

The Meade Movement checklist (MMCL) is a fun, participatory screening test for the parents of infants between four and six months of age.

In a recent study, the parents of eligible infants (n=213) were invited to attend one of five community screening clinics.* A random group of parents who choose not to attend (n=65) were contacted as a comparison group.

Parents who attended were asked to fill out their views by answering six questions on a Parent Concerns Survey (PCS) which was modified from Glascoe's Parent Evaluation of Development. ** Parents and infants were observed using the 27 items of the Meade as a second step in the process. The MMCL scores were compared to Bayley Scales of Infant Development II at six months and Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) at 8 months of age and attendance in intervention programs at 18 months.

Fifty-five (25.8%) infants were screened at the clinics. Parents attending clinics had significantly more concerns on the PCS ($\chi^2=6.43, p=.011$) than the parents who did not attend. Significant correlations were found between the MMCL and BSID II ($r=-.48; p=.01$). No correlation occurred with scores between 4 and 6 months of age and the pass/fail on the ASQ at 8 months of age, although this is a commonly used screening test. The values of the MMCL in this study were sensitivity (87.5%), specificity (91.4%), PPV (70%) and NPV (96.9%). Fifteen (27.7%) infants were referred for further evaluation. All infants meeting eligibility for intervention continued in intervention at 18 months of age. Referrals represented 7.04% of the 213 families invited and 34.8% of the independent evaluations completed.

Involving parents in an interactive screening clinic resulted in the PPV of the MMCL increasing to the recommended 70% compared to PPVs of 37% and 39% for the PEDS and AIMS screening tests.

*Meade VA, Sweeney JK, Chandler LS, Woodward BJ. Identifying 4-Month-Old Infants at-Risk in Community Screening. *Pediatric Physical Therapy*. 2009, 21; 2: 150-157

**Glascoe, FP: Collaborating with Parents (www.pedstest.com)