



July 2015

Dear Colleague:

We are pleased to invite you to participate in an innovative project focused on improving developmental screening and follow-up among practicing primary care pediatricians. The quality improvement project, ***Don't Just Wait and See: Improving Developmental Screening and Follow-up***, is supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and managed by the American Academy of Pediatrics, Division of Children with Special Needs.

Up to 65 pediatricians will be selected to participate. The project is open to all **practicing primary care pediatricians** nationwide who see at least **10 patients per month for 9 month, 18 month, and 24 or 30 month health supervision visits**. We will select the first 65 participants who apply and meet the criteria for participation.

Over a 5 month period (September 2015 – January 2016), individual participants will:

- participate in the project over a 5-month period
- participate in a 60-minute orientation webinar
- complete a web-based pre-implementation survey
- submit baseline data for up to 40 of your own patients using a web-based data collection tool
- attend an in-person Learning Session to be held on October 23 in Washington, DC from 7:30 am – 11:00 am ET (one day prior to the AAP National Conference & Exhibition)
- register and attend at least one day of the AAP National Conference & Exhibition
- submit 3 months of data during the Action Period (up to 20 charts per month) using a web-based data collection tool
- submit findings and progress through 3 brief monthly online reports
- participate in 3 webinars where data is presented and QI principles are discussed during the Action Period
- review reports provided about your data on a monthly basis; utilize data to guide future improvements
- complete a web-based post-implementation survey

### **Benefits of Participation**

Participation in the project, may provide the following benefits to participants:

- Learn and test strategies to improve and promote monitoring, screening, and follow-up for developmental concerns
- Work and share strategies with colleagues from around the country
- Access practical tools and resources
- Receive ongoing support and technical assistance as well as feedback about progress

- Receive American Board of Pediatrics (ABP) MOC Part 4 Maintenance of Certification points (*pending MOC approval*)
- Pilot a quality improvement activity that can be replicated by AAP state chapters and health systems in the future

If you are interested in participating in the project, please complete the [project application](#) by August 14, 2015. A PDF of the application is attached for your convenience. Project staff will notify participants about their project participation status and next steps by August 21, 2015.

If you have questions about the quality improvement project, **Don't Just Wait and See: Improving Developmental Screening and Follow-up**, contact Christina Boothby or myself (contact information below).

Christina Boothby, MPA  
Program Manager  
American Academy of Pediatrics  
[cboothby@aap.org](mailto:cboothby@aap.org)  
847/434-4311

Donald E. Lighter, MD, MBA, FAAP, FACHE  
Project Leader/Quality Improvement Expert  
Principal Investigator  
[DLighterMD@ihqre.org](mailto:DLighterMD@ihqre.org)

We encourage you to apply to participate in this important project.

Sincerely,

Donald E. Lighter, MD, MBA, FAAP, FACHE

## **Don't Just Wait and See: Improving Developmental Screening and Follow-up Project Overview**

### **Specific MOC Expectations of Participants (pending MOC approval)**

***Failure of the participant to meet any of the expectations outlined below will result in loss of eligibility for MOC Part 4 points. It is the responsibility of the participant to ensure that all expectations are met in order to receive MOC Part 4 points.***

- Participate in the project over a 5-month period (September 2015 – January 2016)
- Participate in a 60-minute orientation webinar for the quality improvement (QI) project
- Complete a web-based pre-implementation survey
- Submit baseline data for up to 40 of your own patients using a web-based data collection tool
- Attend an in-person Learning Session to be held on **Friday, October 23 from 7:30 am – 11:00 am ET** in Washington, DC (one day prior to the AAP National Conference & Exhibition)
- Register and attend at least one day of the AAP National Conference & Exhibition, beginning on Saturday, October 24, 2015
- Submit 3 months of data during the Action Period (up to 20 charts per month) using a web-based data collection tool
- Submit findings and progress through 3 brief monthly reports
- Participate in 3 webinars where data is presented, QI principles are discussed, and education on topics relevant to the project are presented by experts in the field during the Action Period
- Review reports provided about your data on a monthly basis; utilize data to guide future improvements
- Complete a web-based post-implementation survey

### **Criteria for Participation**

The project is open to all practicing primary care pediatricians nationwide who see at least 10 patients per month for 9 month, 18 month, and 24 or 30 month health supervision visits. ***Pediatric subspecialists are not eligible to participate in this project.***

Selected participants will be notified by August 21, 2015. Participants are required to attend a prework/orientation webinar on August 25, 2015 from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm ET OR August 27, 2015 from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm ET. The orientation webinar will be conducted by AAP staff and by the Project Leader/Quality Improvement Expert.

