Early Childhood Home Visitation: To Prevent Violence by Children

Task Force Finding

Intervention Definition

Home visitation programs aim to reduce violent acts by visited children by improving the quality of the relationship between child and parents through (1) guidance and examples of child care that visitors provide to parents, and (2) strengthening of social support for parents.

Task Force Finding (February 2002)*

Available evidence is insufficient to determine the effectiveness of home visitation programs for the prevention of child violence, because the small number of studies provided inconsistent findings.

*From the following publication:

Task Force on Community Preventive Services. Recommendations to reduce violence through early childhood home visitation, therapeutic foster care, and firearms laws. *Am J Prev Med* 2005;28(2S1):6-10.

Publications

Bilukha O, Hahn RA, Crosby A, et al. The effectiveness of early childhood home visitation in preventing violence: a systematic review. *Am J Prev Med* 2005;28(2S1):11-39.

CDC. First reports evaluating the effectiveness of strategies for preventing violence: early childhood home visitation: findings from the Task Force on Community Preventive Services

[www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5214a1.htm]. MMWR 2003;52(RR-14):1-9.

Task Force on Community Preventive Services. Recommendations to reduce violence through early childhood home visitation, therapeutic foster care, and firearms laws. *Am J Prev Med* 2005;28(2S1):6-10.

Task Force on Community Preventive Services. Violence. In: Zaza S, Briss PA, Harris KW, eds. *The Guide to Community Preventive Services: What Works to Promote Health?* Atlanta (GA): Oxford University Press;2005:329-84 (Out of Print).

Disclaimer

The findings and conclusions on this page are those of the Community Preventive Services Task Force and do not necessarily represent those of CDC. Task Force evidence-based recommendations are not mandates for compliance or spending. Instead, they provide information and options for decision makers and stakeholders to consider when determining which programs, services, and policies best meet the needs, preferences, available resources, and constraints of their constituents.

Document last updated September 27, 2013