

Childcare Centers

Description of Childcare Centers

Childcare centers provide supervision and care to children ages 0-5. Childcare centers may be registered or licensed, for-profit or not-for profit. There are centers that are standalone, or part of a chain or a larger organization, such as Head Start. Childcare may also be provided in-home or by a relative.

Screeners vs. Assessment

Screeners

- 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 who are enrolled in childcare centers, 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. Larger childcare centers/chains may consider piloting trauma screening before implementing universal trauma screening. Due to the age of children enrolled in childcare centers, it is necessary to have either parents/guardians or early childhood providers complete the screener.

Potential Trauma Screening and Assessment Tools

- Ages and Stages Questionnaire: Social-Emotional (ASQ:SE-2)
<https://agesandstages.com/products-pricing/asqse-2/>
- Southwest Michigan Children's Trauma Assessment Center Screening Checklist: Identifying Children at Risk Ages 0-5
https://www.nctsn.org/sites/default/files/resources//trauma_screening_checklist_identifying_children_at_risk_0-5.pdf
- Trauma Symptom Checklist for Young Children (TSCYC)
<https://www.nctsn.org/measures/trauma-symptom-checklist-young-children>
- Traumatic Events Screening Inventory – Parent Report Revised (TESI-PRR)
<https://www.ptsd.va.gov/professional/assessment/documents/tesi-parent.pdf>

- Young Child PTSD Checklist (YCPC)
http://www.infant institute.org/MikeSPDF/YCPC_Aug2012.pdf

(indicates availability of tool in other languages)*

Resources

NCTSN Complex Trauma Screening Standards

https://www.nctsn.org/sites/default/files/resources//complex_trauma_standardized_measures.pdf

Trauma Screening Tools https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-73971_4911_69588_80203-412806--,00.html

Questions to Consider Before Implementation

- Who is responsible for administering the trauma screener and calculating the results? What level of training does the staff person have in administering and interpreting the results?
- If a more in-depth screener is administered, is there a mental health professional who can administer the screener?
- When will children be screened – at or after enrollment? How frequently will children and families be screened?
- How will confidentiality be maintained in the childcare center?
- What training will be provided to early childhood providers on trauma-informed care and trauma screening? For larger organizations (i.e. Head Start), what training is provided for leadership?
- What level of accreditation does your center have? Does your center have the infrastructure to support universal trauma screening?
- What follow-up services or outside referrals can the school provide? (Integral Care, ACGC, Project HOPES)
- Are protocols and training for obtaining parent consent, maintaining confidentiality and mandatory reporting in place?