

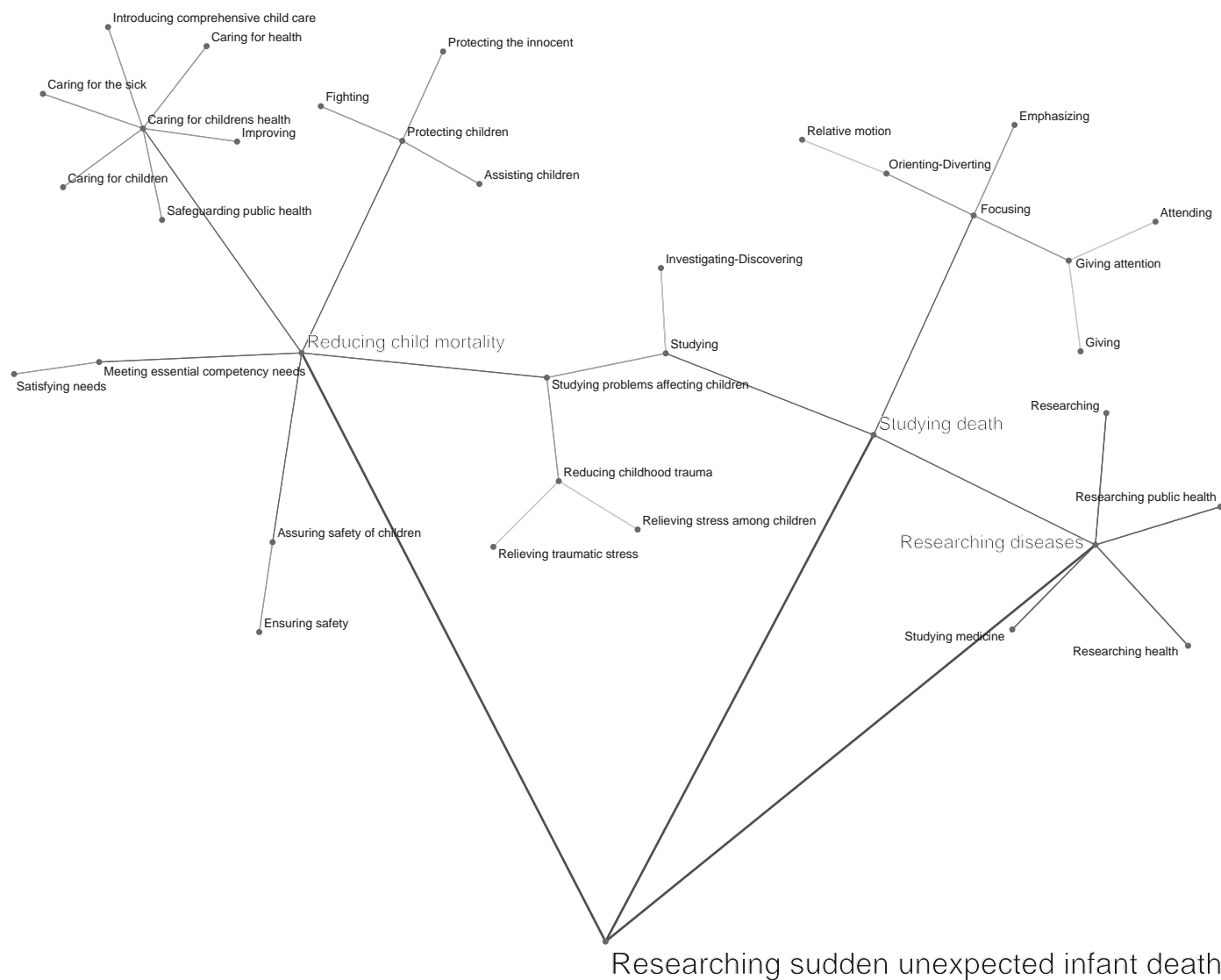
Figure 10.3.11.
Researching sudden unexpected infant death

Database: Global Strategies and Solutions

Link type: broader strategies

Network nodes: 48

UIA database: <http://db.uia.org/scripts/sweb.dll/uiaf?DD=ST&CL=2&DR=V1289>



Sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) is the major cause of death in young infants in the western world. Factors that increase the risk of SIDS are known (eg overheating and cigarette smoke) but the actual cause of death is unknown. Current theories about the causes of SIDS include disturbances to the baby's sleep organization and temperature control -- factors under the control of the biological clock. Premature babies have a delayed development of biological rhythms, which usually develop at nine to 12 weeks of age. It is intriguing that the peak incidence of SIDS coincides with the expected time of maturation of babies' rhythms.