Protocol for the Administration of \textit{ASQ} Questionnaire

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When should we screen using the ASQ Instrument?

The main goal of the Puerto Rico Health Insurance Administration (ASES) through the ABCD Screening Project “Creciendo Juntos” is to strengthen the preventive care and screening services provided to Medicaid eligible children ages zero (0) to five (5). Through this initiative Puerto Rico wants to reinforce its EPSDT Guidelines and recommend the use of a standardized tool for developmental screening at a specified preventive well child visit. Preventive well child visits are the core service of pediatricians and Primary Care Providers in efforts to maintain and promote better health outcomes. Through this protocol ASES is adopting the recommendation made by the American Academy of Pediatricians (AAP) that developmental screening is made at specific preventive care visits. Early identification of children with developmental delays is important in primary care practice and Primary Care Providers (PCP) are the professionals with whom families have regular contact. In the Puerto Rico ABCD Screening project “Creciendo Juntos” the standardized developmental screening tool that has been selected is the Ages & Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) in the Spanish version. This questionnaire will be

administered to the parents or caregiver when they take their child to the scheduled preventive visit. The children eligible for being screened using ASQ will be the following: *All Medicaid enrolled children and members of the IPA’s practices of Cañasier, Culebra, Vieques, Gurabo and San Sebastian. The screening with the ASQ instrument should be made at the following preventive care visits: 9, 18, 24, 36, 48 and 60 months visits.* The screening is not recommended if the child is sick, due that the parent or caregiver of the child may not be in the best emotional attitude for filling out a questionnaire.
Recommended Ages for Screening

Measurement is a critical component of every quality improvement effort. With this principle in mind ASES is providing the following age stratification to be used in identifying eligible children for the screening activity.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Questionnaire Category</th>
<th>Stratification by age of children</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9 month questionnaire</td>
<td>Administer to children age 9 to 10 months in well child visit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 month questionnaire</td>
<td>Administer to children age 17 to 18 months in well child visit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 month questionnaire</td>
<td>Administer to children age 23 to 24 months in well child visit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36 month questionnaire</td>
<td>Administer to children age 35 to 36 months in well child visit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48 month questionnaire</td>
<td>Administer to children age 47 to 48 months in well child visit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 month questionnaire</td>
<td>Administer to children age 59 to 60 months in well child visit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
When should we refer?

During the Puerto Rico ABCD Screening “Creciendo Juntos” Project ASES recommends that all children screened with the ASQ Questionnaire and with 2 or more areas of the evaluation below the cutoff point be referred to the Department of Health Pediatric Centers. The referral should include a copy of the ASQ score summary. If the child only obtains one area below the cutoff point, a surveillance follow up plan should be established by the Pediatrician or Primary Care Provider.

Where should we refer?

Children screened and with 2 or more areas of the evaluation below the cutoff point must be referred to the Department’s of Health Pediatric Centers. The information of location and Medical contact person is as follows:


- **Centro Pediátrico de Caguas**: PO Box 8548 Caguas, PR 00726-8548. Telephone: 787-704-7101/7102/7110 Fax: 787-746-7377. Medical Director: Dr. Cynthia Correa.
☒ **Centro Pediátrico de Mayaguez**: Centro Medico de Mayaguez Ave. Hostos 410 Mayaguez, PR 00680-1522. Telephone: 787-834-8687/8688 Ext. 2894, 787-834-5830 Fax: 832-6015. Medical Director: Dra. Sonia Ramos

☒ **Centro Pediátrico de Arecibo**: Hospital Regional de Arecibo PO Box 140370 Arecibo, PR 00614. Telephone: 787-817-1245/1248 Fax: 787-815-1110. Medical Director: Dr. Jorge Arzola

☒ **Centro Pediátrico de Ponce**: Ave. Tito Castro #931 Carretera 14 Bo. Machuelo Ponce PR 00716-4717. Telephone: 787-842-5846/5884 Fax: 840-7511/787-842-5809. Medical Director: Dr. Abner Fornaris

☒ **Centro Pediátrico de Fajardo**: Centro de Servicios Medicos Calle E Suite 77 Urb. Monte Brisas 1 Fajardo, PR 00738. Telephone: 787-801-1111/1112/1113 Fax:787-746-7377. Medical Director: Dr. Ramón Jimenez