Preschool medical examination: what for?

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Pedagogy and health promotion co-evolved
School health education

- Vaccinations
- Hygiene
- Somatique
- Screening
- Learning difficulties
- Sexuality
- Drugs

School mediateurs

- School nurses and doctors

Health animateurs → Délégué PSPS

Other professionals

Équipes de santé

Équipes PSPS

Health promotion and prevention in school settings (PSPS)

Violence

School drop outs

Exclusions

Bullying (cyber)

No more solid published evidence than in 1998…

Systematic review of the school entry medical examination

Jane Barlow, Sarah Stewart-Brown, John Fletcher

Data on the effectiveness and efficiency of both the routine and selective SEM examination in accurately identifying children with new or ongoing health problems are not available at the present time.

The studies reviewed here demonstrate the fragility of the evidence on which the school entry medical is based, and call into question the ethical basis of this programme.

… except for separate components
80th annual meeting of the AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION and related organizations held at Cleveland, Ohio, October 20-24, 1952

Among topics discussed in light of the forthcoming revision of the standard reference under this title were:

- promoting healthful living in schools,
- health and safety education,
- services for health protection and improvement,
- health aspects of physical education,
- and school responsibilities for the education and care of handicapped children.
“It is concluded that the "ordinary" preschool Child Health Services did fulfill their purpose to detect handicapping disorders in an acceptable way; by the introduction of the special health control at 4 years of age, this function was further improved.”
Checking the health of school entrants

K Whitmore, M C O Bax * Archives of Disease in Childhood * 1990; 65: 320–326

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Table 3  Comparative staffing costs for joint doctor and nurse and nurse only health checks of school entrants in a typical health district

| (A) For joint health check at each primary school | Cost of nurse: 37 children at 37 minutes per child and £7.96 per hour | £181.62 |
| Cost of doctor: 37 children at 20 minutes per child and £9.34 per hour | £115.19 |
| | | £296.81 |

| (B) For nurse only health check at each primary school | Cost of nurse: 37 children at 37 minutes per child and £7.96 per hour | £181.62 |
| Cost of doctor: | (a) Eight children (with no preschool records) at 20 minutes per child and £9.34 per hour | £24.90 |
| | (b) 12 children (with possible problems) at 10 minutes per child and £9.34 per hour | £18.68 |
| | (c) Six children (among those at (b) above) needing neurodevelopmental assessment at 12 minutes per child and £9.34 per hour | £11.20 |
| | (d) 17 children needing check for undescended testicles and/or congenital heart disease, at one boy and one girl per five minutes and £9.34 per hour | £6.63 |
| | | £243.03 |

| (C) Difference between costs of joint and nurse only health checks at each primary school | | £55.78 |
School entry examination – a subjective comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>France 2009</th>
<th>Japan 2003</th>
<th>UK 2018</th>
<th>Vaud CH 2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medical visit (all)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Questionnaire (all)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>+ nurse (some)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seen a doctor ?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
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</tbody>
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School health: what for?

► Place of school health services within the health system and the education system
  - «safety net»
  - Access to health care

► To screen or not to screen
  - Health / medical condition (right to health)
  - Scholastic skills (right to education, integration)
  - Challenging behavior (all above)
  - Social conditions
ICD 10 - Pervasive and specific developmental disorders F80-F89

- **F80** - speech and language
- **F81** - scholastic skills
- **F82** - motor function
- **F84** - Pervasive developmental disorders
- **F88** - Other disorders of psychological development
- **F89** - Unspecified disorder of psychological development

- Reading
- Spelling
- Maths – arithmetics
- Mixed disorder of scholastic skills
- Other
- Unspecified

https://www.icd10data.com/ICD10CM/Codes/F01-F99/F80-F89
Data management system must be safe and efficient

Standard 7 A data management system that facilitates the safe storage and retrieval of individual health records, monitoring of health trends, assessment of SHS quality (structure and activities) and research is in place.

European framework for quality standards in school health services and competences for school health professionals

2014
Unité PSPS – Vaud* (CH)

* without City of Lausanne

Status as of 27th Sept 2018 for school beginners
Challenges

For the clinician
- Confidentiality
- What to look at
- What to communicate

For authorities
- Explicit and simple processes
- Put in place a system that allows follow up
An excellent and detailed resource – UK


Children’s Division School Entry Health Review Guideline

Version: 5