

# Interpreting Results

After scoring items on ASQ<sup>®</sup>:SE-2 questionnaires, it's important to review the results and interpret the score. Here are 3 tips to help you.

## 1. Review the overall questions.

The unscored, parent-input questions at the end of each questionnaire give parents an opportunity to express concerns about their child's eating, sleeping, and/or toileting skills and behaviors as well as general concerns. You should discuss any concerns noted with parents. Sometimes a referral may be made based solely on a parent's response to one of these open-ended questions.

## 2. Consider other factors.

A variety of factors may affect a child's ASQ:SE-2 score. Consider these questions when reviewing the child's results:

- Is the setting or time affecting the results? For example, does a child's behavior vary between home and the child care center?
- Is a child's behavior related to health or biological factors? Have you considered lack of sleep or hunger as possible influences?
- Is a child's behavior related to a developmental stage or a delay in development?
- Are there family or cultural factors that may have influenced results? For example, is a stressful event, such as a move or divorce, influencing behavior?
- Did the parent express any concern about the child's behavior?

Before you make a referral, meet with the family and carefully consider whether any of these factors affected the child's performance. Follow-up actions for each factor are included in the ASQ<sup>®</sup>:SE-2 *User's Guide* (pages 99–100).

## 3. Look closely at children whose scores are in the monitoring zone.

A score in the monitoring zone means that the child's performance is close to the cutoff score. After talking with parents, you may decide to rescreen the child in 2 to 3 months or, in some cases, make a referral.

If a girl has an ASQ:SE-2 score in the monitoring zone, you should consider a referral. Data collected in the research sample indicate that girls' total scores, especially at 12 through 60 months, were significantly lower than boys' total scores. Although separate cutoff scores were not established for boys and girls, the developers recommend considering girls and their families for referral for further assessment and/or community services if their ASQ:SE-2 scores are in the monitoring zone.