evidence based guidelines

DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING

Practice universal developmental surveillance

- **Perform a brief screening at every well visit from 0 to 5 years old**
  - Assess: Gross motor, fine motor, speech/communication, and social skills
  - Be especially attentive to children at risk for developmental delays
    - Medical factors (chronic disease, genetic disorder, prematurity, nutritional deficiency)
    - Household factors (poverty, low literacy, single parent, mental health disorders)
- **Administer age appropriate Ages & Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) for every child at least once within the following age ranges:**
  - 6-11 months old
  - 12-23 months old
  - 24-36 months old
- **Consider routinely screening for Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) with M-CHAT-R at:**
  - 18 months old
  - 24 months old

Follow-up abnormalities or concerns

- **For concerns about developmental delay (raised by caretaker or universal screening)**
  - Administer age appropriate ASQ
  - Schedule closer follow-up to monitor
- **For concerns about possible Autism Spectrum Disorder**
  - Assess for "red flags" in: communication/socialization and repetitive/obsessive behavior
    - Does not: respond to name by 12 mo, point to show interest by 14 mo, pretend play by 18 mo
    - Frequent tantrums/intolerance to change
    - Delayed speech, no social chatting/babbling
    - Avoids eye contact and prefers to be alone
    - Has trouble understanding other people's emotions or expressing their own
    - Has obsessive interests or rituals
    - Over or under reactions to sensory input (sound, smell, taste, touch)
    - Repetitive movements: flapping hands, rocking body, spinning in circles
    - Repeats words/phrases over and over
  - Administer M-CHAT-R if child is between 16 months – 30 months of age

Referral

- **Refer abnormal developmental screening results to an early intervention program**
  Ottawa County Help Me Grow: (844) 233-2244 Allegan County Help Me Grow: (269) 512-7775
- **If a concern for ASD is suggested based on results of M-CHAT-R:**
  - Arrange for a formal ASD diagnosis:
    Easterseals: (616) 942-2081 Helen DeVos Behavioral Health: (616) 267-2830
    Mary Free Bed Kids: (616) 840-8807 Pine Rest: (616) 258-7500
    Hope Network: (844) 969-0252 Developmental Enhancement: (616) 499-2218
  - Obtain formal audiology evaluation (if significant speech delay is present)
    Holland Hospital Audiology: (616) 393-2190 Helen DeVos Audiology: (616) 267-7758
- **If ASD is confirmed:**
  - Arrange for Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA): (If patient is covered by Medicaid, first obtain CMH evaluation)
    Centria: (855) 772-8847 Developmental Enhancement: (616) 499-2218
    Hope Network: (844) 969-0252
  - If of school age: recommend involvement in a local school system regardless of functional ability
    (Contact Help Me Grow if help is needed)

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Physician Hospital Organization

APPROVED BY:
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