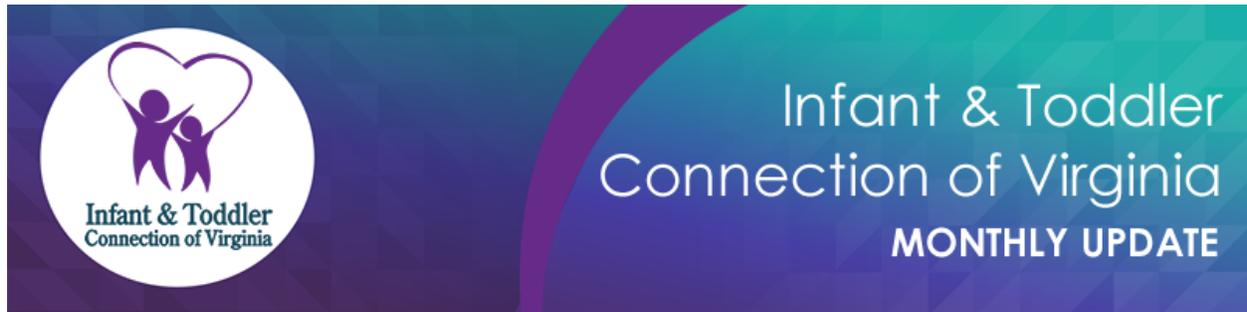


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June 2016

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### STATE SYSTEMIC IMPROVEMENT PLAN (SSIP)

#### State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP)

A number of steps in our SSIP are now underway! We will use this section of the monthly Update to highlight activities completed in the previous month for these steps. Please see the attached table for details.

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As a reminder, our finalized SSIP and related materials have been posted to the SSIP section of our website at <http://www.infantva.org/Sup-SSIP.htm>. If you have questions about the SSIP, please contact [Kyla Patterson at k.patterson@dbhds.virginia.gov](mailto:k.patterson@dbhds.virginia.gov).

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### THE DECISION TREE--WHY CULTURE MATTERS: CULTURAL DIVERSITY IN DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING TOOLS FOR YOUNG CHILDREN

#### **The Decision Tree**

#### **Child Indicator Seeds for Success**

#### **Why Culture Matters: Cultural Diversity in Developmental Screening Tools for Young Children**



## Cross-Cultural Considerations for using the ASQ-3/ASQ:SE

The ASQ-3 is one of the most widely used tools for gathering developmental information for eligibility determination in Virginia and has shown excellent validity and reliability within the general population. However recently there has been much attention placed on whether this is true for individuals from diverse cultural backgrounds. Since the ASQ-3 and ASQ:SE were developed in the United States (US), the data used to study their psychometric properties and to set cutoff points came primarily from families and children living in the US. The ASQ-3 is unique from other screening tools in that parents, as opposed to providers, complete the questionnaire. Therefore insights from immigrant and refugee parents are vital in understanding the potential difference in how parents may respond to ASQ questions depending on their cultural lens. The more the assessment team understands the cultural values of the family, the more successful the interactions and assessment will be.

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## Physical Developmental Delays: What To Look For

**Source: American Academy of Pediatrics - April 8, 2016**

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recently launched [Physical Developmental Delays: What to Look For](#), an interactive online tool for parents of children ages 5 and under to use when they are concerned about their child's motor development. Health care providers who are approached with these concerns can refer to the AAP clinical report, [Motor Delays: Early Identification and Evaluation](#), which includes an algorithm to guide developmental surveillance and screening, red flags signaling a need for prompt referral, and recommendations, including appropriate testing.

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## Head Start and Early Childhood Education (ECE) Policies and Resources

The Office of Head Start offers several email subscription options to help you stay updated on both Head Start and early childhood education (ECE) policies and resources. While these listservs originate in the Office of Head Start, the content has utility for other contexts as well. While some resources will pertain only to Head Start programs, the majority of them will have relevance for early childhood colleagues in diverse settings and roles.

You can visit the [Subscribe page](#) on the Early Childhood Learning and Knowledge Center (ECLKC) <http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/eclkc/customerservice/cmalerts> to adjust your preferences at any time. No password is necessary. Simply enter your email address to see your current list selections. Select and uncheck lists as desired and use the "Subscribe or Update" button to save your changes.

**Here are some of the subscription options.**

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## Custody Concerns and Notifications

### Foster Care Scenarios:

When a child is in foster care, the *Notice to Biological/Adoptive Parents of a Child in Foster Care* letter must be sent as soon as the system becomes aware of the foster care placement (either at referral or later during the child's enrollment if foster care placement occurs after referral). The Notice is not required if the biological or adoptive parent's rights have been terminated. The notice must be sent again prior to each annual IFSP. In addition a copy of any Parental Prior Notice form that goes to the foster parent should be sent to the biological parent as well. It is recommended that these documents also be sent to the child's social worker as they are the constant link between the child and biological/adoptive parents while the child is in foster care.

If the foster parent is a relative of the child (grandparent, aunt, etc.), the *Notice to Biological/Adoptive Parents of a Child in Foster Care* must still be sent to the biological/adoptive parent.

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## Medicaid Early Intervention Services Nursing Code Change

The early intervention code for nursing has now been updated in the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) system. **G0164** is the new code (replacing G0154). **G0164** is the correct code to use for claims for early intervention nursing services on or after 1/1/16. Any nursing claims that have been denied for services on or after 1/1/16 due to use of the code G1054 should be re-submitted using **G0164**.

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## Part C Staff Directory

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### Note about This Update:

This Update is prepared by the Infant & Toddler Connection of Virginia State Team at the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services as a means of sharing current information from the DBHDS/Part C Office.

### Enrollment of Children in the Medicaid Data System (VAMMIS)

Please note the following contact information for questions about enrollment of children in the Medicaid Data System (VAMMIS).

- [Irene Scott](#) \* 804-786-4868
- [Beth Tolley](#) \* 804-371-6595

### Early Intervention Certification

For questions about certification of practitioners, contact [Irene Scott](#) \* 804-786-4868

For questions related to completing the online application, contact [David Mills](#) \* 804-371-6593

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