

Home Visiting

Description of Home Visiting Programs

Home visitors meet with families at a time and place that is most convenient for the family to provide information and support about parenting and child development. Trained home visitors help parents for various lengths of time based on the program, but home visiting services are usually offered between pregnancy and when the children enter kindergarten. Home visitors work with parents to develop goals for their family's future and support the parents in reaching their goals.

Screeener vs. Assessment

Screeener

- Widely administered
- Brief
- Easy to complete
- Gives yes or no information
- Focused on a specific topic

Assessment

- Targeted administration
- In-depth
- Requires training to administer
- Gives unique client picture
- Informs treatment
- Completed over 1-3 visits

Recommendation

Universal trauma screening, or screening of all children and families who receive home visiting services for trauma, is recommended. An agency may decide to do targeted screening of certain clients; however, it is important to clearly define who will receive the screening and when the screening will take place. Determining if children and families have experienced trauma is necessary in order to determine the appropriate services. Because children served through home visiting are young it may be necessary to have caregivers complete the trauma screener for the child in this setting. If trauma is identified through the screener it is important to use that information to inform the services or referrals being provided to the family. Additionally, it is important to connect the child and family to an appropriate mental health provider that can conduct a more in-depth trauma assessment.

Potential Trauma Screening Tools (indicates availability of tool in other languages)*

- *ACEs Survey and Resilience Questionnaire - <https://acesstoohigh.files.wordpress.com/2014/07/acesandresiliencequestionnaire.docx>
 - Can be used in conjunction with: Brief Resiliency Scale (BRS); Ohio State University (2008)
- *Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale (EPDS) - <http://www.fresno.ucsf.edu/pediatrics/downloads/edinburghscale.pdf>

- *Beck Depression Inventory – II (BDI-II) -
<http://www.pearsonclinical.com/psychology/products/100000159/beck-depression-inventoryii-bdi-ii.html#tab-pricing>
- *Center for Epidemiologic Studies Depression (CES-D) -
http://www.valueoptions.com/providers/Education_Center/Provider_Tools/Depression_Screening.pdf
- Agency Developed screener based on the NCTSN categories (For example please email TICC@austinchildguidance.org)
- NEAR@Home Toolkit: A Guided Process to Talk about Trauma and Resilience in Home Visiting -
<https://thrivewa.org/nearhome-toolkit-guided-process-talk-trauma-resilience-home-visiting/>
note-implementation of this toolkit requires extensive training and goes beyond basic screening

Resources

- Stevens, J. E. (2014). To prevent childhood trauma, pediatricians screen children and their parents...and sometimes, just parents...for childhood trauma. From ACES Too High News. <http://acestoohigh.com/2014/07/29/to-prevent-childhood-trauma-pediatricians-screen-children-and-their-parentsand-sometimes-just-parents/>
- Zorrah, Q. (2015). Near@Home Toolkit: A Guided Process to Talk about Trauma and Resilience in Home Visiting. <https://thrivewa.org/nearhome-toolkit-guided-process-talk-trauma-resilience-home-visiting/>
- The National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement (2013). Family Well-being: A Focus on Parental Depression. <http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/tta-system/family/docs/depression-pfce-rtp.pdf>
- Instruments for Assessing Parenting Stress and Strengths (* indicates availability of tool in other languages)
 - Life Stressor Checklist—Revised (LSC-R): Wolfe, Kimerling, Brown, Chrestman, and Levin (1996)
 - *Adult Adolescent Parenting Inventory (AAPI): Family Development Resources (1979)
 - Parenting Stress Index (PSI): Abidin (1995)
 - *Davidson Trauma Scale (DTS): Davidson (1996)
 - From: <http://www.nctsn.org/content/identifying-and-providing-services-young-children-who-have-been-exposed-trauma-professionals>

Questions to Consider Before Implementation

- How can our organization integrate screening into our current systems?
- Who is responsible for distributing the trauma screener?
- Who is alerted if there is a positive screening?
- Will you track number screened versus the number who screen positive for trauma?
- How will you use the data collected to guide service delivery?