



CCNC Pediatrics: ABCD Referrals

At-risk ASQ-3/PEDS or MCHAT Scores Referral Procedure

Primary Care Clinician (PCC) scores ASQ-3/PEDS/MCHAT and discusses strengths and risks with family

1. If there are at-risk scores:

- PCC discusses referral with the parent and gives them the “Setting the Stage for Success” referral information card (with appropriate local phone numbers on the back).
Note: if the screen is positive, there is no evidence for a “wait-and-see” approach; referral for further assessment should be done.

2. Making the referral:

- **0-3 (up to age 3):**
 - PCC completes the CDSA referral form, clearly indicating concerns and/or pertinent diagnoses.
 - PCC or designated staff person has the parent sign a 2-way Release of Information (ROI) form.
 - The referral form, score sheet, and ROI are then faxed to the intake person at the CDSA.
- **3-5 years old:**
 - PCC completes the DPI Physician Notification form, clearly indicating concerns and/or pertinent diagnoses, and has the parent sign the release on the DPI form.
 - PCC or designated staff person faxes the DPI Physician Notification form and the score sheet to the Preschool Program of the local Public School System.

3. Other Referrals: Because eligibility criteria for intervention services are fairly restrictive, a child may be at-risk but still not qualify for those services.

It is therefore appropriate to simultaneously refer to **CC4C** so that the family can have assistance for developmental issues and linkages to other community resources (e.g. Early Head Start, Head Start, family support, etc).

If the PCC has significant concern regarding motor skills or language skills, a referral to a **PT, OT or Speech and Language Pathologist** is appropriate, especially as eligibility criteria for CDSA services are fairly restrictive, and children and families can receive additional services that are medically necessary in addition to CDSA services.

If the **MCHAT is positive**, the CDSA has committed to completing an autism-specific evaluation in addition to their usual eligibility screen. Since at the CDSA this further evaluation is based on family choice, the PCC should be sure to emphasize with the family the necessity for requesting the evaluation to follow-up on the results of the MCHAT screen.

In accordance with the AAP recommendations, the child should **simultaneously be referred** for an **audiological evaluation**. Referral to a **D&B pediatrician, geneticist, or neurologist** is only needed if Global Developmental Delay/Intellectual Disability is present or a genetic or neurologic disorder is suspected.

*If, for some reason, the child being referred for a positive MCHAT is already 3 years old, the referral should be made to the preschool program using the Notification Form.