



Introduction to Developmental Screening for Parents and Guardians

MINNESOTA CENTER OF EXCELLENCE IN NEWCOMER HEALTH

Medical providers in the United States see children well for regularly scheduled clinic visits to monitor how their bodies and minds are growing. In addition to a physical examination, a medical provider (which could be a nurse, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner) will ask you specific questions, based on your child's age, about how they are talking, playing, and learning.

Your child's mind and body are growing rapidly, even before they are born! You see this when they first smile, say a new word, or take their first steps. Your medical provider will ask you to complete a set of questions called the **Survey of Well-Being of Young Children (SWYC)**. Once you have completed the SWYC, the medical provider will review it with you. The answers you give help the medical provider to learn about your child and to help you get resources if needed so they are ready for school.



What is developmental screening

- It is an opportunity to support how your child is developing (playing, learning, speaking, acting, and moving).
- It is a list of researched questions about children that you answer because you know your child best.
- It happens at some scheduled clinic visits from your child's birth to when they are around 5 years old.
- Although every child develops at their own pace, most children develop along a similar path.

Important things to remember about the SWYC

- It does not provide a diagnosis.
- Your answers and results will be part of your child's health records and will not be shared with anyone without your permission.

After reviewing the results with the medical provider

- If there are concerns about the results, they may be referred to the school or other doctors for assessment.
- If there are no concerns about development, you will get resources on how to continue to play with them to support their development.

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To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-201-5414.