



Step 1.1: What is the PHDS?

The Promoting Healthy Development Survey is a parent survey that assesses whether young children age 0–3 (under 48 months of age) receive nationally recommended preventive and developmental services.

This survey-based tool captures information about the provision of preventive and developmental services recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Maternal and Child Health Bureau's Bright Futures. Specifically, the survey assesses recommendations provided in the context of discussions between parents and their children's pediatric clinicians. The PHDS also collects descriptive information about child health, parent health, and family behaviors.

The PHDS was designed to measure these communication-dependent aspects of care because studies have shown that medical chart reviews and claims or billing data do not reliably or validly measure clinical recommendations that providers discuss with their patients. A second goal of the PHDS is not only to assess whether recommended care was provided, but also to measure the degree to which the parent have their informational needs met and whether the care provided is family-centered. Again, these important characteristics of a high-quality health system are best measured by asking the parent(s) directly.

This manual provides the implementation guidelines for administration of the PHDS by mail. There are two versions of the PHDS that can be administered by mail:

- The full-length PHDS (Appendix 3)
- The reduced-item version of the PHDS, named the Pro-PHDS. There are three age-specific versions of the ProPHDS (Appendices 4–6).

The PHDS tools are summarized in the "Fast Facts" table that follows.

Table 1.1 Promoting Healthy Development Survey (PHDS) Fast Facts

<p>Overview of the PHDS</p>	<p>The Promoting Healthy Development Survey (PHDS) assesses whether young children age 0–3 receive nationally recommended preventive and developmental services. The full-length PHDS takes approximately 15–18 minutes to complete and the reduced-item PHDS takes approximately 5 minutes to complete. The PHDS includes additional items related to the child's health, parents' health, and family behaviors. An additional version of the PHDS for telephone administration (PHDS-PLUS). To date, over 45,000 surveys have been collected by 10 Medicaid agencies, four health plans, 38 pediatric practices, and nationally through the National Survey of Early Childhood Health. Components of the PHDS have also been included in the National Survey of Children's Health.</p>
<p>Quality of Care Topics Assessed in the PHDS</p>	<p>The PHDS collects data on 10 health care quality topics related to clinical and patient-centered care preventive and developmental services for young children:</p> <p><i>Appropriate Clinical Care</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Anticipatory guidance and parental education provided by doctors or other health care providers. 2. Assessment of parental concerns about their child's learning, development, and behavior. 3. Provision of specific information to address parental concerns. 4. Follow-up for children at risk for developmental, behavioral, or social delays. 5. Administration of a standardized, parent-completed developmental and behavioral screening tool. 6. Assessment of psychosocial issues in the family. 7. Assessment of smoking, substance abuse and safety in the family. 8. Coordination of care for children requiring multiple types of health care services or seeing more than one health care provider. (Items not included in the ProPHDS.) <p><i>Patient-Centered Care</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. Provision of family-centered care that respects and partners with parents. 10. Helpfulness of care provided to parents. (Items included in the PHDS only.) 11. Effect of care provided on parental confidence. (Items included in the PHDS only.) <p><i>Health Information</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 12. Provision of written or other types of health information to parents on caring for their child, preventing injuries, and ensuring optimal development. (Items included in the PHDS only.) 13. Provision of information about resources in the community for parents. <p><i>Minimum Comprehensive-Care Composite – "Got All Care Measure"</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 14. Provision of comprehensive care, meaning patients were provided a minimum threshold of care for the components of care listed above.

Table 1.1 PHDS Fast Facts (Continued)

<p>Additional Information Collected by the PHDS</p>	<p>The PHDS also gathers information useful for quality improvement and community assessment:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Child health and descriptive characteristics (risk for developmental, behavioral or social delays, special health care need, overall health status, premature birth, birth order).2. Parental health and socio-demographic characteristics (risk for depression, problems paying for child's basic health and medical needs, relationship to child, education level, marital status).3. Parenting behaviors (breastfeeding, reading, screen time, actions parents take to protect their child from injury).4. Child's health care utilization (number of regular or routine care visits, ER visits).5. Access issues (problems getting necessary care, use of health care).
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