

## The ASQ in a Nutshell

### ***Why complete developmental screenings?***

Children who are victims of abuse, neglect and/or other environmental threats are at risk for developmental delays. An obstacle to the timely delivery of early intervention services is the early and accurate identification of infants and young children who have developmental delays or disorders. Implementation of a screening program will assist in early detection of infants and young children who require more extensive evaluation and who will likely benefit from early intervention services.

### ***Who is it designed for?***

The ASQ is designed to assess large numbers of children. It is designed to be administered by parents with some professional involvement. The questions are straight forward and have been written at a fourth to sixth grade reading level.

### ***What are the components?***

Each questionnaire contains 30 questions. The items are divided into five developmental areas:

- Communication;
- Gross Motor;
- Fine Motor;
- Problem Solving (cognitive);
- Personal-Social.

A final section “Overall” is designed to address general parental/caregiver concerns.

Questionnaires are in two month intervals from ages 4 – 24 months because of the rapid growth and change that occurs during the first two years of life and at 27, 30, 33, 36, 42, 48, 54 and 60 months thereafter. There are 19 questionnaires in total.

### ***Where is it administered?***

The questionnaires are designed to be completed by the child’s parents or caregivers in the home. It is available in English, Spanish, French and Korean. It will take the parent approximately 10-20 minutes for the parent or caregiver to complete and 2-3 minutes for the child welfare or other professional to score. Next steps can then be discussed.

### ***When is it used?***

Use of the questionnaire is flexible. Questionnaires can be used at 6-month intervals, one time only (at the time a case is opened), or at a few selected intervals (e.g., 12, 24, and 33 months).

(Sources: *Applying Ages & Stages Instruments*, 2009 & *OCYF Bulletin No. 3490-10-01*, 2010.)