



The Tennessee Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (TNAAP) can be a tremendous resource to you in implementing the use of formal screening tools in your practice. TNAAP has a free training program for practices and medical schools called **Screening Tools And Referral Training (START)**.

TNAAP offers START training throughout the state to educate physicians, allied health care providers, and office staff about developmental and behavioral screening tools, referral procedures, and office workflow, and coding for payment for screening that can be easily incorporated into a practice routine.

The purpose of the START program is threefold:

1. To increase early identification and referral of children with developmental delays or behavioral problems using standardized screening tools.
2. To better understand referral resources in your community.
3. To learn about better documentation of services, coding and payment.

The START training is divided into three parts:

Part I covers the science of developmental/behavioral screening using standardized screening tools and how developmental and behavioral screening enhances surveillance for the physician.

Part II examines standardized developmental and behavioral screening tools that can easily be incorporated into the child health visit. Participants get hands-on experience scoring and interpreting developmental and behavioral tools, as well as a tool for detecting autism spectrum and one for detecting post-partum depression in new moms. Part II also covers coding for payment when standardized screening tools are used.

Screening Tools Reviewed and Scored in Training through Case Studies:

- Newly Revised Modified Checklist of Autism in Toddlers (M-CHAT-R/F)
- Pediatric Symptom Checklist 17 (PSC-17)
- Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale (EPDS)
- CRAFFT/FRAMES Brief Interview
- NICHQ ADHD Toolkit
- Ages & Stages Questionnaire (ASQ)

Part III provides strategies for implementing screening procedures during the child health visit. Participants have the opportunity to work as a team to determine developmental/behavioral screening protocol, select the screening tools they would like to use, determine at which well child visits they would like to use them, and develop an action plan for their practice to begin to implement the protocol as soon as possible. Part III also provides information and strategies that practices may use to access appropriate referral resources in their community.

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SCREENING TOOLS AND REFERRAL TRAINING

START is an educational program developed by TNAAP to help pediatric care providers - including pediatricians, family physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, nurses, and others - learn skills and strategies to implement routine developmental screening using standardized screening tools as part of their health care procedures. This training is also appropriate for residents and students in the medical field who plan to become primary care providers. It was adapted with permission from the Illinois Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (ICAAP). The program is in collaboration with **Tennessee's Early Intervention System (TEIS)**.



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For more information on the **START** program contact Susan Rollyson, Training Coordinator at

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