

The **National Clearinghouse on Autism Evidence and Practice** (NCAEP) is conducting a systematic review of the current intervention literature targeting individuals on the autism spectrum. NCAEP is a continuation of the evidence review that was completed by the National Professional Development Center on Autism Spectrum Disorders which included research published through 2011. We will review research studies published in the last five years (2012-2017) which examine the impact of behavioral, educational, clinical, and developmental practices and service models used with individuals on the autism spectrum from birth through age 21.

Why a Clearinghouse? Identifying evidence-based practices (EBPs) is important for the field and provides guidance and support for many, including:



Individuals on the autism spectrum and their families. Identification of EBPs allows individuals and families to better advocate for the best possible support and education based on current research.



Educators and practitioners in schools and the community. Identification of EBPs allows educators and practitioners to select the appropriate interventions based on the age, needs, and outcomes of those they serve.



Researchers. Identification of EBPs allows researchers to better understand and identify research gaps and plan for future studies.



Advocacy groups and policy makers. Identification of EBPs allows advocates and policy makers to make informed decisions about practices and policies that will benefit individuals on the autism spectrum.



Health care providers and insurance companies. Identification of EBPs allows health care providers and insurance companies to appropriately identify a range of EBPs that can be provided, funded, and/or reimbursed for individuals across the spectrum and their families.

The findings from the initial review have been disseminated broadly in several formats, including online training modules. We are currently updating the modules for each of the original 27 evidence-based practices. These modules are called **Autism Focused Intervention Resources and Modules** (AFIRM). AFIRM Modules are designed to help practitioners learn the step-by-step process of planning for, using, and monitoring EBPs with learners with autism from birth through age 21. Supplemental materials and handouts are also available for download.

AFIRM by the Numbers

27 Evidence-Based Practices	More than 3 million page views
More than 31,000 registered users	More than 265,000 downloads

Learn more at ncaep.fpg.unc.edu and afirm.fpg.unc.edu