

# TRAINING PRIMARY HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS ON EARLY DETECTION AND REFERRAL OF CHILDREN AGED 0-5 YEARS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DELAY IN ZARIA, NIGERIA

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

- Developmental delay is a significant delay in one or more of motor, social-emotional, language, and cognitive domains in children less than 5 years (Martins B, Orlaik B, Robert S, 2013). Global prevalence is 10-20% and prevalence is unknown in Nigeria (Durkin MS et al, 2006).
- Children with developmental delays are at risk for learning and cognitive disabilities, speech and language difficulties, and behavioral problems.
- Early detection of developmental disorders is critical to the well-beings of children and their families (AAP, 2001).
- Primary health care providers are in a key position to address child development in developing countries.

## 2.0 GOALS

- Training of primary health care providers on early detection and referral of children aged 0-5 years with developmental delay in Institute of Child Health, Banzazzau Zaria Nigeria



Picture Above: A child with developmental delay..

## 3.0 PARTICIPANTS

- 10 Primary health care providers (medical doctors, nurses, community extension workers), will be recruited from the Institute of Child Health (ICH), Banzazzau Zaria Nigeria, and train on how to screen 125 children aged 0-5 years with suspected developmental delays and promptly refer them to a tertiary hospital

## 3.1 MEASURE

- Denver Developmental Screening Tool II (Denver II) is a 125 Performance-based and Parent report items used to screen children's development in four areas of functioning.
- Fine motor-Adaptive, Gross Motor, Personal-Social, and Language skills. There is also a testing behavior observation filled out by the test administrator.

## 3.2 PROCEDURE

- Introduction, discussion of training objectives and approval seeking
- Recruitment of participants
- Implementation of the training program over two days
- Application of the training to detect 125 children with suspected developmental delay over 2 months
- Monitoring and Evaluation

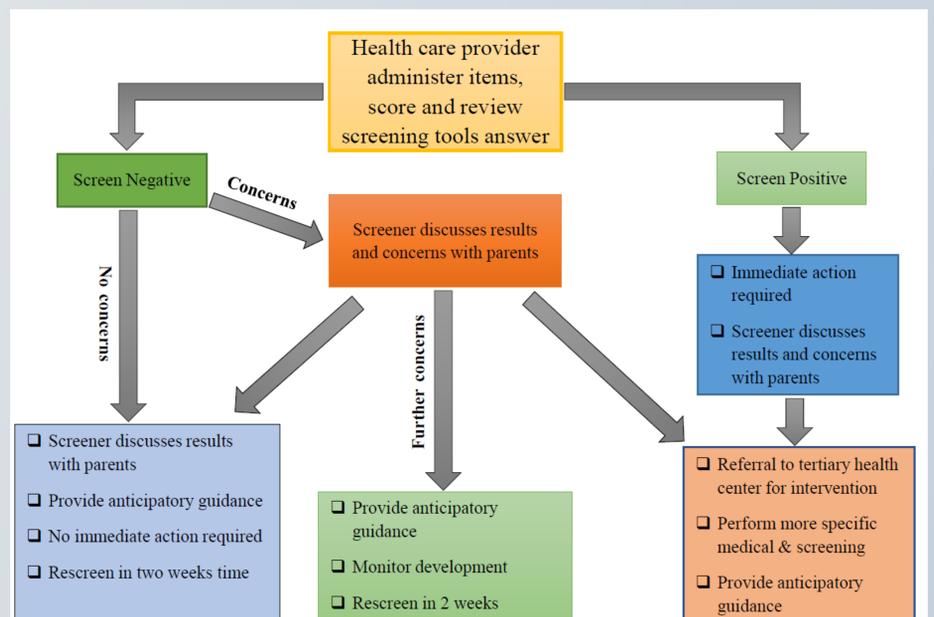


Figure 1: Screening flow chart.

## 4.0 STRENGTH & LIMITATION

### STRENGTH

- It is the first training program on detection of developmental delay
- It will identify children with suspected developmental delay for prompt intervention
- It will improve the screening skills of the primary health care providers

### LIMITATION

- The screening tool will not be able to identify the cause of the developmental delays
- There may be over or under-referrals of children with developmental delay due to false positive or false negative results leading to anxiety in the parent or caregivers

## REFERENCE

- American Association of Pediatrics (2001). Developmental surveillance and screening of infants and young children. *Pediatrics*, 108:192-196.
- Durkin MS et al.(2006). Learning and developmental disabilities. In J. D. al, Disease control priorities in developing countries (pp. 933-951). New York: Oxford University Press.
- Martins B, Orlaik B, Robert S. (2013). Developmental Assessment of Children. *B M J*,346.

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