

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)

1

Assess Growth

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

2

Assess for Health Consequences

LABS:

- CBC

CONSIDER:

- Iron Studies
- Lead Level
- Vitamin D Level

SCREENING:

- Developmental
- Mental Health

3

Provide Resources

NUTRITION RESOURCES:²

- SNAP (Food Stamps)
- WIC Program (Women, Infants and Children)
- Meal Programs (school, after-school, and summer)
- Emergency Food Resources

4

Referrals & Other Considerations³

POSSIBLE REFERRALS:

- Dietitian
- Social Worker

CONSIDER:

- Multivitamin; including Vitamins D, A, & Folate

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

²Providers 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.

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