Successful Early Intervention Transitions Webinar Series

Reflections from Parents and Medical Providers on Early Intervention Transitions

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Presenters:

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- Early Intervention Panel of Parents and Primary Care Providers moderated by Kristen Kaiser
Topics

• How to prepare for the development of the initial IFSP after leaving the NICU

• Understanding the role of the physician in Early Intervention, from referral through IFSP development and implementation
Topics

• Understanding the role of the family in involving medical and other providers in the IFSP process, including the use of the IFSP as a guiding document

• Supporting on-going collaboration among primary care and specialty providers, EI providers and service coordinators and the family
Referral and Preparation for leaving the NICU
• Physician and NICU staff
  – Explain EI to family
  – Make referral
  – Compile information for discharge
  – Check for understanding
• Early Intervention
  – Receive referral
  – Review accompanying documentation
  – Contact family after discharge

• Family/Caregiver
  – Ask questions
  – Self-refer if needed
  – Know contact information for EI
Preparing for the Initial IFSP
Early Intervention

- Make Initial contact with family
- Review medical and developmental information to inform next steps
  - Child is eligible based on established condition
  - Child has developmental concern and proceeds to multidisciplinary evaluation
- Plan for IFSP
- Send referral status update form
• Family/Caregiver
  – Ask questions
  – Provide schedule for evaluation
  – Invite supports to family
  – Write down your concerns
• PCP
  – Follow up with family
    • Assure that they have heard from the referral source
  – Reaffirm collaborative partnership
  – Ask for information from IFSP meeting
Developing the Initial IFSP
• Family/Caregiver
  – Share your daily life
  – Share important information
  – Fully participate in goal development
  – Speak up the plan won’t work for your family
  – Share who can know this information, including a copy of your IFSP
  – Ask questions to assure understanding
  – Share any new medical or developmental information
  – Ask any questions
  – Be prepared to participate fully in the development of the IFSP
• Early Intervention
  – Assure family rights
  – Convene the meeting and support
  – Check for understanding
  – Support the family in providing information
    • The family is the expert on their child!
  – Support the family in the development of goals
  – Explain the way that EI services are provided
  – Explain next steps
• Primary Care Provider
  – Attend the IFSP
  – Ask to be kept informed
  – Ask for a copy of the IFSP to be shared with you
On-going implementation of the IFSP
• Early Intervention
  – Send copies of the IFSP
  – Assure that services are received within 28 days
  – Follow up to check on the progress
    • any new concerns?
  – Schedule IFSP reviews at least every six months
  – Support the family in understanding the importance of the IFSP as a guidance document
    • what the family is prioritizing in EI
    • how medical supports and EI can best work together
• Family/Caregiver

  – Ask questions about your child’s team
  – Share any new medical or developmental information
  – Take a copy of the IFSP with you

  • How do the services received through EI work in conjunction with medical supports and services?
PCP/Specialty Providers

- Take the time to review the IFSP
- Support understanding of how what is being provided medically and through EI work together toward the same goal
- Ask for on-going updates
Questions?