



150 N. Michigan Ave. ~ Suite 2100
Chicago, IL 60601

Web-site: www.pathwaysawareness.org
Phone: 800-955-2445 ~ Fax: 888-795-5884
E-mail: friends@pathwaysawareness.org



Where kids come first.™

Child Health Data Lab
Mary Ann and J. Milburn Smith
Child Health Research Program
*Children's Memorial Institute
for Education and Research*

Children's Memorial Hospital
2300 Children's Plaza, #157
Chicago, IL

Parents Knowledge and Perception about Child Milestones: Evidence from a practice-based survey

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Child Development Survey

We are conducting a survey of early intervention being carried out by the Pathways Awareness Foundation, through the Child Health Data Lab and the Pediatric Practice Research Group, both of which are affiliated with the Children's Memorial Medical Center.

We are asking the parents of our patients who have at least one child less than 36 months of age to complete the attached anonymous and confidential questionnaire. The survey takes about 5-10 minutes to complete.

*You do not have to participate

*You do not have to answer any question that makes you feel uncomfortable

*The care your child will receive will not be affected by your choice to participate or not participate in the survey, or by any answers that you give.

* You must be 18 years of age or older to complete the survey

WHICH OF THESE THREE OPTIONS IS RIGHT FOR YOU?

Check here and begin the survey if:

- I am willing to participate, I am at least 18 years old and I have a child less than 36 months of age.

Check here, do not complete the survey and return it to the office staff person if:

- I do not have a child less than 36 months of age
- I am under the age of 18

Check here, do not complete the survey and return it to the office staff person if:

- I have a child less than 36 months of age, but do not want to participate

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Example 1



- *Pushes up on arms
- *Holds head up

1a. IN YOUR OPINION, looking at EXAMPLE 1, at what age would you expect a baby to achieve this skill?

Months

1b. If your child did not acquire this skill by that age, at what age would you consider it a big enough problem to mention to your child's physician?

Months

Example 2



- *Sits with support
- *Holds head up
- *Straight back

1c. IN YOUR OPINION, looking at EXAMPLE 2, at what age would you expect a baby to achieve this skill?

Months

1d. If your child did not achieve this skill by that age, at what age would you consider it a big enough problem to mention to your child's physician?

Months

Example 3



- *Sits without support
- *Arms free to reach and grasp

1e. IN YOUR OPINION, looking at EXAMPLE 3, at what age would you expect a baby to achieve this skill?

Months

1f. If your child did not achieve this skill by that age, at what age would you consider it a big enough problem to mention to your child's physician?

Months

Example 4



*Pull to stand

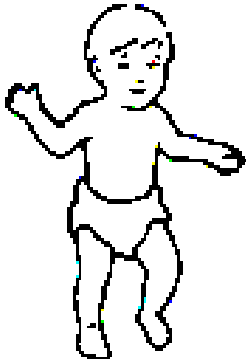
1g. IN YOUR OPINION, looking at EXAMPLE 4, at what age would you expect a baby to achieve this skill?

Months

1h. If your child did not achieve this skill by that age, at what age would you consider it a big enough problem to mention to your child's physician?

Months

Example 5



*Independent walking

1i. IN YOUR OPINION, looking at EXAMPLE 5, at what age would you expect a baby to achieve this skill?

Months

1j. If your child did not achieve this skill by that age, at what age would you consider it a big enough problem to mention to your child's physician?

Months

We use the words motor delay in this section to refer to disorders that might result in one or more of the following signs: poor head and neck control, muscle stiffness, speech delays, swallowing difficulties, a body posture that is limp or awkward, clumsiness, spasms, or delayed sitting or walking.

2. If you thought your child might have a motor delay, where might you go to get more information? (Check all that apply.)

- Magazine articles
- Pamphlets from the doctor's office
- Internet websites
- Nurses or other non-physician specialists
- Pediatricians
- Physician specialists, e.g. neurologists or orthopedic surgeons
- Notices from the government
- Public service announcements (notices by private groups on TV or in newspapers)
- Other - please specify _____
- Child care books
- Daycare providers
- Family practitioners
- Newspaper articles
- Billboards or notices on buses
- Friends or relatives

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3a. If you have ever suspected that one of your children might have a motor delay, please describe your experience: _____

I have never suspected that any of my children had a motor delay. Please skip to Question 4a.

