



Why Screen and Refer for Developmental Delay in Primary Care?

- Using a standardized screening tool in primary care will increase the number of children identified with developmental delays by **50%**.
(Pediatrics. 2009; 123(2):660-668.)
- In order for children to reach their maximum developmental potential, it is important that they are connected to needed services as soon as possible.
(Pediatrics. 2013; 132(4):1073-1088.)
- “If intervention is instituted before kindergarten entrance, many problems can be prevented and the large majority can be ameliorated.”
(Pediatrics in Review. 2012; 33(10):448-458.)

Guidelines for Screening

<p>Developmental Screening</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor all children with developmental surveillance at every well child check (WCC) for concerns in general development.¹ • Screen all children with a standardized developmental screening tool (such as the ASQ or PEDS) at the 9, 18, and 30 month WCC.¹ <i>*If no 30-month WCC, screen the child at the 24-month visit and consider screening again at 36 months.</i>
<p>Autism Screening</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor all children with developmental surveillance at every WCC for developmental concerns related to Autism.¹ • Screen all children with a standardized Autism screening tool (M-CHAT-R) at 18 and 24 months.¹

1. American Academy of Pediatrics’ Bright Futures Guidelines for Health Supervision.

For more information, contact: El Paso County Public Health
1675 W. Garden of the Gods Road Colorado Springs, CO 80907
719- 578-3199 www.elpasocountyhealth.org

Where do I refer a child/family that has a concerning result?

If child is under 3 years of age →	Early Intervention at The Resource Exchange Phone: 719-577-9190 Fax: 719-785-3769 Refer to Early Intervention Colorado using the Early Intervention referral form (www.eicolorado.org)
If child is 3-5 years of age →	Refer to Child Find using the Child Find referral form (www.cde.state.co.us/early/childfinddirectoryinfo)
If there is a possible medical diagnosis →	Refer to medical subspecialties along with Early Intervention or Child Find
<p>Early Intervention services use a “natural environment” evidence based model and focus on family-centered, coordinated services that support parent-child relationships. Children who receive Early Intervention services have been found to have higher academic performance and engage in less risky behavior compared to their peers.</p> <p><i>(Pediatrics. 2013; 132(4):1073-1088.)</i></p>	

“What opportunities are available to my practice?”

- **Health Care Program for Children with Special Needs (HCP)** HCP serves El Paso County children and youth, birth to 21, who have, or are at risk for physical, developmental, behavioral or emotional conditions. HCP has no diagnosis or income restrictions, and there is no charge for our services. HCP can provide individual care coordination, connection to resources and services that are appropriate to the child’s needs, and guidance to alternate payment sources.
 - **Contact: Anita Walter**
 Family Support Specialist
 (719)578-3200

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