

## 1505: VISION SCREENING PROCEDURES AND PROTOCOLS

The Sooner Start Vision Screening is a screening only and not a complete assessment of the visual system. Not passing a screening does not necessarily indicate a vision loss but rather is an indication of the need for an in-depth visual evaluation.

### Procedure:

- Infants and toddlers being evaluated for the early intervention program will have a completed vision screening as part of the evaluation process.
- The vision screening results will be documented on the **SoonerStart Vision Screening Form ODH-645 (Appendix R)** and entered in EdPlan by clicking the “Evaluation” tab under Sooner Start eligibility process and entering the date of the evaluation and the results in the section labeled “Vision and Hearing Evaluation Information”.
- If the child is being seen by a pediatric ophthalmologist, a Confidential Release of Information should be completed by the parent during the evaluation process and sent promptly for current records (less than one year old) in lieu of doing the vision screening form. Once this information is received, it should be entered into EdPlan as outlined above.
- Children who are eligible with an automatic qualifying condition will have a completed vision screening by their first 6-month review.

### Concerns:

- If concerns are indicated on the vision screening and the service provider and/or the parents have concerns, the provider will recommend the family contact the child’s pediatrician to obtain a referral to a pediatric ophthalmologist.
- If there is a diagnosis of a vision loss or disorder documented by an ophthalmologist, the primary service provider will notify and consult with the Sooner Start Vision Consultant (SSVC) in their area.
- Any child with an auto-qualifying vision condition should also be referred to the SSVC. Although CVI is not included as an AQ, any child with that diagnosis should be referred to the SSVC.

**No concerns:** Re-screen annually or with subsequent evaluations

### Protocol:

- The role of the Sooner Start Vision Consultant (SSVC) is to support the Primary Service Provider (PSP). Visits with the SSVC and the PSP, including contract providers, should occur concurrently. Scheduling will require flexibility, as the SSVC will have set days scheduled with each team.
- The SSVC will notify each team of the day(s) they will be available for home visits in each county. The team will be responsible for scheduling visits within the hours specified by the SSVC.
- Prior to the consultation visit, the team should provide the SSVC with
  - Parent’s and child’s names,

- presenting concerns,
  - a copy of a current ophthalmologist's report (or record that one has been requested),
  - address and directions to the home or location of the visit.
- The SSVC should be added to the IFSP if the team determines there is a documented concern for vision loss and there is a need for ongoing vision services or the ophthalmologist's report indicates a qualifying visual diagnosis.
- The SSVC will offer vision training specific to each child's needs to the PSP and other service providers.
- The PSP and other providers will carry through with vision objectives and activities between the periodic visits of the SSVC, as specified by the SSVC.
- The SSVC or the Regional Coordinator is responsible for maintaining a current accounting of all infants birth to three having a qualifying visual impairment to be included in the annual Federal Quota Fund Report with the Oklahoma AIM Center/Library for the Blind.
- The SSVC will not act as the PSP for any child.