

# Child and Family Vision History and Risk Assessment

## Ages

One month through 20 years: most important to fill out before the child can reliably be screened with visual acuity charts typically at three years of age.

## Purpose

To identify a child/family history of medical condition that may be associated with an increased risk of eye disorders.

## Description

For initial interviews review risk factors that can indicate potential vision conditions recognized by the American Academy of Pediatrics and [National Center for Children's Vision & Eye Health \(nationalcenter.preventblindness.org\)](http://nationalcenter.preventblindness.org), and the parent /caregiver's/ teacher's observation of their child's complaints or unusual visual behavior that may indicate a vision concern. Refer to [Child and Family Vision History and Risk Assessment \(www.health.state.mn.us\)](http://www.health.state.mn.us) for a succinct list of concerns and questions that the parent or caregiver can respond to.

Factors that are noted to potentially change in the interim such as caregiver concerns or observations should be reviewed at subsequent child and teen checkups/well child visits or screenings.

Risk factors that can indicate potential vision conditions include:

- Prematurity <32 weeks
- Family history of:
  - Congenital cataracts
  - Retinoblastoma
  - Metabolic or genetic diseases\*
  - Amblyopia
  - Wearing glasses before 6 years of age \*
- Significant developmental delay
- Neurological difficulties such as seizure disorders
- Systemic diseases associated with eye abnormalities

If needed caregiver or provider can review a list of diseases and conditions associated with vision and eye abnormalities in [Vision Screening Forms, Tool and Materials \(www.health.state.mn.us\)](http://www.health.state.mn.us).

## Screener Qualifications

Can be performed by screeners who have received the recommended training by the Minnesota Department of Health or equivalent. Refer to Assessment Tools on the [Vision Screening Forms, Tools and Materials webpage \(www.health.state.mn.us\)](http://www.health.state.mn.us).

In the C&TC clinic setting a positive risk factor should be reviewed by the medical provider.

## Forms

- Child and Family Vision Risk Assessment and History for C&TC clinic settings and other screening settings as indicated.
- Teacher and Child Vision Prescreening Worksheet for educational settings as indicated.
- Diseases and Conditions Associated with Vision and Eye Abnormalities.

## Procedure

Parent/caregiver is given the forms to complete, and answers are reviewed and flagged if there are significant risk factors for vision conditions or concerning behaviors reported.

If parent/caregiver has questions regarding the form, a contact number for referral/follow-up should be provided.

## PASS

No child or family history of associated conditions, syndromes or concerning vision behaviors is identified.

## REFER

A positive family history, positive parental or caregiver concern or a newly diagnosed condition is an indication for referral to an eye care professional.

Parental/ caregiver concern about specific behaviors may indicate a need for referral to an eye care professional. Concerns should be assessed at every visit.

Minnesota Department of Health  
Child and Teen Checkups  
651-201-3650  
[health.childteencheckups@state.mn.us](mailto:health.childteencheckups@state.mn.us)  
[www.health.state.mn.us](http://www.health.state.mn.us)

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*To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-201-3650.*