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Family Outcome Measure (FOM):

pre and post intervention assessment

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Family Outcome Measure

- Background
- Rationale and History
- Development
- Trialling
- Dependability and trustworthiness (validation)

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Background

- Capturing client outcome information
- Outcomes for families receiving intensive family support
  - Relationships, parenting, social and financial wellbeing, family safety
- North Carolina Family Assessment Scale (NCFAS)
- FOM developed to document changes to families
  - By logic an indication that future contact with CP reduced

Rationale

- The Practices of Family Support
  - engagement, assessment, case plan design, case management, closure
- Monitoring and Evaluation of the practice
  - Case plan design and management to completion (goal attainment)
  - Now; engagement, assessment, closure (short, medium and long term outcomes)
- Changes to the notion of 'successful intervention'
  - throughputs to outcomes
- Outcomes and their measurement
  - Queensland context – appropriate for Indigenous families
  - NCFAS and Family Centred assessment
    - Buy in and cultural appropriateness

History

- Prevention and Early interventions trial and pilot evaluation
- Outcome projects
  - design, process, product
- Outcome measures
  - FDI2 database, measures
- Reflection
  - Alignment with practice
  - Training for consistency

Development

- Working Groups
  - Initial working group
  - Trial working group
- FOM Tool
- FOM definitions and manual

Dependability and Trustworthiness (Validation)

- Process
  - Literature review
    - like assessments issues, collaborative assessment issues, inter-rater reliability issues, qualitative/quantitative issues
  - Community acceptance trialling (content validity)
    - acceptable practice issues, consistency issues (Trial Survey Analysis)
  - Theoretical acceptance (construct validity)
    - Acceptable measure of family functioning – comparing with 'like' assessments
  - Reliability
    - Minimising degrees of difference in assessments that are beyond the differences of the groups of families and assessors.

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Steps in Development

- Literature Review and further Research
- Use and acceptance testing
  - Working groups and trailing with a variety of services
  - interviews and observations of case workers (10% of sample)
- Test against data capture
  - FOM measurements against family presenting factors
- Development of Training packages
  - Training and accreditation to develop consistency

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Thank-you

- Availability of the trial tool and definitions:
  - Intellectual property rests with the Queensland Department of Communities
  - Requests to terrence.obrien@communities.qld.gov.au Ph +61 7 3247 3232

- Questions?

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