



Quality Improvement Readiness Checklist and Prioritization Table for Early Childhood Development (ECD) Change Ideas

This checklist helps community health centers identify where to begin testing QI strategies across ECD topic areas. Use this table to assess current practices, prioritize opportunities, and plan small tests of change.

PRIMARY DRIVER	CHANGE IDEA	Do We Already Do This? (Y/N/Partial)	Are Staff Trained? (Y/N/Partial)	Is It Documented in Workflow or EHR? (Y/N)	Are There Clear Measures? (Y/N)	Priority to Start QI? (High, Med, Low)	NOTES & NEXT STEPS
Promotion & Prevention	Establish ECD competencies						
	Recruit and hire an ECD expert						
	Train health care providers in developmental support						
	Create and require Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) provider training						
	Use social media platforms to increase family awareness of EPSDT						
	Use an adaptable positive parenting protocol						
	Use a standard process to share anticipatory guidance						
	Use a strengths-based protocol to discuss early relationships						



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Promotion & Prevention	Use an early literacy strategy to promote development and early relational health						
	Integrate protective factor/positive experiences protocol into well-child visits						
	Collaborate with local organizations to promote ECD						
	Build relationships with comprehensive promotion and prevention programs in the community						
Surveillance & Screening	Incorporate family-engaged developmental surveillance						
	Establish a family advisory group						
	Integrate the Online Promoting Healthy Development Survey as a routine family feedback tool						
	Establish a family advisory role						
	Integrate the national CLAS standards						



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Surveillance & Screening	Embed a workflow to streamline recommended screenings into the electronic health record system						
	Create automated electronic health record reminders						
	Develop a screening compliance process						
	Embed electronic health record pop-up alerts						
	Develop a training protocol for new hires						
Care Coordination & Linkage	Identify community partners						
	Improve care coordination for families with complex medical, behavioral, and social needs						
	Facilitate face-to-face meetings with community partners						
	Engage families in care transitions						
	Use warm handoffs between providers						



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Care Coordination & Linkage	Implement a care coordination protocol with a feedback loop						
	Implement a care coordination checklist						
	Use a referral tracking process						
	Automate referral follow-up alerts in the electronic health record						
Early Intervention	Offer brief intervention from an early childhood developmental expert or team member						
	Establish a secure process for communicating with external specialists and community organizations						
	Introduce a standardized procedure for early childhood telehealth visits						
	Use community health workers or patient navigators to support telehealth visits						
	Integrate home visitor drop-ins during well-child visits						
	Establish a collaborative care model						