enhance children's resilience and reduce risk factors for children in relation to parental mental illness
- increased access for program facilitators to knowledge, skills and evaluation personnel regarding research literature and evaluation methods, models and techniques.

Processes*:

The Consultation Groups will achieve this outcome by:

- providing advice regarding the possible content and format of defined resources,
- participating in 'review and comment' on documents and other resources during their development phase.

Members of the Consultation Group will generally communicate by e-mail.

Resources sent to members (documents, trial website pages etc.) will be clearly identified as either 'For Information' or 'For Comment'. Any information requiring comment will be sent at least 14 days before the due date for feedback.

Employed professional members of the Consultation Group will participate without remuneration. Appropriate arrangements will be made to support consumers and carers to participate.

*NB: The processes used by the group will be regularly reviewed to ensure that they are 'user friendly' for members.

Chair:

The Co-Chairs of the Research and Evaluation Consultation Group are Dr. Andrea Reupert and Dr. Darryl Maybery.

Accountability:

The Consultation Group, via the Chairs, is accountable to the Chair, AICAFMHA Board of Directors, Philip Robinson. Consultation Group members may contact Philip Robinson directly (robinsonp@aicafmha.net.au) if they have issues of concern which they have been unable to resolve to their satisfaction with the Consultation Group Chairs.

Members:

Consultation Group members will represent a variety of 'end-user' groups, and/or areas of expertise. Where specific expertise is unavailable from the membership, that expertise will be sought from outside of the membership.

It is expected that a range of Australian states/territories will be represented where possible. Specialist expertise from outside of Australia will be sought by the Consultation Group as required.

Membership as at 28/05/08

Adrian Falkov, Alison Soutter, Brenda Dobia, Bridget Dillon, Carly Dolinski, Carol Clark, Catherine Renkin, David Hay, Ellie Hodges, Erica Pitman, Sabin Fernbacher, Fiona Simpson, Graham Vimpani, Harry Sivic, Ingrid Vet, Janne McMahon, Joanne Nicholson, Katharina Verscharen, Robert Lees, Libby Beyerle, Margaret Wells, Melissa Ruscoe, Moira McGuire, Nick Kowalenko, Patricia Masterson, Rose Cuff, Ruth Lange, Sandy Allen, Vicki Cowling.

Key Performance Indicators for the Research and Evaluation Consultation Group:

Increased access by the COPMI Team to significant advice (in the areas of lived experience, research and practice knowledge) that assists in achieving the goals for this area.

A reported satisfaction by members* with their opportunities to

- provide advice regarding the possible content and format of defined resources,
- participate in 'review and comment' on documents and other resources during their development phase, and

A reported perception by members* that the activities of the group have and will contribute to

- increased availability of information regarding the efficacy of programs services and/or approaches that promote factors to enhance children's resilience and reduce risk factors for children in relation to parental mental illness
- increased access for program facilitators to knowledge, skills and evaluation personnel regarding research literature and evaluation methods, models and techniques.

*NB: All members will be asked to provide feedback on these indicators at the end of the calendar years 2008 and 2009 and in mid-2010 (when funding for the current initiative concludes).

Terms of Reference Endorsed: 24/6/08 (by national COPMI Reference Group)

Review Date: 24/6/09