CHILDHOOD HUNGER SCREENING & INTERVENTION ALGORITHM

Screen for Food Insecurity

Suggested Questions:[1]

For each statement, please tell me whether the statement was "often true, sometimes true, or never true" for your household:

A. "Within the past 12 months we worried whether our food would run out before we got money to buy more." ☐ *often true* ☐ *sometimes true* ☐ *never true* ☐ *don't know, or refused*

B. "Within the past 12 months the food we bought just didn't last and we didn't have money to get more." ☐ *often true* ☐ *sometimes true* ☐ *never true* ☐ *don't know, or refused*

Screen Negative →
- Assess Growth
- Display Patient Outreach Resources

Screen Positive *(complete steps 1-4)*

❶ Assess Growth

Anthropometric Assessment; e.g., weight, height, head circumference, interval growth, BMI

❷ Assess for Health Consequences

LABS:
- CBC

CONSIDER:
- Iron Studies
- Lead Level
- Vitamin D Level

SCREENING:
- Developmental
- Mental Health

❸ Provide Resources

NUTRITION RESOURCES:[2]
- SNAP (Food Stamps)
- WIC Program (Women, Infants and Children)
- Meal Programs (school, after-school, and summer)
- Emergency Food Resources

❹ Referrals & Other Considerations[3]

POSSIBLE REFERRALS:
- Dietitian
- Social Worker

CONSIDER:
- Multivitamin; including Vitamins D, A, & Folate

[1]Hager ER, et al. (2010). Development and Validity of a 2-Item Screen to Identify Families at Risk for Food Insecurity. Pediatrics, 126: e26-e32.

[2]Providers and/or patients can go to the 211 Info/Oregon Safenet web site at www.211info.org for a complete list of local food and nutrition resources.

[3]Consider evaluating family need for additional resources including energy assistance, TANF, health insurance. Providers should consider the financial barriers when recommending/prescribing a multivitamin.

Childhood Hunger COALITION