Help Me Grow Alabama: A Developmental Screening QI Collaborative
May 2015 – January 2016

Participating Practices: Alabama Multi-Specialty Group, PC, Bama Pediatrics, Crimson Pediatrics, Enterprise Medical Clinic, Infants' and Children's' Clinic, P.C., Mobile Pediatric Clinic, Prattville Pediatrics, Purohit Pediatric Clinic, University Medical Center, USA Midtown Pediatrics, Whatley Health Services

ACHIA
Alabama Child Health Improvement Alliance

Background

Early detection of developmental and behavioral problems improves long-term mental and physical health as well as developmental outcomes for children. Primary care providers see almost all children in the community in the first few years of life and thus are well positioned to assess and monitor children's development and emotional well-being. At the same time, barriers to behavioral/ developmental monitoring exist:
-Lack of time and support staff
-Insufficient knowledge of assessment tools
-Challenges connecting to referral services

Project Goals
• Improve primary care infrastructure where children with developmental and/or behavioral challenges are identified through early screening
• Improve the referral of families and children with developmental and/or behavioral challenges to services and supports in a coordinated early childhood health and developmental system.

Project Aims
• Practices will implement the use of ASQ-3, MCHAT-R/F, and ASQ-SE at the 9-, 18-, 24-, and 36-month preventative care visits to increase the rate at which children are screened for risk of developmental delay, autism, and behavioral problems to 80%.
• Practices will increase the rate of appropriate referrals to services and supports to 80%.

Participants	Project Partners	Project Support
11 Practice from all regions of Alabama	Help Me Grow Alabama	Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham
18,700 children seen annually ages 0 – 36 months	Reach Out and Read	Project LAUNCH (SAMSHA)
2,.445 WCC over 5 months of data collection	Alabama Partnership for Children	The Caring Foundation
102 children at risk referred	Alabama Chapter-AAP	

Lessons Learned
• Practices were surprised at how easy it was to integrate screens into practice workflow.
• Help Me Grow care coordinators were *a* great link for both referrals to Early Intervention and to obtain services for those who did not qualify for Early Intervention.
• Using multiple platforms for learning, data, project submission and CME was confusing and led to interoperability errors.
• Because ASQ-SE is not a recommended universal screen, it may be more productive to refer children suspected of being at risk to Help Me Grow to complete ASQ-SE.

Measures

Name of Measure	Type	Numerator	Denominator	Goal
Fig 1 Developmental Screening Rate	Process	# of children with completed ASQ-3	# of children presenting for 9-, 18-, 24-month visit	80%
Fig 2 Autism Screening Rate	Process	# of children with completed MCHAT-R/F	# of children presenting for 18- or 24 month visit	80%
Fig 3 Social-Emotional Screening Rate	Process	# of children with completed ASQ-SE	#of children presenting for 36-month visit	80%
Fig 4 Referral Rate for children with failed screen	Process	# of children referred for services	# of children with a failed ASQ-3, MCHAT-R/F or ASQ-SE	80%

Process Measure Results

Fig. 1: Developmental Screening Rate

Fig. 2: Autism Screening Rate

Fig. 3: Social-Emotional Screening Rate

Fig. 4: Referral Rates