

General Developmental Screening Tools

By Margaret Dunkle

August 19, 2008

Choices for Practices and Providers

Name of Tool	Description of the Tool	Developmental Domains Covered	Accuracy *	Age Range	Adminis- tration Time	Scoring	Psychometric Properties	Available Languages & Reading Level	Costs
General Developmental Screening Tools									
ASQ – Ages and Stages Questionnaires – Parental-report about a child's skills	30 questions (answered <i>yes, sometimes, not yet</i>), plus 7-8 unscored <i>Overall</i> questions. Parents indicate a child's developmental skills, using one of 19 age-specific questionnaires.	<i>All Domains Covered:</i> communication, gross motor, fine motor, problem-solving, and personal-social skills	Sensitivity: 70-90%; Specificity: 76-91%	4-60 months (5 years) <i>Can be given as young as 3 months</i>	15-30 minutes	Pass/fail score for each developmental domain. Provides a cutoff score in each developmental domain (2 standard deviations below the mean).	Standardized on 8,530 children from diverse ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds, including Spanish speaking. Validated on 1,613 children. Published validation studies.	English, Spanish, French, and Korean versions available. Vietnamese expected in 2009. Unpublished versions in additional languages available from publisher. Reading level varies from 3rd to 12th grade.	<i>Initial purchase:</i> \$199 per kit (either paper or CD-ROM), including <i>ASQ User's Guide</i> and 19 age-specific forms to be copied as screenings are done. <i>To administer, score and interpret each screen</i> (copying age-specific forms and staff time): \$4.60.
PEDS – Parents' Evaluation of Developmental Status – Parental-report about parental concerns	10 questions (the same for all ages, answered <i>yes, no, a little</i>). Parents identify "concerns" they have in each developmental domain.	<i>All Domains Covered:</i> expressive language and articulation, receptive language, gross motor, fine motor, school, self-help, social-emotional, behavior, and global-cognitive	Sensitivity: 74-79%; Specificity: 70-80%	0-95 months (7 years, 11 months)	2-10 minutes	Low, moderate or high risk for each developmental domain. Provides algorithm to determine whether to refer, do additional screening, or reassure parents that development is normal.	Standardized on 6,360 children from diverse ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds, including Spanish speaking. Validated on 1,279 children. Published validation studies.	English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Arabic, Swahili, Indonesian, Chinese, Taiwanese, French, Somali, Portugese, Malaysian, Thai, Laotian, Haitian-Creole and Russian. 4th to 5th grade reading level.	<i>Initial purchase:</i> \$30 for a starter set, including <i>Brief Guide to Scoring and Administration</i> , and Scoring and Interpretation forms for 50 children. Bulk discounts are available for additional Scoring and Interpretation forms. <i>To administer, score and interpret each screen</i> (purchase copies of one-page PEDS forms and staff time): \$1.20. <i>Cost of PEDS-Online ranges from \$1-\$2 per screen if licensed by a provider to \$9.95 per screen if done individually online.</i>
PEDS:DM – PEDS: Developmental Milestones – Parental-report about a child's skills	6-8 items or questions, depending on the age level. Parents indicate a child's developmental skills, using one of 22 age-specific questionnaires.	<i>All Domains Covered:</i> expressive and receptive language, gross motor, fine motor, self-help, social-emotional, behavior, and (for older children) reading and math	<i>By domain:</i> Sensitivity: 75-87%; Specificity: 71-88% <i>Across ages:</i> Sensitivity: 70-94%; Specificity: 77-93%	0-95 months (7 years, 11 months)	3-5 minutes	Pass/fail score for each developmental domain. Provides a cutoff score for children below the 16th percentile in each developmental domain. Also, the "Assessment Version" of PEDS:DM enables users to compute age-equivalent scores and percentage of delayed or advanced development.	Standardized on 1,296 children from diverse ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds, including Spanish speaking. Published validation studies.	English and Spanish. Less than 2nd grade reading level.	<i>Initial purchase:</i> \$275 for kit, including reusable laminated form, grease pen, <i>Family Book, Professionals' Manual, Case Study</i> and 100 patient recording forms. <i>To administer, score and interpret each screen</i> (purchase scoring forms and staff time): \$1.10.

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<p>*There are two types of accuracy. Sensitivity refers to the percentage of children <i>with a disability</i> or problem who are correctly identified by the screening tool. Specificity refers to the percentage of children <i>without a disability</i> or problem who are correctly identified by the screening tool.</p>									

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To Purchase or for Additional Information

Paul H. Brookes Publishing
Company, PO Box 10624, Baltimore,
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www.brookespublishing.com and
www.apesandstages.com. For
ASQ-Online (expected 2009), see
www.patienttools.com.

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