3b. Which child were you concerned about?

- My first child My second child
 My third child (or other) I was concerned about more than one of my children

3c. Did you discuss your concern with your child's doctor?

- NO
- Yes --> If so, what were you advised to do? (Please check only one.)
- wait and see if problem continued
--> If so, how many months were you advised to wait? _____
 - Talk to a non-physician specialist right away
e.g. a physical therapist, nurse or special organization
 - Talk to a physician specialist right away
e.g. a neurologist or orthopedic surgeon
 - Something else (please specify) _____

3d. Do you think your concerns about your child's motor skills received prompt attention?

- Yes
 No
 Not sure

4a. How many children do you have?

4b. What is the age of your youngest child? (if he or she is under 1 year old write "0") Years

- if your child is under 1 year old, how many months old is he or she? Months

4c. What is your sex? Female

Male

4d. What is your age? Years

4e. How would you describe yourself? White White/Hispanic

Black Black/Hispanic

Other

4f. What is your marital status? Married Divorced

Never married Widowed

4g. How far did you go in school? I did not go to high school at all

I did not finish high school

I finished high school

I attended some college classes

I finished college

I took classes or earned a degree after completing college

4h. What is your zip code?

What is your living situation?

We own a house or condo

We rent a house or apartment

COMMENTS: Please write any comments you have on the back of this page.

Thank you very much for completing the survey!

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RESULTS:

Surveyed 544 parents for the Children’s Health Data Labs (CHDL)

Surveyed 423 parents for the National Survey (National)

Table 1a Pathways Awareness Foundation guidelines

Skill presented in scenario	Pathways guidelines for achieving skill
Child pushes up on arms and holds head up	by 3 months
Child sits with support, holding head up and with a straight back	by 6 months
Child sits without support, with arms free to reach and grasp	by 9 months
Child pulls to a stand	by 12 months
Child walks independently	by 15 months

Table 1b

Percent of Parents Recognizing Milestones		
	CHDL Survey	National Survey
3 Month Child pushes up on arms and holds head up	56%	36%
6 Month Child sits with support, holding head up and with a straight back	85%	55%
9 Month Child sits without support, with arms free to reach and grasp	84%	78%
12 Month Child pulls to a stand	98%	91%
15 Month Child walks independently	97%	90%

Table 1c

Percent of Parents Who Would Report A Concern Immediately		
	CHDL Survey	National Survey
3 Month Child pushes up on arms and holds head up	16%	5%
6 Month Child sits with support, holding head up and with a straight back	43%	15%
9 Month Child sits without support, with arms free to reach and grasp	49%	43%
12 Month Child pulls to a stand	82%	50%
15 Month Child walks independently	70%	51%

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Table 2

Percent of Parents who would use sources of information if they had a concern:		
	CHDL Survey	National Survey
Health Care Professionals: Physicians and Non-Physicians	55%	50%
Child care books or Magazine	14%	4%
Internet websites	8%	25%
Daycare providers	3%	2%
Friend or relatives	10%	17%
Other	10%	2%

Table 3

53 of the parents let us know that they discussed concerns about their child's motor skills with their child's physician.

Parent was advised to:

Talk to a physician specialist or non-physician specialist right away	56%
Wait and see if problem continued/Get some more information	40%
Physician told parent there was no problem/normal development	4%

**If the parent was advised to wait and see their wait time: Mean: 4.3 months
Median: 2 months**

Table 4 - Demographics

Age	CHDL Survey	National Survey
Average	Mean age 31.3	Average age range 25-34

Marital Status	CHDL Survey	National Survey
Married	65.7%	83%
Divorced/Widowed	2%	5%
Never Married	16.7%	12%
Did not answer	15.6%	

Education Level	CHDL Survey	National Survey
Didn't finish high school	5%	4%
High school degree	33%	55%
College degree	47%	41%
Did not answer	15%	

Place of Residence	CHDL Survey	National Survey
West		22%
South		36%
Northeast		19%
Midwest	89% In Chicago 76% Outside Chicago 13%	23%
Did not answer	11%	

Housing Situation	CHDL Survey	National Survey
Own	45%	63%
Rent	37%	37%
Did not answer	18%	

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