



Help Me Grow

Alameda County

Implementing Standardized Developmental Screening in Pediatric Primary Care



Agenda

- Alameda County Help Me Grow (HMG) System
- The Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ-3)
- Modified Checklist for Autism in Toddlers (M-CHAT-R)
- Referral and Follow-Up
- Other Screening Options



Detection Rates

	SURVEILLANCE ONLY	WITH SCREENING TOOLS
Developmental Disabilities	14 to 54% identified <small>(Sheldrick et al, 2011)</small>	70 to 80% identified <small>(Squires, et al, 1996)</small>
Mental Health Problems	20% identified <small>(Lavigne et al, 1993)</small>	80 to 90% identified <small>(Sturner, 1991)</small>

Practices that do not regularly screen for developmental progress miss opportunities for early referral and treatment.

What is Help Me Grow Alameda County (HMG)?

A coordinated system of early identification and referral for Alameda County children ages 0 – 5 years and their families.



Help Me Grow for Pediatric Providers

- Consultation and Support
 - Technical assistance; Medical Home (MH) project provides monthly visits, program updates, and support around early identification system
 - Training: MH provides training and support on screening Tools (ASQ-3, M-CHAT-R, EPDS)
 - Data Collection and annual practice reports
 - Access to HMG Phone Line for consultation on learning, behavior, and development
 - Choice of ASQ On-Line or Developmental Screening Program (DSP) for patients
 - Bi-Monthly Listserv

Help Me Grow for Families

- Phone Line
 - Referrals and Information
 - Multi-lingual: Spanish, Cantonese, and Mandarin
 - Access to Family Navigation
- Developmental Screening Program
 - Providing families with ASQ-3 via email or postal mail
 - Sending families age-appropriate activities and information about their child's development
 - Connecting families to resources and support
- Website and Resource Directory
 - Alamedakids.org



Screening in Pediatric Practices

- American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Recommends:
 - Developmental Screening at 9, 18, and 24 or 30 months
 - Autism Screening at 18 and 24 months
- HMG Recommends the Ages and Stages Questionnaire-3 (ASQ-3) and Modified Checklist for Autism in Toddlers (M-CHAT-R)



M-CHAT-R

MODIFIED CHECKLIST FOR AUTISM IN TODDLERS (REVISED)

Screening for Autism

“Red Flags” for Autism

- Regression in skills
- “In their own world”
- Lack of showing or sharing interest
- Using caregivers hands to obtain needs
- Repetitive movements with objects
- Lack of appropriate gaze
- Lack of response to name
- Unusual prosody/pitch of vocalizations
- Language delays

Weatherby and Woods (2003)

Features of M-CHAT-R

- Recommend universal screening at 18 and 24 month well-child visit
- Can be used from 16 to 30 months (studies included)
- Questionnaire completed by parent
- Takes 5 to 10 minutes to complete
- 6th grade reading level
- Newer version has examples
- Spanish and English (other languages on handout)
www.mchatscreen.com

Scoring the M-CHAT-R

- 20 items based on parent observation
- Total score is the best way to assess risk
- Any child with a total score of 3 or more needs follow-up
- Scoring guidelines:
 - ✓ Children who score between 3 and 8 should have follow-up interview
 - ✓ Children who score 8 or more can be referred directly for evaluation
 - ✓ Children who still score 2 or more on follow-up interview, need referral (failed M-CHAT-R)
 - ✓ Clinical judgment prevails, err on the side of referring to RCEB and/or HMG

Sample Office Flow

1. Children will be screened with:
 - **ASQ-3** at the 9, 18, and 30 month well-child visit
 - **M-CHAT-R** at 24 month well-child visit
2. Parent completes the screening tool
3. MA or pediatric provider scores tool
3. Provider discusses results and child development issues with family
4. Provider offers anticipatory guidance, support, resources, and referrals when necessary

Sharing Results/Concerns with Families

- Recognize that it is emotionally sensitive: parents can feel judged, may disagree, be upset and not be ready to act
- Try not to use “jargon”: describe, don’t categorize and balance your clinical judgment with strength-based observations
- Validate, guide and inform: encourage parents to explore referrals
- Prepare family for next steps (referrals, activities, HMG)



Remember HMG Phone Line!

- Consultation for providers and families on any concerns: learning, behavior, development
 - **CALL** 1-888-510-1211 to consult with a HMG Child Development Care Coordinator
 - **ASK** a family to call 1-888-510-1211 (postcard)
 - **FAX** a referral form to HMG and we will get back to the parent
- Referrals to community resources and entitlement programs (playgroups, parent support, autism assessment, childcare, etc.)
- Feedback to providers and child tracking
- Monday through Friday, 9 am to 5 pm

What to Expect from Phone Line

Providers will get:

- A confirmation fax the day HMG gets the referral
- Feedback after first conversation with family
- Family optimally contacted 2-4 days after referral
- Multiple attempts are made to reach family

Families will get:

- General developmental interview and review of screens
- Ongoing support for referrals and developmental information
- Access to ongoing Developmental Screening Program

Happy Screening!

