

Focus Group Question Guide

1. Please can you describe your child for us:
 - a. What is most important to you about your child's growth?
 - b. What are your short-term goals for your child?
 - c. What are your long-term goals for your child?
2. Does your child use any services for their autism?
 - a. What types of services does your child use?
 - b. What do you like or not like about these services?
 - c. What types of services would you like your child to receive?
 - d. What would the "best" autism service look like?
 - e. How useful are services for children with autism when they are very young?
3. We are interested in finding out more about how you play with your child.
 - a. Do you play with your child?
 - b. Are there other adults besides you that play with your child?
 - c. Can you tell us about the games you or other adults play with your child?
 - d. How do you know your child is having fun when you play with them?
4. What would you think about being taught how to do therapy with your child?
 - a. Would you be interested in learning how to do this type of therapy with your child?
 - b. What do you think would be easy about learning how to do this therapy with your child?
 - c. What do you think would be hard about learning how to do this therapy with your child?
 - d. What would you think about someone coming into your home to teach you how to do this with your child?
5. How do you think the following things would be important when making an autism treatment for families in South Africa?
 - a. Culture
 - b. Language
 - c. Where you get the treatment
 - d. Cost of the treatment
 - e. Who teaches you (for e.g. speech therapist or occupational therapist or community health worker)
 - f. How you already parent your child
 - g. How much time it takes to learn
 - h. How much support you have from your partner or other family members
 - i. Proof that the treatment works
 - j. How the treatment fits with your family needs
6. How do you feel about the use of video clips or photographs from local families who have helped us in our research? Is it useful or not useful? Appropriate or not appropriate?
7. Is there anything we missed?