



Developmental Screening in the First Three Years of Life (DEV)

Measurement Year 2021

Measure description: For members 1-3 years of age, percentage of children screened for risk of developmental, behavioral, and social delays using a standardized screening tool in the 12 months preceding or on their first, second or third birthday.

Eligible population

Members between the ages of 1-3 during the measurement year. There are 3 age stratifications reported:

- Children who turned 1 during the measurement year.
- Children who turned 2 during the measurement year.
- Children who turned 3 during the measurement year.

Strategies for improvement

- Incorporate a sexual history into the History and Physical.
- Screen all sexually active women for chlamydia through age 25.
- Educate members about sexually transmitted diseases, include signs, symptoms, and treatment.
- Educate members about safe sex and abstinence.
- Document all screenings in the medical record, including follow-ups, results, and abnormal findings.

Clinical recommendations

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends that all children be screened for developmental delays and disabilities during regular well-child visits at 9 months, 18 months, and 24 or 30 months.

Strategies for increasing developmental screening understanding and utilization

- Educate parents to monitor for developmental milestones such as taking a first step, smiling for the first time, waving “bye, bye” crawling, walking, etc.
- Educate on risk factors for developmental delays that include:
 - Preterm birth
 - Low birth weight
 - Lead exposure
 - Long lasting health problems or conditions.
- Advise parents that developmental screening tools will not provide a diagnosis but can assist in determining if a child is developing according to standard developmental milestones.
- Establish a “screening champion” in your office. This is anyone in your practice you designate to advocate for developmental screening with parents and caregivers of young children.
- Offer different options for parents/caregivers to complete valid questionnaires prior to scheduled well-child checks
 - Provide space in the reception area 15 minutes prior to scheduled appointments so the ASQ-3 can be completed in a quiet corner
 - Be sure a nurse or other healthcare provider is available to assist with answering questions as needed.

- Mail the questionnaire to the parent/caregiver prior to the visit or make available online so it can be completed prior to the visit.
- When screening in your office be sure to use a valid developmental delay and autism spectrum disorder screening tool.
- Refer the child to the appropriate specialist based on screening tool outcomes for follow up and a more formal evaluation. These specialists can determine if a child needs more help with development, because it is not always obvious to doctors, childcare providers, or parents:
 - Developmental Pediatrician
 - Child Psychologist
 - Speech-language Pathologist
 - Occupational Therapist

Numerator codes

There is a large list of approved NCQA codes used to identify the services included in the DVS measure. **The following are just a few of the approved codes. For more information, please refer to the AAP.**

CPT	96110	Developmental screening (e.g., PEDS, Ages and Stages, M-CHAT)
-----	-------	---