

Home Visit Rating Scales—Adapted and Extended to Excellence (HOVRS-A+) v2.0

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Home Visitor Practices Scales

RESPONSIVENESS TO FAMILY: Plans with parent input, identifies family strengths to support child development

Overall: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

The home visitor:

1. plans activities and topics of the home visit with the parent
2. prepares for the home visit using parent-selected activities
3. gets information about the family's strengths and child's development
4. provides feedback on family strengths for supporting child development
5. adapts activities to the family's interests and needs
6. responds to family input for the agenda and activities of the home visit

RELATIONSHIP WITH FAMILY: Interacts with family members with warmth, positive emotions, and respect

Overall: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

The home visitor:

1. interacts sociably with parent(s), focusing on child development
2. sets the tone for positive interactions
3. expresses positive emotions about the home visit
4. There is no item 4 on this scale, proceed to item 5
5. engages other family members if present during the home visit
6. There is no item 6 on this scale, proceed to item 7
7. reflects on family's life and activities in relation to child's development
8. shows respect and acceptance of the family, home, culture, and lifestyle
9. discusses sensitive issues respectfully and reflectively

FACILITATION OF PARENT-CHILD INTERACTION: Elicits positive developmentally supportive parent-child interactions

Overall: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

The home visitor:

1. elicits ongoing parent-child interactions during the home visit
2. promotes developmentally supportive interactions
3. engages parent and child together
4. supports parent responsiveness to child cues
5. directly encourages or reinforces positive parent-child interactions
6. helps parents use available resources to support child development

NON-INTRUSIVENESS/COLLABORATION: Fully supports parent(s) in primary teaching role without interrupting

Overall: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

The home visitor:

1. encourages the parent's ideas and interests for interactions with child
2. avoids intruding on or ignoring parent-child interactions
3. keeps parent in the "teacher" role
4. follows the lead of parent and child in pace and activities
5. allows parent-child interactions to continue uninterrupted

Family Engagement Scales

PARENT-CHILD INTERACTION: Parent and child interact in positive developmentally supportive ways

Overall: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

The parent and child:

1. engage in interactions
2. make contact with each other
3. are available to engage in interactions

The parent:

4. observes and are ready to respond to the child's behavior
5. responds to child and support child development
6. adapts activities to child's interests and needs and encourage child engagement
7. sustains positive interactions

PARENT ENGAGEMENT: Parent is interested, participates, and initiates interactions, discussions, and activities

Overall: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

The parent:

1. shows interest in materials and activities
2. participates and focus on home visit topics and activities
3. engages in play and activities with child
4. initiates activities and conversations
5. discusses questions and topics relevant to child and family
6. is ready to interact with both child and home visitor

CHILD ENGAGEMENT: Child is interested, participates, and initiates interactions

Overall: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

The child:

1. participates in home visit activities
2. initiates successful activities or interactions
3. sustains interactions with parent or home visitor
4. shows interest and enthusiasm about home visit activities

The *Home Visit Rating Scales-Adapted & Extended* (HOVRS-A+; Roggman et al., 2014) measure is designed for practitioners and supervisors seeking a **high level of excellence** in home visiting practices in programs aiming to help parents to support the early development of their infants and young children.

The Home Visit Rating Scales:

SCALE 1—HOME VISITOR RESPONSIVENESS TO FAMILY—assesses the extent to which the home visitor is (1) prepared for the home visit, (2) attempts to get needed information from the parent, (3) observes and responds to the parent child during the home visit, and (4) elicits parent input on the content and activities of the home visit. A high rating suggests that the home visitor is frequently responsive during the visit.

SCALE 2—HOME VISITOR-FAMILY RELATIONSHIP—examines the home visitor’s support of a relationship with the family, as observed during the home visit by (1) warmth shown by the home visitor (2) positive interactions of the home visitor with the family, and (3) the home visitor’s respect and understanding of the family as a whole. A high rating suggests that the home visitor is frequently engaging the family in warm, positive interactions during the visit.

SCALE 3—HOME VISITOR FACILITATION OF PARENT-CHILD INTERACTION—assesses the effectiveness of the home visitor at facilitating and promoting positive parent-child interactions during the home visit by (1) encouraging the parent’s leadership when guiding parent-child interactions, (2) involving and responding to both parent and child during interactions, and (3) using materials available in the home to promote parent-child interactions. A high rating suggests that the home visitor is frequently engaging in facilitative behaviors during the home visit.

SCALE 4—HOME VISITOR NON-INTRUSIVENESS/COLLABORATION WITH FAMILY—focuses on the lack of intrusiveness by the home visitor on parent behavior and parent-child interactions during the visit. It assesses (1) home visitor control and (2) home visitor flexibility and responsiveness. A high rating on this scale suggests that the home visitor rarely engages in intrusive behaviors during the home visit and that he or she uses effective strategies to collaborate with the parent.

SCALE 5—PARENT-CHILD INTERACTION DURING HOME VISIT—examines the parent-child relationship, as observed during the home visit. It assesses (1) parent-child warmth and physical closeness, (2) parent attentiveness to the child, (3) parent responsiveness to the child, and (4) parent-child joint attention. A high rating on this scale suggests that the parent and child are frequently engaging in warm, positive behaviors during the home visit.

SCALE 6—PARENT ENGAGEMENT DURING HOME VISIT—examines the parent’s engagement in the activities of the home visit. It focuses on (1) parent interest, (2) parent involvement and initiative, and (3) the parent’s availability to interact with the home visitor and child. A high rating on this scale suggests that the parent is frequently displaying behaviors that indicate interest and engagement in the home visit activities and discussions.

SCALE 7—CHILD ENGAGEMENT DURING HOME VISIT—examines the child’s engagement in the activities of the home visit. It focuses on (1) child involvement and (2) child interest. A high rating on this scale suggests that the child is frequently displaying behaviors that indicate engagement and interest during the home visit.