

Overview of the Pre-clinic Visit Screening Tool

Background

Pennsylvania’s Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) Program recommends regular childhood screenings for developmental delay, autism, and psychosocial/behavioral assessments. In the past, physicians have used a variety of paper-based developmental surveillance screening tools to assess their patients and often the tools were not validated. The CHIPRA grant established the use of standardized validated assessment tools and made those tools and results electronic so they could merge with patients’ electronic medical records (EMR). The electronic screening tools being used are:

Assessment	Validated Screener	Screening Schedule
Developmental Delay	Ages and Stages: ASQ-3 -or- PEDS: Parents’ Evaluation of Developmental Status	9, 18, and 30 months
Autism	M-CHAT	18 and 24 months
ADHD/Disruptive Behavior	PSC-17	5 and 9 years
Adolescent Depression/Suicide Risk	PHQ-9	12 and 16 years
Maternal Depression	Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale	2 months postpartum

In the first three years of the grant, Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) and Geisinger Health System have run pilot programs testing the electronic screeners. From July 2011 – July 2012, nearly 10,000 electronic screens were administered.

The Process

When patients and their families check-in for the clinic appointment, the office’s computer system notifies staff that one or more assessments need to be performed based on periodicity schedules built into the system. The families utilize a laptop or computer tablet to answer questions related to their child’s development. When finished, the questions are scored by the computer and automatically loaded into the child’s electronic medical record (EMR). When the physician enters the exam room the patient’s results are waiting in the EMR for clinical review. Below is a sample screenshot of what the physician sees at CHOP’s health system.

SCREENINGS

Questionnaire	Completed	Respondent	Result
ASQ-3™ 18m	05/15/12	Mother	FAILED: Communication; Fine Motor (click for details)
M-CHAT	05/15/12	Mother	PASSED (click for details)

Include "Next Steps" information in patient instructions

Please review the items that were endorsed to determine accuracy and level of concern

[Screening for developmental delay: Next Steps](#)

Provider Resources

Referral recommended for all failed ASQs

[Letter for Early Intervention referral](#)

[Specialty referral orders](#)

[ASQ-3 and scoring instructions: 18 month old](#)

[M-CHAT and scoring instructions](#)

Family Resources

[FAQs about Early Intervention handout](#)

[Your 1 1/2 Year Old PFE](#)

[Choosing Preschool handout](#)

[Early Head Start PFE](#)

Thanks to the electronic basis of the screens, physicians can immediately discuss the results with the patient/family and provide them with computerized handouts. If the child is determined to have no developmental or behavioral issues, the handouts address skill set milestones in the child's development which give the families a guide to normal childhood development. For children who may need further assessment or referral to Early Intervention (EI) or specialty services, physicians can immediately generate a letter for referral and handouts can be given to the families which outline the next steps to be taken in arranging services or further assessment for their child. Samples of the handouts are below:

The screenshot shows a patient handout from an EMR system. At the top, there are navigation icons for Encounter, Telephone Call, Care Teams, Login Cbt, Secure, Patient Lists, Epic Help, LINKS, and View. Below this, patient information is displayed: CP: None, Primary Cvg: None, MyChart: Inactive, FYI: (None), Allergies: Unknown: N..., MDRO: None. The main content area features a photo of a smiling 2-year-old child on the left. To the right, the title 'Your 2-year-old Talking and Terrific' is displayed with a star icon and a clock icon showing 26:8:94. The text is organized into three columns:

- What your child is learning now:**
 - Walks forward and backward
 - Rolls a large ball back and forth
 - Stoops and squats
 - Turns pages of books
 - Uses 2-3 word sentences
 - Points to some body parts
 - Sings and dances
 - May be interested in using the toilet
 - Scribbles
 - Imitates parent's activities
- What your child will be learning next:**
 - Shows signs of toilet readiness
 - Undresses self
 - Kicks a ball
 - Enjoys riding toys
 - Listens to brief stories
 - Does simple puzzles
 - Matches a picture and object
- What you can do to encourage your child's development:**
 - Read a little everyday.
 - Have conversations with your child!
 - Teach new words.
 - Let your child help with chores.
 - Praise your toddler for good behavior.
 - Set clear rules and be consistent.
 - Help your child share. Toddlers still need help.
 - Exercise together by jumping, running and walking.

At the bottom right, there is a section titled 'Toys and games for two-year-olds:' with a list of items: Farm or garage sets, Teacup or kitchen sets, Books, Toy telephone, Bubbles, Balls, Riding toys, Nesting cups, Water and sand toys, Dress-up clothes, Dolls or teddy bears, Blocks and building toys.

The screenshot shows a patient handout from an EMR system. At the top, there are navigation icons for In Basket, Chart, Encounter, Telephone Call, Care Teams, Login Cbt, Secure, Patient Lists, Epic Help, LINKS, and View Sched. Below this, the patient's name 'nt' is partially visible. The main content area has a title 'Caring for Your Child Early Head Start' with 'Early Head Start' underlined. The text describes the program as a free comprehensive, federally-funded child development program for children and families. It recognizes that families are the main teachers and nurturers of their children and that they can identify their own needs and interests and make the best decisions when given information and resources.

Why?
Children are born ready to learn.
Learning is fun, art, communication, music, play and nutritious meals.

What?
Weekly home visits with fun baby and toddler activities
Parent-child playgroups
Support for families

At the bottom, there is a section titled 'What?' with a question mark. A footer bar contains the text 'My Unsent Letters'.

Creation of an EMR integrated electronic screening tool enables physicians to utilize standardized validated screening tools and allows for clear, concise communication with the patients/families. By leveraging health information technology to maximize the early identification of children with developmental delay and behavioral health issues, their care can be closely coordinated with the primary care physician, appropriate specialty care and child serving social agencies.