Early Intervention Professional Learning Facilitator's Guide

MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION/DIVISION OF SPECIAL EDUCATION/ EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES

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OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this training module, early intervention staff will be able to:

1) Describe the COMAR changes related to adjusted age that went into effect on July 1, 2013; and

2) Calculate adjusted age.

TOPIC COVERED IN THIS MODULE

♦ How to adjust age for infants born prematurely

TIME

It will take approximately 45 minutes to deliver this training module.

UNIVERSITY of MARYLAND SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
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Materials/Resources Needed:

- ♦ **Chart paper (optional)**
- ♦ *Module 3: Understanding and Using Adjusted Age with Infants Born Prematurely* recorded presentation
- ♦ *Practice Makes Perfect: Scenario s#1-4* handouts (one per participant)

NOTE: To access this module's presentation and handouts, visit the online companion website.

PROCEDURE

1) Share the session title and objectives with participants (displayed on chart paper or directly from online companion website).

2) To activate participant's prior knowledge, present the following Think About: *What is the difference between chronologic and adjusted age? [Answer: Chronologic age is a child's age since birth. Adjusted age is a child's age since birth minus the degree of prematurity (number of weeks born early).]*

3) Play the *Module 3: Understanding and Using Adjusted Age with Infants Born Prematurely* presentation via the online companion website.

4) At the end of the presentation, divide the group so that each person has a partner with whom to work.

   - Pass out copies of the *Practice Makes Perfect: Scenario #1* handout and read it aloud.

     ◊ Give the group time to calculate the correct age to use when evaluating David. During this time, circulate among the pairs, providing help as needed.

     ◊ Once all (or most) groups are done, demonstrate how to calculate David's chronological age and adjusted age. Share the correct age for evaluating David's development (see Facilitator's Key on page 3).

   - Pass out Scenario #2 and read it aloud. Highlight the fact that this scenario provides Sierra's gestational age (23 weeks) and her degree of prematurity (17 weeks); hence they do not need to calculate the degree of prematurity as it is provided.

     ◊ Follow the same procedures as above with Scenario #1 (and see Facilitator's Key on page 4).

   - Pass out Scenario #3 and read it aloud.

     ◊ Follow the same procedures as above with Scenario #1 (and see Facilitator's Key on page 5.

   - Pass out Scenario #4 and read it aloud.

     ◊ Follow the same procedures as above with Scenario #1 (and see Facilitator's Key on page 6).

5) To bring closure to the training session, present the following Take Away: *The new age adjustment policy in COMAR requires us to use a child's adjusted age when children are "…born before 37 weeks gestation…" and that "an infant's adjusted age is used until the infant's adjusted age is twelve months."*

Facilitator's Key for Practice Makes Perfect: Scenario #1 (David) Activity

David was born at 27 weeks gestation on August 23, 2013. The NICU referred him to your local Infants and Toddlers Program and you are participating on the eligibility evaluation team. The date of the evaluation is January 16, 2014. Work with a partner to determine what age to use when evaluating David's development?

	Year	Month	Day
DOT	2013 ~~2014~~	12 0 ~~1~~	46 ~~16~~
- DOB	2013	8	23
CA	0	4	23
- DP		3	7
AA		1	16

We will test David at **his adjusted age of 1 month, 16 days. You use David's adjusted age because he was born at less than 37 weeks gestation and his adjusted age is less than 12 months.**

Facilitator's Key for Practice Makes Perfect: Scenario #2 (Sierra) Activity

Today (February 3, 2014) you are participating in Sierra's annual evaluation with a colleague. Sierra was born prematurely. She was born 17 weeks early (at 23 weeks gestational age) on November 1, 2012. Work with a partner to determine what age to use when evaluating Sierra's development.

	Year	Month	Day
DOT	2013 ~~2014~~	14 ~~2~~	3
- DOB	2012	11	1
CA	0 ~~1~~	14 ~~2~~ ~~3~~	32 ~~2~~
- DP		4	7
AA		10	25

We will test Sierra at **her adjusted age of 10 months, 25 days. You use the Sierra's adjusted age because she was born at less than 37 weeks gestation and her adjusted age is less than 12 months.**

Facilitator's Key for Practice Makes Perfect: Scenario #3 (Juan) Activity

Juan is currently enrolled in his local Infants and Toddlers Program and is receiving physical therapy services. Mom is concerned about Juan's thinking skills. On January 31, 2014 you evaluate Juan's cognitive skills. You review his Early Intervention Record and learn that Juan was born at 31 weeks gestation on September 28, 2012. Work with a partner to determine what age to use when evaluating Juan's development.

	Year	Month	Day
DOT	2013 ~~2014~~	13 ~~1~~	31
- DOB	2012	9	28
CA	1	3 4	33 ~~3~~
- DP	0	2	7
AA	1	1	26

We will test Juan at **his chronological age of 1 year, 4 months, 3 days (16 months, 3 days). You do not use Juan's adjusted age because his adjusted age is >12 months.**

Facilitator's Key for Practice Makes Perfect: Scenario #4 (Naveah) Activity

Naveah's pediatrician has referred her to your local Infants and Toddlers Program and today (February 11, 2014) you are participating on her eligibility evaluation team. The referral indicates that Naveah was born prematurely, on October 1, 2013, at 37 weeks gestation. Work with a partner to determine what age to use when evaluating Naveah's development. *NOTE: You will need to create your own calculation table.

	Year	Month	Day
DOT	2013 ~~2014~~	14 ~~2~~	11
- DOB	2013	10	1
CA	0	4	10
- DP		----------NOT APPLICABLE----------	
AA		----------NOT APPLICABLE----------	

We will test Naveah at **her chronological age of 4 months, 10 days. You do not adjust Naveah's age for prematurity because she was not born at less than 37 weeks gestation.**