

SENSORY SHORTS

The ADHS Sensory Screening Program



SPOT MACHINE FAQ'S

Clarification around the ongoing use of photoscreeners and autorefractors for school based vision screenings.

What are Spot Machines (Photoscreeners/Autorefractors)?

Photoscreeners and autorefractors are simple machine based vision screening devices used to identify risk factors for vision problems, such as refractive errors, misalignment and other abnormalities in the eye.

What are the limitations of using Photoscreeners and Autorefractors?

This screening does not provide visual acuity information and cannot be used as a replacement for optotype charts.

What are best practice recommendations for use of Photoscreeners and Autorefractors?

The American Association for Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus (AAPOS) states: "Photoscreening is particularly useful with preverbal children (under age 3 yrs), young children (age 3-5 yrs) and older, noncooperative or non-verbal children."





Welch Allyn Spot Vision Screener

What will the new Vision Rules say about using them?

Photoscreeners or autorefractors are an acceptable alternative to visual acuity screening for children under 6 years of age and those who are unable to successfully participate in chartbased screening.

What is the passing criteria?

The Machine will indicate a "Pass" or "Refer" depending on the child's screening results.

Do we need to rescreeen students who don't pass?

The Hearing and Vision Screening Rules will not require a second vision screening for all students who do not pass. Second screenings can be conducted at the screener's discretion.

SCREENING SPOTLIGHT:

THE AUSTIN CENTERS FOR EXCEPTIONAL STUDENTS

6 Maricopa County, Az Campuses

"The ACES (The Austin Centers for Exceptional Students), is a school that caters to students with special needs and behavioral issues. Recently, my team and I received certification for hearing screening, which allows us to help the districts screen our students. This year has been both challenging and rewarding for us. We took extra time with many of our students, played games with them, and compared the results of the audiometer to those of the OAE.

During the screening process, I noticed that many students on the spectrum would point to the ear from which they heard the noise, while others with delayed responses would only respond with a "beep". This also included our nonverbal students. The teacher support staff were of great help during the screening process and made the students feel more comfortable. We did encounter some students who were uncooperative or couldn't be screened, but with more practice, I believe we'll be able to screen a greater number of our student population.

I would like to express my gratitude to Morgan for all her support and help with the loaning of the equipment. I would also like to thank the nurses from the districts who assisted us in getting started with this in our first year."

Kristi Chua MS, RN, BSN

Nurse Manager The Austin Centers for Exceptional Students





IT'S ABOUT THE BRAINI

DID YOU KNOW?

<u>Conductive Hearing Loss</u> happens when sound can't get through the outer or middle ear like it typically would so it doesn't have a chance to reach the inner ear to get sent to the brain. This might impact all sound or just some pitches and volumes.

Ear infections are a common cause of conductive hearing loss in young children and can impact spoken language development.

Causes of Conductive Hearing Loss:

- Fluid or infection in the middle ear A small or missing ear Too much earwax or an object
 - A narrow or closed ear canal
- stuck in the ear canal
- A hole in the ear drum
- · Missing or malformed bones in the middle ear



WANT TO SHARE YOUR SCHOOL'S SCREENING SUCCESS?

Email: SensoryProgram@ azdhs.gov

Subject: Screening Spotlight

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