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Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) Screener

What is it?

The Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) Screener assesses trauma and can initiate conversations that may promote healing and prevent future traumatic events by stopping intergenerational trauma.

Link(s) to Screener(s)

Adult ACEs Screener and Pediatric ACEs Screener (PEARLS)- [Screening Tools | ACEs Aware – Take action. Save lives.](#)

*available in English and Spanish

How to use it / Who should administer

It should be self-administered by the patient. There is debate about the risks/benefits around universal screening for ACEs. Some experts believe that it is potentially retraumatizing to ask these sensitive questions about trauma in a medical setting. Others believe that it can be very helpful if you are thoughtful about the way you implement ACEs screening. Avoidance of rescreening must be prioritized. A comprehensive child trauma-informed care delivery system must be adopted by the clinic

How to interpret / Next steps

Refer to the attached PDF for more information on what to do with an ACEs score.

<https://www.nctsn.org/sites/default/files/resources/special-resource/beyond-the-ace-score-perspectives-from-the-nctsn-on-child-trauma-and-adversity-screening-and-impact.pdf>