

ACQUARONE DETECTION SCALES FOR EARLY RELATIONSHIPS®
EARLY SIGNS OF ALARM – pre-AUTISM



27 Frognal, NW3 6AR
 www.infantmentalhealth.com

ASSESSMENT – INFANT/CHILD

name: **CASE EXAMPLE**

age: **3 years 0 month** date of this observation: **DD MMM YYYY**

NEVER
 RARELY
 FREQUENT
 ALWAYS

OBSERVER REACTIONS

	NEVER	RARELY	FREQUENT	ALWAYS	OBSERVER REACTIONS	
INTERPERSONAL	1. GAZING <i>Eye-to-eye contact within a relationship and the maintenance of this contact</i>		●			
	2. TALKING and BABBLING <i>Making sounds for the benefit of the partner in the parent-infant relationship</i>	●				
	3. CALLING <i>– The facial expressions – Noises or gestures that seek to produce an affectionate response from the partner</i>	●				
	4. IMITATING <i>– Moving mouth, tongue, etc., in imitation of mother’s (or another) – The repetition of a sound or a movement heard or seen by the child</i>		●			
	5. PROVOKING <i>Inciting the person into interacting, not just to use as an instrument to do something for him/her</i>	●				
	6. POINTING <i>Indicating with index finger to a person about an object of interest</i>	●				
	7. FEEDING <i>Child’s attitude during the intake of food, including anticipatory behaviour (e.g. head-turning, moving arms the food/breast)</i>					
	8. JOINT ATTENTION <i>Looking in the same direction</i>		●			
	9. PLAY <i>– Capacity to play the same game for more than 5 minutes, and share with another person – Take turns and stay with a person – Children</i>	●				
	10. ALONE			●		
	11. RELATING <i>Behaviours indicating the capacity to relate & accept emotional warmth.</i> – Mother, Father – Other caregivers – Other unfamiliar adults – Siblings – Other unfamiliar children		●			...mother reports that child doesn’t notice other children
12. REACTIVE BEHAVIOURS <i>tolerance to frustrations, including:</i> – a) Capacity to accept emotional warmth – b) Capacity to bounce back after stressful event – c) Capacity to adapt to changes...please indicate		●				
SENSORIAL	TOUCHING <i>13. Skin-to-skin contact initiated by infant for play or affection</i>		●			
	<i>14. Does the child touch paint, foam, sand, water, playdoh, plasticine and other messy substances</i>	●				
	RESPONSE					
	<i>15. Response to sounds</i>	●				...mother reports that child doesn’t notice noises
	<i>16. Response to noise</i>	●				
<i>17. Response to name</i>	●					
<i>18. Response to light & patterns</i>						
<i>19. Response to smells</i>						
20. COMFORTING <i>Child’s ability to find relief from distress by themselves (e.g. thumb sucking, touching hands, playing with one car, others)...specify</i>	●					
MOTOR	HOLDING <i>21. The posturing of the child when he is supported in the arms of the mother (e.g. floppy, rigid, restless) – General muscle tone when sitting or standing</i>			●	...restless	
	<i>22. Stereotypic movement of arms, eyes, etc.</i> – Walking: on tiptoes or sluggish			●	...mother reports he walks in tiptoes when he doesn’t have shoes on	
	<i>23. Use of hands: for grasping, for helping himself</i> – Use of body: to reach, to climb, to hide, other...			●		
AFFECT	24. EXPRESSIVENESS <i>The body or facial expression of emotional states (e.g., sad, worried, anxious, bland, happy, or others)...specify</i>	●				
	25. SELF-HELP DEVELOPMENT <i>– Ability to cope independently with the environment, (e.g., dress) – Eating</i> <i>– Being careful with him/herself or others</i>		●			...mother reports that child eats meals but not vegetables (for example), not aware about danger and may hit strongly (in a playing situation) siblings and grandfather
ANY OTHER OBSERVATIONS NOT LISTED ABOVE:						

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EARLY SIGNS OF ALARM – pre-AUTISM

...affecting the baby or being affected by the baby...



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ASSESSMENT – MOTHER/caregiver

name: **CASE EXAMPLE**

child: **CASE EXAMPLE** age: **YY MMM**

NEVER
 RARELY
 FREQUENT
 ALWAYS

OBSERVER REACTIONS

	NEVER	RARELY	FREQUENT	ALWAYS	OBSERVER REACTIONS
INTERPERSONAL	1. GAZING <i>Eye-to-eye contact with the baby and the maintenance of this contact</i>		●		
	2. TALKING and BABBLING <i>– Making sounds for the benefit of the parent-infant relationship – Talking</i>	●			
	3. CALLING <i>Facial expressions, noises or gestures seeking to produce an affectionate response from the infant</i>		●		
	4. FEEDING <i>Mother's attitude towards infant's hunger and need to feed: – Does she anticipate behaviour and have meal or breast easily available? – Does she pay attention, talk with the baby and enjoy feeding? – Does she interrupt with any excuse (e.g., talks to others and looks away)? – Is she fearful, full of anguish or has she any delusions? – Is she apathetic?</i>				
	5. GAMES / PLAY <i>– Playful encounters, including songs and teasing</i>	●			
	6. RELATING <i>Behaviours indicating the capacity to relate & accept emotional warmth towards the baby</i>		●		
	7. REACTIVE BEHAVIOURS <i>including: – Tolerance to frustrations – Capacity to accept emotional warmth – Capacity to bounce back after stressful event – Capacity to adapt to changes</i>		●		
SENSORIAL	8. TOUCHING <i>– Skin-to-skin contact initiated by infant for play or affection</i>	●			
	9. COMFORTING <i>– Mother's ability to find relief for the baby's distress</i>	●			<i>...when child was hitting Grandfather, Mother said that he was tired and didn't cuddle him to calm him down</i>
MOTOR	10. POSTURE <i>The posturing of the mother when the infant is supported in her arms or any other way (e.g., other, rough, balanced precariously)</i>	●			<i>...never interact with the child</i>
AFFECT	11. EXPRESSIVENESS <i>– Expression of emotional state (e.g., sad, worried, anxious, bland, happy, others)...specify</i>		●		
	12. UNDERSTANDING OF EMOTIONS <i>– in themselves – in the baby</i>	●	●		
	13. PAST <i>– Psychiatric illness – Other difficulties</i>				<i>...mother reports that during the pregnancy (first 3 month) her mother died and 7 months before her father died.</i>

ANY OTHER OBSERVATIONS NOT LISTED ABOVE:

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Key To Understanding The Acquarone Detection Scales For Early Relationship:

For Infant/Child:

<3 'Never' or 'Always' : Needs Monitoring

<5 'Never' or 'Always' : Needs Early Intervention

For Mother/Carer:

<2* 'Never' or 'Always': Needs Early Intervention

* However, some signs will require intervention regardless eg Past Psychiatric Illness