



Food Insecurity Algorithm for Patients, Ages 12 -17

Hunger Vital Sign for Adolescents

Please tell me how often the following statements are true (Often, Sometimes, or Never):

1. Within the past 12 months, I worried about not having enough to eat.
2. Within the past 12 month, I tried not to eat so that our food would last.

If Often True or Sometimes True to EITHER STATEMENT

Step 1: Assess and treat, if indicated

- Growth parameters (underweight, overweight, and short stature)
- Problems with behavior and/or development
- Dental caries
- Iron deficiency
- Child or parent depression or anxiety
- Academic underperformance
- Asthma



Step 2: Code for Food Insecurity

Z59.4: Lack of adequate food and safe drinking water



Step 3: Refer to Food Resources

- **NEVHC Food Rx Guide**
 - Given by the MA before patient is seen by the provider
- **Emergency Food Resources**
 - Emergency Food Map available that provides schedule of Pacoima Food Banks and Emergency Food Distribution Sites
- **Community Resource Help Line**
 - (818) 979-7400 X 42062



Step 4: Follow- Up at Next Visit

Follow-up on referrals to food resources

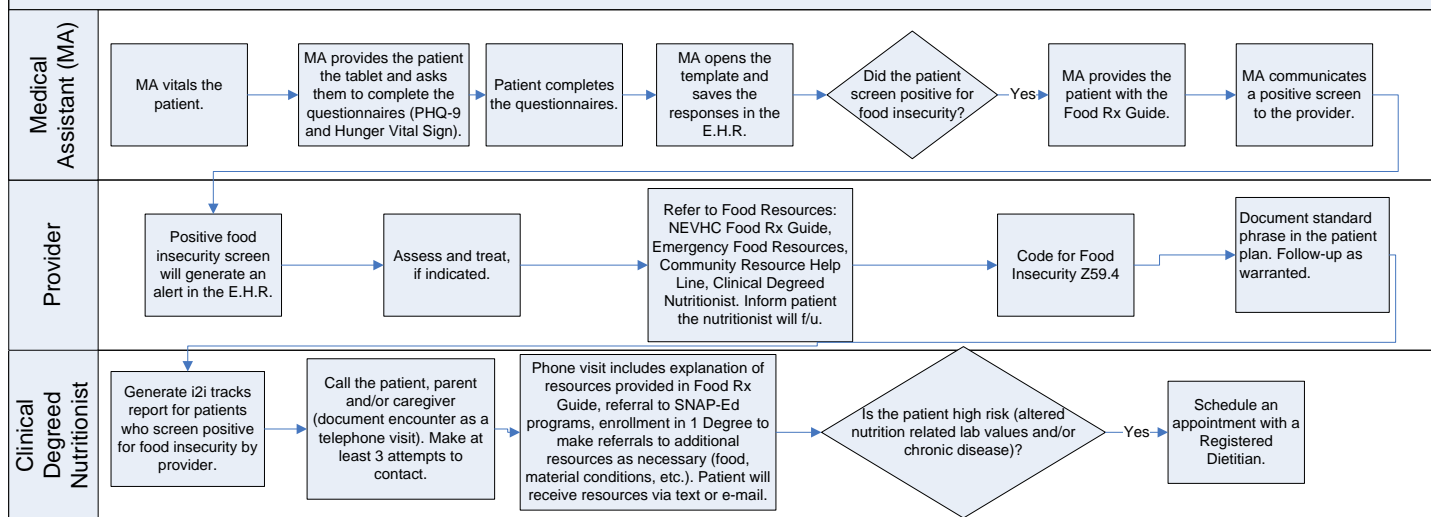
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Food Insecurity Screening for Patients Ages 12 – 17 Years Old



Talking Points for a Positive Screening

Medical Assistant:

- “NEVHC’s new Food Prescription Guide has information that you and your family can use to access many different resources to keep you healthy.”
- *“La nueva Guía de prescripción de alimentos de NEVHC tiene información que usted y su familia pueden usar para conseguir recursos diferentes para mantenerlo saludable.”*

Provider:

- “Food is important to our health. I want to make sure you have access to enough food and the right types of food. This guide and map have many resources that are available to you. I am also referring you to nutrition services. A nutritionist will contact you to help answer any of your nutrition questions and connect you to additional resources.”
- *“La comida es importante para nuestra salud. Quiero asegurarme de que tienes acceso a suficientes alimentos y los tipos de alimentos adecuados. También te estoy refiriendo a servicios de nutrición. Un nutricionista se pondrá en contacto con usted para ayudarlo a responder cualquiera de sus preguntas sobre nutrición y lo conectará con recursos adicionales.”*