

Vision Screening: DECISION TREE

1. Ask: "Have you ever had an eye exam by an eye doctor" Show picture
Answers: YES NOT SURE NO
2. Be Aware: Is the child struggling in school, on an IEP, developmentally delayed, learning disabled, or have a neuropsychological condition or behavioral issue? (School nurse or principal would know)"
Answers: YES NOT SURE NO
3. FIRST REFERRAL DECISION POINT: If #1 is NO and #2 is YES, then a referral is recommended regardless of pass/fail on any further screening.



RATIONALE:

#1: American Optometric Association recommends Comprehensive Eye Exams at: 6 months, 3 years, before 1st grade, every 2 years thereafter.

#2: American Academy of Ophthalmology recommends a visual screening by a "pediatrician, family doctor, ophthalmologist, optometrist, orthoptist or person trained in vision assessment of preschool children." for Newborn, Infant, Preschooler, School Age (upon entering school). AND a Comprehensive Eye Exam for any child that fails a vision screening, the vision screening is inconclusive or cannot be performed, there is a vision complaint or observed abnormal visual behavior, or the child has a learning disability, developmental delay, neuropsychological condition or behavioral issue.

#3: Therefore, if a child hasn't had an eye exam by an eye doctor and is having any school struggles, then they are overdue for an eye exam and a referral is recommended.

#4: Eye exams by eye doctors are an essential health benefit of the Affordable Care Act.

4. Complete Mandated Distance and Near Visual Acuity screenings
REFERRAL DECISION POINT: Follow state mandated referral for any failure of distance or near visual acuity.
5. Complete optional Hyperopia Screening Flipper Test to find hyperopes.
REFERRAL DECISION POINT: If question #1 is NO or NOT SURE and the child can still pass the distance visual acuity looking through the hyperopia screening flipper, then refer for an eye exam. OR, complete optional Instrument based autorefractometry and follow the manufacturer's guidelines for referral decisions. DO NOT ELIMINATE STEPS ONE TO FOUR ABOVE.
6. Complete Optional Stereovision ability screening.
REFERRAL DECISION POINT: If question #1 is NO or NOT SURE and the child fails this stereovision ability screening, then refer for an eye exam. Even if question #1 is YES, consider a referral.
7. Complete Optional Convergence Insufficiency Symptom Survey.
REFERRAL DECISION POINT: If scoring significantly in symptoms consider referral. Definitely refer if question #1 was answered NO

