

Surveillance & Screening for Social/Emotional Health

"Of children that receive mental health treatment, 47% receive care in a Medical Home."

Get the Facts:

- An estimated 75% of children and adolescents with mental illness do not receive services
- Screenings offer the potential to intervene early and, in some cases, to prevent fully developed mental, emotional, and behavioral disorders
- Screening for mental illness with an evidence-based tool in primary care settings has proven effective and is significantly more accurate than the informal interview method
- Intervention does not always require referral to mental health services
- Pediatricians and other primary care providers regularly manage mild to moderate mental health disorders within their practice
- Approximately 13-20% of children and adolescents suffer from a mental disorder in a given year
- Approximately 19% of children and adolescents show impaired functioning without meeting criteria for a mental health diagnosis



What Teens Think:

"...most issues are mental like anxiety, stress, worry, and over-thinking. They do all not need to be treated with medicine; they need someone to say these feelings are normal and give ways to cope."

"...My doctor never has asked me about depression or anxiety issues, which I think could help..."

"I didn't know depression was something that is normal to talk to your doctor about."

"I would like more alone time with my doctor."

"...ask us things so we don't have to take the first step."

CCNC National Survey of Teenagers, ages 13-18

See www.AAP.org/mentalhealth for more information.

Engaging Adolescents: Healthcare for Teens

Video series available at: <https://www.communitycarenc.org/what-we-do/clinical-programs/pediatrics/engaging-adolescents-videos>.

NC DMA has responded to the need for Social/Emotional Screenings in children

Additional payment is available for Social/Emotional Screenings of school age and adolescent children ages 6 through 20.