



Smart phase template for firearm injury prevention questions (based on AAP Bright Futures Guidelines)

If your EHR permits, use a pick list for yes/no to allow quicker selection. Customize for your practice.

Created August 2013

Young children (to ask caregivers):

Do you keep guns at home? Yes/no

Are there guns in the homes you visit (grandparents, relatives, friends)? Yes/no

If yes, how are they stored?

Counsel: Children's natural curiosity may lead them to find and play with guns, no matter what they have been taught. Remove guns from home. Use motivational interviewing to work with families on strategies to prevent firearm injuries. Can it be stored at an alternative location (work, shooting range, etc.)? If gun is stored at home, discuss "safer storage" options: store in locked location, unloaded, with ammunition in separate location and locked, and use of a gun lock.

Older children:

To caregivers: Is there a gun in your home? Yes/no

To children: What have your parents taught you about guns and gun safety?

Counsel: Homicide and completed suicide are more common in homes with guns. Have you considered not owning a gun because it poses a danger to the family? Remove guns from the home. Use motivational interviewing to work with families on strategies to prevent firearm injuries. Can it be stored at an alternative location (work, shooting range, etc.)? If gun is stored at home, discuss "safer storage" options: store in locked location, unloaded, with ammunition in separate location and locked, and use of a gun lock.

Early adolescent:

Do you ever carry a gun or knife? Yes/no

Is there a gun in your home? Yes/no

Counsel:

Youth: Fighting and carrying weapons can be dangerous. Adolescents are impulsive, easy access to a gun can turn the passion of the moment into tragedy. Would you like to discuss how to avoid these situations?

Caregivers: Homicide and completed suicide are more common in homes with guns. Have you considered not owning a gun because it poses a danger to the family? Remove guns from the home. Use motivational interviewing to work with families on strategies to prevent firearm injuries. Can it be stored at an alternative location (work, shooting range, etc.)? If gun is stored at home, discuss "safer storage" options, store in locked location, unloaded, with ammunition in separate location and locked, and use of a gun lock.

Mid/late adolescence:

Do you ever carry a gun or knife? Yes/no

Can you get access to a gun? Yes/no

Is there a gun in your home? Yes/no

Counsel:

Youth: Fighting and carrying weapons can be dangerous. Adolescents are impulsive, easy access to a gun can turn the passion of the moment into tragedy. Would you like to discuss how to avoid these situations?

Caregivers: Homicide and completed suicide are more common in homes with guns. Have you considered not owning a gun because it poses a danger to the family? Remove guns from the home. Use motivational interviewing to work with families on strategies to prevent firearm injuries. Can it be stored at an alternative location (work, shooting range, etc.)? If gun is stored at home, discuss “safer storage” options, store in locked location, unloaded, with ammunition in separate location and locked, and use of a gun lock.

To learn about Bright Futures, visit: <http://brightfutures.aap.org/>