

## HEALTH HISTORY

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The health and developmental history is of vital importance to the overall health assessment process. It affords the health care provider the opportunity to collect a base of information regarding growth and development, validate health status and health promoting behaviors, elicit present concerns, and develop a rapport with the patient and/or parent/caregiver. A standardized health history questionnaire may be used to gather information about the patient, but information about present concerns and the review of systems are best gathered in a face-to-face interview with the patient and/or parent/caregiver when verbal and non-verbal cues may be observed.

The state of California CHDP program is implementing CHDP periodicity schedules to conform with the American Academy of Pediatrics<sup>1</sup> [Bright Futures Recommendations for Periodic Preventive Health Care](#), which are also used by Medi-Cal managed care health plans.

### SCREENING REQUIREMENTS

Conduct a complete health and developmental history at the initial health assessment visit and update at each subsequent visit. Please refer to the [Bright Futures Recommendations for Preventive Pediatric Health Care](#) for age specific types and frequency of assessments. Whether using a questionnaire or conducting an interview, the health and developmental history includes, but is not limited to, the following components:

- Family profile including medical and social history.
- Past medical history including birth and neonatal history, and developmental progress.
- Health maintenance behavior including nutrition, sleep, elimination, and environmental risks (e.g. lead and tobacco exposure, safety practices).
- Concerns about present or anticipated problems.
- Review of systems which elicits problems not previously identified including symptoms, treatments, and outcomes.

### Bright Futures\*

[Bright Futures pre-visit parent questionnaire and physical forms.](#)

### CONSIDERATIONS FOR REFERRAL TREATMENT AND/OR FOLLOW-UP

The identification of issues in the past medical history and the family profile allows for additional evaluation, preventative services, or personalized management for children who may be at increased risk due to family health history issues.

### Resources

- [Performing Preventive Service, A Bright Futures Handbook](#) – History Observation, and Surveillance

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- [\*Role of Family Medical History Information in Pediatric Primary Care and Public Health\*](#)
- [Family History Tool for Pediatric Providers](#). Retrieved June 30, 2014.

\*American Academy of Pediatrics materials linked to with permission for reference only. Use of these materials beyond the scope of these guidelines must be reviewed and approved by the American Academy of Pediatrics, who can be reached at [marketing@aap.org](mailto:marketing@aap.org).