DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING

Purposes: Well child protocol requires an age-appropriate developmental assessment at each screening visit.

Early and accurate identification of infants and young children who have developmental delays or disorders is critical to the timely delivery of early intervention services. Establishing a comprehensive first level screening program is the initial step in obtaining services for young children and their families who would benefit from further assessment to determine the need for early intervention services or special education services.

Ages: Between 1 month and 66 months (6 years)

Tool: ASQ-3 Questionnaires Developmental Screening Protocol


Questionnaire Reading level: Fourth to sixth grade

Learning activities: Parent-child activity sheets that correspond to age intervals

Steps: 1. Select the appropriate ASQ-3 age interval by calculating the child’s exact age. Adjust for prematurity, if necessary 2. Assemble materials. 3. Support parent’s completion of ASQ-3. 4. Review the questionnaire for omitted items. 5. Correct items marked “not yet” or “sometimes” if more advanced items are scored “yes or sometimes.” 6. Score each item on the questionnaire. 7. Total the points in each of the developmental areas. 8. Transfer the total area scores to the ASQ-3 Information Summary Sheet. 9. Record individual item responses. 10. Interpret scores. 11. Determine type of follow-up:
   a. Refer if a score in one or more areas is on or below the established cutoff score. Include a copy of the Information Summary Sheet with referral.
b. Follow-up action should occur when a score in a particular area is close to the cutoff or falls within the monitoring zone. Depending on the child’s history, it is the nurse’s discretion to refer or to rescreen in 4-6 months. Discuss developmental activities specific to the areas of concern.

c. Other Follow-up: Follow-up action should occur for a child whose scores are above the cutoff for each area but the parent has indicated a concern in the Overall section of the questionnaire.

13. Document results of assessment on CHR-12 and any follow-up required.
14. File the original Information Summary Sheet behind the CHR-12.
DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING
(Continued)

Ages: 7 years up to 21 years

Tool: Developmental Assessment Chart

Screening Areas: Gross motor, Fine motor, Language, Psychosocial

Steps:
1. Determine age
2. If a child presents with an obvious developmental problem, refer immediately.
3. Using the Developmental Assessment chart as a guide, base the assessment on developmental milestones that can be assessed throughout the child health screening.
4. When an area is blank, refer to the previous task.
5. If the child does not perform the task or pass by report of the caregiver, refer at this time or retest the following month.
6. Communicate results with family.
7. Document results on CHR-12