Each participant will be asked to sign a consent form prior to participation in the project. Participants will be ineligible to continue with the project if a signed consent form is not received by August 31, 2015.

**Project Model and High Level Timeline**

Participant Enrollment (July-August 2015)	Prewrite/Baseline (August – September 2015)	Learning Session QI and Topical Education (October 2015 National Conference & Exhibition)	Action Period (November 2015 – January 2016)	Attestation Process (January – February 2016)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project orientation Webinar and QIDA demo to understand data collection system</li> <li>Submit data on up to 40 patients related to the 6 measures</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Submit data on up to 20 patients related to the 6 measures, monthly for 3 months</li> <li>Participate in at least 3 Webinars to discuss data and receive education</li> <li>Implement interventions using PDSA cycles</li> <li>Communicate with other participants via listserv</li> <li>In last month, participate in sustaining change webinar</li> </ul>	



**Project Goals and Aims**

Between November 2015 and January 2016, project participants will collaborate to test, implement, disseminate, and plan to sustain strategies identified to improve and promote monitoring, screening, and follow-up for developmental concerns, so that:

- 90% of patients are screened for risk of developmental, behavioral, and social delays using a standardized screening tool at the 9, 18, and 24 or 30 month health supervision visits.
- 90% of patients are screened for risk of autism using a standardized screening tool at the 18 and 24 month health supervision visit.
- The families of 90% of patients seen at the 9, 18, and 24 or 30 month health supervision visits receive a follow-up discussion of developmental screening results on the same day of the screening.
- The families of 90% of patients seen at the 18 and 24 month health supervision visit receive a follow-up discussion of autism screening results on the same day of the screening.
- 90% of patients seen at the 9, 18, and 24 or 30 month health supervision visits are referred for follow-up care within 7 calendar days of receiving a positive developmental screening result.
- 90% of patients seen at the 18 and 24 month health supervision visit are referred for follow-up care within 7 calendar days of receiving a positive autism screening result.

**Additional Project Activities**

Some optional activities, include:

- **Mentorship from Experts** – The project’s Project Oversight Team, comprised of experts in quality improvement and developmental-behavioral pediatrics, will serve as mentors to project participants. The Project Oversight Team will attend the face-to-face Learning Session to begin working with project participants. Once the Action Period begins, mentors will remain available via phone and email for participants to turn to for guidance and support throughout the project. In addition, group mentor calls may be held each month.

- **Qualitative Telephone Interviews** – At the end of the project (February/March 2016), ten project participants will be asked and consented to participate in an individual phone interview with an evaluation consultant. During this brief, 30-minute interview, participants will share their experiences related to the project, including the project’s impact on their developmental screening and follow-up efforts, challenges/successes participants experienced and their plans for sustaining change.

### **Institutional Review Board (IRB)**

*The quality improvement project has received approval from the AAP IRB.* No identifiable protected health information is being collected from patients or families for this project; therefore, HIPAA authorization will not be needed from parents of patients in order for you to participate.

Your hospital or healthcare system may also require IRB approval. Many times the information supplied in the AAP IRB application will be applicable to your own local or hospital IRB application and may be sufficient. If not, the AAP IRB will be provided upon request so that it can be adapted to meet your needs.

### **Data Sharing and Reporting**

No identifiable patient data is collected as part of this project. Data from chart reviews will be submitted via the AAP Quality Improvement Data Aggregator (QIDA) system (a web-based data collection tool) without identifiers.

Each participant will use the secure password protected QIDA system to view their own run charts compared to the aggregate of the other project participants. Data will be stored on a secure network with password protection. Project data will be stored indefinitely in the QIDA system, but once a project closes, only AAP QIDA staff will have access to the data.

For research and publications that may results from this work, individual data will not be identifiable. If individual data is presented, each participant will receive an ID code in the report.

### **Applicant Checklist**

Review the following documents:

- Invitation and Project Overview
- Electronic Application (PDF)

Submit the following:

- [Electronic Application](#) by August 14, 2015

If you have questions, contact Christina Boothby, MPA at [cboothby@aap.org](mailto:cboothby@aap.org) or 847/434-4311