Implementing and/or Improving Developmental Screening

Chuck Norlin, MD

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Quality Improvement & Screening

☐ What outcomes of developmental surveillance/screening are important?
☐ How do you measure the outcomes of your surveillance/screening practices?
☐ How pleased are you with those outcomes?
☐ Could they be improved?
Quality Improvement & Screening

- “Every system is perfectly designed to get the results it gets”
- Implementing a new process or improving an established process (i.e., change) is not easy
- Sustaining improvements can be challenging
Success and sustainability of improvement are more likely if we:

- focus on outcomes (aims) and systems (human, electronic, processes)
- use measurement to guide incremental improvements
PDSA cycles – rapid cycles of change

**Plan**
- Aims/objectives
- Details – what, who, when, how
- Questions and predictions

**Do**
- Follow the plan
- Document what works and doesn’t, surprises, barriers
- Measure results

**Act**
- Implement the new plan
- Measure and document

**Study**
- Analyze data
- Compare results to predictions
- Revise plan
The planning part is critical, but perfection is not needed – indeed, desire for the perfect plan may be the worst enemy of success.
Quality Improvement & Screening

- What are the results you want? What do your patients/parents want and deserve?
- What processes and tools are currently used to monitor development?
  - Surveillance
  - Screening
- How well are those working? What do you like/dislike about them?
Quality Improvement & Screening

Who cares about developmental screening? Who can help make it work?
- Clinicians?
- Back office staff?
- Front office staff?
- Parents?
- Payers?
- Specialty care/community resources?
Quality Improvement & Screening

- What tools are available to accomplish effective screening?
- What are the pros and cons of each?
Quality Improvement & Screening

- When and where should the tool be completed and by whom?
- How can this best fit into the office flow?
Quality Improvement & Screening

☐ How and by whom will the tools be scored?

☐ How will parents be informed of the results?
Quality Improvement & Screening

- What criteria will be used to identify a developmental delay?
- What happens when a child is found to be delayed?
- What resources are available to help?
  - Professional services
  - Community resources
Quality Improvement & Screening

- Who will be responsible for the each step of the process(es)?
- When will you “Study” your results?
- How will you know if the new process is working?
- How will you acknowledge/reward success?
Quality Improvement & Screening

☐ Now that the process is working, how do you assure sustainability (and ongoing improvement)?

☐ Key staff member (or doc) leaves

☐ New employees

☐ Winter/RSV

☐ New tools become available

☐ Community resources change