



# CHAT

The Checklist for Autism in Toddlers  
A Screening Tool

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

To be used by GP's or Health Visitors during the 18 month developmental check-up.

## SECTION A: Ask Parent

- \_\_\_ 1. Does your child enjoy being swung, bounced on your knee, etc.?
- \_\_\_ 2. Does your child take an interest in other children?
- \_\_\_ 3. Does your child like climbing on things, such as up stairs?
- \_\_\_ 4. Does your child enjoy playing peek-a-boo/hide-and-seek?
- \_\_\_ \*5. Does your child ever pretend, for example, to make a cup of tea using a toy cup and teapot, or pretend other things (pouring juice)?
- \_\_\_ 6. Does your child ever use his/her index finger to point, to ask for something?
- \_\_\_ \*7. Does your child ever use his/her index finger to point, to indicate interest in something?
- \_\_\_ 8. Can your child play properly with small toys (e.g.: cars or blocks) without just mouthing, fiddling, or dropping them?
- \_\_\_ 9. Does your child ever bring objects over to you (parent), to show you something?



# CHAT

The Checklist for Autism in Toddlers  
A Screening Tool

## SECTION B: GP or HV Observation

- \_\_\_ i. During the appointment, has the child made eye contact with you?
- \_\_\_ \*ii. Get child's attention, then point across the room at an interesting object and say, "Oh, look! There's a (name of toy)!" Watch the child's face. Does the child look across to see what you are pointing at?<sup>1</sup>
- \_\_\_ \*iii. Get the child's attention, then give child a miniature toy cup and teapot and say, "Can you make a cup of tea?" Does the child pretend to pour out tea, drink it, etc."<sup>2</sup>
- \_\_\_ \*iv. Say to the child, "Where's the light?", or "Show me the light." Does the child point with his/her index finger at the light?<sup>3</sup>
- \_\_\_ v. Can the child build a tower of blocks? (If so, how many?) (Number of blocks....)

\* Indicates critical questions that are most indicative of autistic characteristics.

<sup>1</sup> (To record yes on this item, ensure the child has not simply looked at your hand, but has actually looked at the object you are pointing at.)

<sup>2</sup> (If you can elicit an example of pretending in some other game, score a yes on this item.)

<sup>3</sup> (Repeat this with, "Where's the Teddy?" or some other unreachable object; if child does not understand the word "light." To record a yes on this item, the child must have looked up at your face around the time of pointing.)