

Frequently Asked Questions

What is HeartSmartKids?

HeartSmartKids is a web-based system for quickly creating a summary of a child's cardiovascular (heart health) risks. HeartSmartKids helps implement many aspects of national and state guidelines for assessment and prevention of childhood obesity.

What is the HeartPrint?

The HeartPrint™ is a snapshot of the child's cardiovascular risk factors. Height, weight, and body mass index (BMI) are plotted on standard charts from the US Centers for Disease Control (CDC). If blood pressure or BMI percentiles are above the recommended levels for your child's age, a small heart draws attention to the potential problem.

Lifestyle data, provided by the parent or child's interview with the Smart Heart Cart™, is summarized and compared with published guidelines from the American Medical Association (AMA), American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (NAPNAP), and American Dietetic Association (ADA).

Lifestyle recommendations and resources, tailored to the patient interview and location, also appear on the HeartPrint.

Why is HeartSmartKids part of this research grant?

The HeartSmartKids system represents a uniform and inexpensive way to gather data across all grant sites. In addition it provides a tool for sites to use to aid in their implementation of the HealthTeamWorks childhood obesity guidelines.

How does it work?

The HeartSmartKids system is web-based and uses a standard web browser. The first part asks a series of questions about family history, habits and lifestyle such as activity levels, eating habits, and exposure to tobacco smoke.

The second part of the system collects height, weight, and blood pressure, then produces the HeartPrint summary.

What information is collected by the system?

Height, weight, birthdate, and gender are always gathered at each visit. In addition HeartSmartKids gathers information on family history of cardiovascular risks and lifestyle issues selected by the provider, community health worker, or program administrator. This lifestyle information may include eating habits such as how much soda or what type of milk a child drinks. HeartSmartKids does not collect names, addresses, social security numbers, or phone numbers.

Is HeartSmartKids an Electronic Health Record (EMR/EHR)?

No, our system is not an electronic health record. The HeartSmartKids system works alongside your provider's current paper or electronic records, supplying focused summaries of patients' cardiovascular risk profiles along with appropriate recommendations.

How is HeartSmartKids data secured?

Our system is secured with SSL, the industry standard internet encryption technology. This is the same technology used to safely send credit card information over the internet. We do not store patient identity information. Offices or administrators can access their data, including aggregate measures, at any time.