ASD Referral Pathway

***Start pathway if a child fails screening (e.g., M-CHAT-R/F) or if there are significant concerns for ASD***

1. Refer to Pediatric Developmental Medicine (DDM) in eStar to request diagnostic evaluation
   1. Select “autism evaluation”
   2. Answer YES to “are you a VUMC General Pediatrics PCP” (allows for streamlining of younger patients’ appts)
   3. Patients < 48 months will be scheduled in DOT8 streamlined/embedded ASD clinic (typical wait of 2-3 months)
   4. Patients >/= 48 months will be scheduled in DDM (let families know waitlist is long)
2. Refer to speech1,2 and Comprehensive Hearing
3. Pull .8resASDprediagnosis phrase into patient instructions section for AVS

**If Age < 36 Months**

Refer to TEIS in eStar

**If Age >= 36 Months**

The school system provides services if child is found eligible. Parents should request IEP evaluation at their school, but you can write a letter advocating for IEP evaluation.   Other ways to refer a child for services provided by school system:

1. If patient is in Davidson or Rutherford County:
   1. Place a referral order in eStar for the services required (ie speech, OT, PT)
      1. select “external” for “class”
      2. notate Davidson/MNPS vs Rutherford Co
      3. notate language spoken at home
2. If patient is in Davidson County, parents can call directly to request eval for services: Dept of Exceptional Education 615-333-5175 (option 5, age 3-5 years, prior to kindergarten entry) or 615-687-4551 (age 5+ and in kindergarten or higher)

**What Happens Next?**

If patient is diagnosed with ASD by embedded provider, PCP will receive notification in eStar and an ABA referral should be placed. A post-diagnosis follow-up visit (see link to module below) will be scheduled with PCP to discuss therapies, genetic testing, parental concerns.

If patient is diagnosed by DDM or BWC SLP, PCP can request follow-up visit be scheduled if desired by messaging admin basket with scheduling request.

**Post-Diagnosis Follow Up Visit**

View the [linked module](onenote:#ASD Post-Diagnosis PCP Follow-Up Visit&section-id={2B3AC869-9818-4653-8F6B-BE3C86E8EBC4}&page-id={293DDFF3-ECB3-4353-840B-905B8B5BE181}&end&base-path=https://vumc365.sharepoint.com/sites/PedsGeneralPediatrics/Shared%20Documents/Handy%20Dandy%20Vandy%20-%20Itty%20Bitty/HDV/Handy%20Dandy%20Vandy/3.%20Clinical%20Care/Autism%20Spectrum%20Disorder%20(ASD).one) for additional information

1 Consider referral to **external**speech therapy center (specify “external” on referral) esp if family lives outside Nashville. May have shorter wait times vs BWC and can provide additional therapies at same center.

2 If **internal**speech referral is placed for BWC, SLPs are able to evaluate for and diagnose ASD in children 48 mos to under 8 years of age (English/Spanish/Arabic patients only). Mark concern for “autism, suspected or diagnosed” in “physician’s concerns” section of SLP referral. FYI, wait time to ASD diagnostic visit typically 4-6 months, and insurance sometimes requires a statement from a medical provider confirming diagnosis after.