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personnel can measure progress toward each guideline. [Application: This guiding principle is reflected in the Indicators of the JDTC Guidelines, and the Court Self-Assessment.]

Defining the Core Elements of the Guidelines

Based on the findings from research reviews and expert feedback, Phase 1 of the initiative involved the establishment of four core elements included in the JDTC Guidelines:

- *Map of Objectives and Guideline Statements*—An organizing framework that includes the key components of a juvenile drug treatment court and substance use treatment in juvenile courts.
- *Guideline Statement*—A concise, action-oriented statement.
- *Research Evidence and Practice Considerations*—Definitional or descriptive statements that clarify and promote understanding of each *Guideline Statement*. These statements may include discussions regarding how implementation may vary in practice.
- *Guideline Indicators*—Performance measurement benchmarks relevant to each *Guideline Statement*. Given the close relationship between performance measurement and testing, these were developed as part of the project’s Phase 2 and, like other core elements of the Guidelines, were informed by the reviews of research and practice conducted in Phase 1.

Establishing the Research Evidence Base for the Reexamination of the JDTC Guidelines

Conducting Systematic Research Review

To augment the evidence base for the reexamination of the Guideline Statements, we conducted a systematic review to update findings from a prior meta-analysis on juvenile drug treatment courts that synthesized research evidence from 1989–2014.⁴ The methods of the new systematic review followed the methodological expectations for the conduct of systematic reviews as outlined by the Campbell Collaboration.⁵ The full report for this review, which provides detailed descriptions of findings and the associated methodologies, will be available at <https://www.ncjrs.gov>.

⁴ Tanner-Smith, E. E., Lipsey, M. W., & Wilson, D. B. (2016). Juvenile drug court effects on recidivism and drug use: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *Journal of Experimental Criminology*, 12(4), 477–513. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11292-016-9274-y>

⁵ See the Methodological Expectations of Campbell Collaboration Intervention Reviews at: <https://www.campbellcollaboration.org/meccir.html>

