

# DECA Screening and Referral Process—Health Care Provider Edition



All Well Child Visits: Perform Developmental Surveillance

## American Academy of Pediatrics Guidelines:

- Perform Developmental Screenings at 9, 18, and 24 or 30 month well child visits (ex. ASQ-3).
- Perform Autism Specific Screen at 18 and 24 months or when concerns (ex. MCHAT).
- Screen for social and emotional development at any well child visit (ex. DECA).

## DECA Assessment (I/T & P2) Results & Next Steps:

Screening and referral process should be done in partnership with the family, & be based on individual child's needs. If family has concerns, please refer to appropriate services, regardless of screening test result.

### Level 1: Strength Range

Protective Factor Scale T-scores are **greater than or equal to 60**.

1. Provide family with activities for building competencies in social and emotional development (*For Now and Forever* guide provided in DECA Kit)
2. Perform development screening (ex. ASQ-3)
3. Re-assess every 4 months

### Level 2: Typical Range

Protective Factor T-scores **between 41 and 59 inclusive** and/or T-scores **59 or below** on Behavioral Concerns (DECA-P2 only).

1. Monitor--rescreen
2. Consider facilitated referral\* to:
  - Home visiting program and/or;
  - Social & Emotional resources
3. Follow up with referral source if made
4. Provide family with activities for building competencies in social and emotional development (*For Now and Forever* guide provided in DECA Kit)
5. Perform developmental screen (ASQ-3)
6. Re-assess every 4 months

### Level 3: Concern/Area of Need Range

Protective Factor Scale T-score **less than or equal to 40**, or a Behavioral Concerns Scale T-score **greater than or equal to 60**.

1. Facilitated Referral\* for further evaluation and/or services
  - Home visiting program and/or;
  - Social & Emotional resources and/or;
  - Inclusions Services and/or;
  - Mental Health provider (LCSW, LPC, Psy.D.)
  - Child Psychiatrist
2. Provide family with activities for building competencies in social and emotional development (*For Now and Forever* guide provided in DECA Kit)
3. Perform developmental screen (ASQ-3)
4. Re-assess every 4 months

### \*Facilitated Referral –

1. Have staff assist parent with making referral.
2. Send information related to screening results to referral.
3. Follow up with referral source to ensure referral received, appointment occurred and to obtain results.

For more information about the Devereux Early Childhood Assessments, please contact the Devereux Center for Resilient Children at [www.centerforresilientchildren.org](http://www.centerforresilientchildren.org) or call (866) 872-4687.

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