

## Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) Screener

### What is it?

The Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) Screener assesses trauma and can initiate conversations that may promote healing and prevent future traumatic events by stopping intergenerational trauma.

### Link(s) to Screener(s)

Adult ACEs Screener and Pediatric ACEs Screener (PEARLS)- Screening Tools | [ACEs Aware – Take action. Save lives.](#)

\*available in English and Spanish

### How to use it / Who should administer

It should be self-administered by the patient. There is debate about the risks/benefits around universal screening for ACEs. Some experts believe that it is potentially retraumatizing to ask these sensitive questions about trauma in a medical setting. Others believe that it can be very helpful if you are thoughtful about the way you implement ACEs screening. Avoidance of rescreening must be prioritized. A comprehensive child trauma-informed care delivery system must be adopted by the clinic

### How to interpret / Next steps

Refer to the attached PDF for more information on what to do with an ACEs score.

<https://www.nctsn.org/sites/default/files/resources/special-resource/beyond-the-ace-score-perspectives-from-the-nctsn-on-child-trauma-and-adversity-screening-and-impact.pdf>



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