TITLE: Screening in Primary Care Pediatrics: Can it be done well and can it be improved?

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RESEARCH PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Background: Current best practices in pediatrics require extensive screening in the primary care medical home. However, myriad barriers, such as provider perceptions, patient interest, and availability of community support make implementation of validated tools difficult given the time constraints of the outpatient setting. An integrated approach to screening is necessary.

Hypothesis: Through mapping of currently recommended tools, screening can be systematized and streamlined, especially if coordinated with emerging health information technology tools and various methods including item response theory. A motivated student can think critically about current well child care and plan future interventions in implementation science that impact how high quality primary care is delivered.

Methods: Using Bright Futures, the AAP recommended periodicity table and extensive literature searches, construct a plan to better integrate improvement efforts in primary care screening in the pediatric setting.

Role of medical student: A medical student will be expected to work to critically examine current practices to calculate a) the time all screening as it stands would take and b) to process and integrate how to streamline screening. Expected outcomes include a poster presentation at UF and possibly national meetings and manuscript preparation. Advantages include a dual support in Pediatrics (clinical relevance) and Health Outcomes and Policy (implementation science, methodology and policy support and relevance towards the Health Outcomes and Policy Pathway). Students from Pediatrics and Health Outcomes and Policy will have mentoring and peer opportunities to have a shared learning experience.

Funding and relevant publications: Current internal efforts by Pediatrics and Health Outcomes and Policy allow for this integrated research.

