Instructions for Administering the Survey of Well-Being of Young Children (SWYC) Screener in the Child and Teen Checkup (C&TC) Setting

Updated 09/2021

C&TC Developmental Surveillance and Screening Requirements and Recommendations

Developmental surveillance is a required component of an EPSDT screening at every visit. Developmental screening is strongly recommended at minimum at every visit indicated on the C&TC Periodicity Schedule (www.dhs.state.mn.us).

Based on the recommendation by the AAP, The Survey of Well-Being of Young Children (SWYC) may be used only for developmental screening only when performing a complete C&TC exam in a clinic setting. Use of the SWYC is not recommended in the C&TC setting for social-emotional (SWYC Pediatric Symptom Check List), or autism screening.

Using the SWYC During a C&TC Visit

The SWYC is a non-proprietary tool, refer to The Survey of Well-Being of Young Children-Age Specific Forms (www.tuftchildrenshospital.org).

Every SWYC form includes sections on developmental milestones, behavioral/emotional development, and family risk factors. At certain ages, a section for Autism-specific screening is also included.

Per DHS, in the context of providing screening in the C&TC well visit setting, use of the SWYC is limited to developmental screening and is not intended for social-emotional (SWYC Pediatric Symptom Check List), or autism screening or other assessments.

Instructions

Refer to the SWYC Manual and Training Resources (www.tuftchildrenshospital.org) for in depth instructions and support. There are instructions to support clinic implementation including directions for front desk staff and non-providers who provide the form to parents.

Using the Form

Choose the age-appropriate form and refer to the link on page two below. Instruct those who will be providing the form to the parents, that only the developmental and parental concern portions of the form need to be filled out (refer to pictures below). If providing the full two-page form to the parents, you may wish to cross out the portions that do not need to be filled out. The Developmental Milestones and the Parent’s Concerns areas of the form are separated by the Pediatric Symptom Check List.
INSTRUCTIONS FOR ADMINISTERING THE SWYC SCREENER IN THE C&TC SETTING

SWYC Questionnaire

Scoring the SWYC

Refer to Choose a Form and Score the SWYC (www.tuftschildrenshospital.org) for instructions. This page also includes instructions on how to choose an age-appropriate form. The SWYC Scoring Cheat Sheet (www.tuftschildrenshospital.org) is recommended for scoring Developmental Milestones only.
Interpretation of the SWYC

When developing the tool, authors of the SWYC, prioritized sensitivity to minimize false negatives. They chose a lower threshold to ensure fewer children who really should be detected are not missed. Because of this decision there is a higher rate of false positive results than developmental screening tools recommended by the MN Developmental Screening Task Force. Because of this it is recommended that children with a positive score be screened with a tool recommended by the MN Developmental Screening Task Force, refer to Recommended Developmental and Social-emotional Screening Instruments (www.health.state.mn.us).

For complete guidance on SWYC interpretation refer to the complete SWYC User’s Manual (www.tuftchildrenshospital.org).

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To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-201-3760.