Acute Stress Checklist (ASC)

PTSD Screening in Pediatric Patients

Go-live date: 04/01/2025

What is the ASC Screen?

- ASC is the Acute Stress Checklist
 - Utilized by many facilities to screen children for PTSD
 - Created by Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) in 2006
 - Updated in 2016
 - Meant for use in children with recent experience of a potentially traumatic event

Why does this matter?

Recent weakness on ACS survey for PTSD screening in children

ACS requires that a process be in place for screening children

Goal is >/=80% of compliance

Overall, it is important for the wellness of our pediatric trauma patients 🙂

How will this be implemented?





Provider team will screen patients at time of tertiary or discharge



Three questions

If positive, will give resources courtesy of Case Management and patient portal instructions

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And....patients will also receive communication ~30 days after initial screen for a repeat screen from Pediatric Trauma Coordinator



Will rollout screen with the (very appreciated) help of the PAs

Due to NPs not having scope to see pediatric patients, if a PA is not available, a resident will perform the screen

Who will be screened?

Pediatric trauma patients our service is involved in the care of

Ages 4 through 14

Any MOI

That seems like a lot of patients to screen....

- We ran the numbers to determine just how many patients this screen involves as we were also a little worried on how many patients this would involve....
 - After running the numbers from 2024 – this volume will be about 120 patients per year → about 10 patients per month ☺

The ASC3 Screen:

ASC-3

| | | Never / Not true | Sometimes/ Somewhat | Often / Very true |
|---|--|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 | When something reminds me of what happened, I feel very upset. | | | |
| 2 | I want to stay away from things that remind me of what happened. | | | |
| 3 | I feel scared that something bad might happen. | | | |

The ASC3 Screen Example:

ASC-3

| | | Never / Not true | Sometimes/ Somewhat | Often / Very true |
|---|--|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 | When something reminds me of what happened, I feel very upset. | | X | |
| 2 | I want to stay away from things that remind me of what happened. | | | × |
| 3 | I feel scared that something bad might happen. | × | | |

Score = <u>3</u>

- Never/Not True = 0 points
- Sometimes/Somewhat = 1 point
- Often/very true = 3 points
- If score >/= 3, screen is positive for PTSD concern.

I screened them....now what?

- <u>If negative</u>: Hooray! No concern at this moment for PTSD. Go about your tertiary/discharge as normal.
- <u>If positive</u>: Refer to the CM resources left in chart on patient admission. Follow those resources/refer patient to those.
 - Wait....what resources from CM??
 - In conjunction with Case Management and to ensure patient specific resources based on MOI and insurance:
 <u>CM requests a consult order at time of admission to</u>
 <u>Trauma.</u> At this consult, they will place a note in the chart with resources specific to the patient.
 - Then....let the patient know they will receive follow up from the Trauma service in approximately 30 days to do a repeat screen. <u>Make sure to give them packet (kept with screen)</u> on how to sign up for Banner patient portal.
- If negative but you have concern for high risk of PTSD, please note that in the chart with your screen.
 - Pediatric Coordinator will see note on chart review and complete PTSD screen process as they would for a patient who screened positive.

So, what happens after that? Do I need to do anything else?

- Nope, nothing else needs to be done on your end! ^(C)
- Pediatric Coordinator will follow up with the patient ~30 days after discharge and perform a repeat screen called the ASC6
- Score >/= 6 is a positive screen → Dependent on CM resources from admission.

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| | | Never / Not true | Sometimes/ Somewhat | Often / Very true |
|---|--|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 | At times, it seems like it is happening all over again. | | | |
| 2 | When something reminds me of what happened, I feel very upset. | | | |
| 3 | I want to stay away from things that remind me of what happened. | | | |
| 4 | I try to stop my feelings about it. | | | |
| 5 | I have a harder time concentrating or paying attention. | | | |
| 6 | I feel scared that something bad might happen. | | | |

What can we do to make this easier for you?

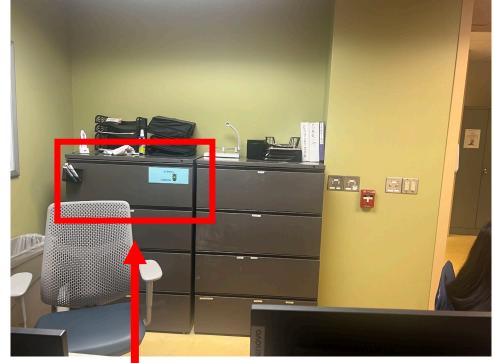


- Brittney Alexander, APP, has created a dot phrase for you to use in Cerner
 - Click Autotext, search her name, see/use "PedsScreen"
- We can make badge buddies with the questions if you would like
- Paper copies of the screen and Banner patient portal sign-up directions are being kept on the units.

| Attending Attestation/Recommended CPT Code or Service Level | |
|---|--|
| ASC-3 | |
| When something reminds me of what happened I feel very upset _ I want to stay away from things that remind me of what happened _ I feel scared that something bad might happen _~ | |
| Total Score: 🗸 | |

Where to find paper screen and Banner patient portal directions (document screen result as dot phrase in Cerner afterwards):





PICU: behind nurses' station, top left drawer

D5 unit: across from nurse's station

Quick Rundown of the Process Again

Patient arrival and decision to admit to Trauma At time of admit order, place order for Case Management consult CM does consult and leaves note in chart with patient specific resources Tertiary/Discharge time: Perform ASC3 screen and utilize dot phrase to chart screen in chart If positive, refer to CM resources in chart, give patient portal directions, and remind patient they will receive communication from Pediatric Trauma Coordinator in ~30 days. If negative, you are all done!

~30 days out, Pediatric Trauma Coordinator will communicate with patient and coordinate next steps Thank you! Any questions? Concerns? Ideas?

Reach out to Jessica at jessica.edwards@bannerhealth.com

