Project on Human Development in Chicago Neighborhoods (PHDCN): Infant Assessment Unit, Wave 1, 1995-1997

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Instrument for ICPSR 13579 - Growth Assessment Form
Materials Needed:

1) “Seca” portable infant scale
2) Small paper blanket
3) Tape measure (attached to inside of VRM box)
4) Ross pediatric (plastic) tape measure
5) Extra paper tape measure (to give to PC after assessment)

Camera Setup:
One RA should be in charge of filming all interactions between the PC and the infant as the baby is undressed, measured, and re-dressed.

After the infant is undressed, place the scale on the floor. The RA in charge of filming should follow the PC as s/he places the infant on the scale and should keep both the infant and PC in the viewfinder during the entire task.

Place the small paper blanket on the scale before weighing.

Turn the scale on. You will find the “on” green button along the right side of the scale, near the words, “soft touch technique”.

Check to see if scale is registering kilograms. Look at the red window where the weight is recorded and registering kilograms. Check to see if the red dot is near the letters kg. Or lbs. If it is not on kg (kilograms), push the button directly underneath the scale in the front, to change to kilograms.
Instructions to the PC:
Explain this measure carefully so the PC understands. Begin by saying:

Now we would like to **weigh and measure **** just like in a doctor's office.**

First we’ll ask you to put **** on our scale. Then, after we have the weight, we’d like you to lay **** down next to our scale in this box so we can measure how tall **** is. Then, we’ll use a tape measure to see how big around his/her head is, the way a pediatrician would.

In order to get the most accurate weight, we would like you to undress **** down to his/her diaper. If his/her diaper is not dry, we’d like you to put on a dry diaper. We can give you a new diaper, if you want one. Do you have any questions?

1. **Weigh the baby**

Once the infant is undressed, have the PC lay him/her down on the scale, and wait until the numbers on the scale are fixed.

Read the weight in** kilograms** aloud so the second RA can write it down.

Click the scale to **lbs** and tell the parent the baby’s weight in pounds.

(Note: Do Not give the baby a toy during weighing and measuring. If the baby is upset by this procedure, Drs. Bernstein and Hans would like to see how the parent interacts with the baby at this time.)

2. **Measure the baby’s length**

Ask the PC to take the infant from the scale.

Remove the scale, replacing it with the VRM box. This should be open, with a paper blanket on the bottom on which to rest the infant.

Ask the PC to place the infant in the box, lying on his/her back with his/her head against the end marked “head”, with an arrow. Then say:

I’d like you to gently stretch **** out so that I can measure his/her full length.

When the infant is stretched to full length, bring the cardboard, up flat against the bottom of his/her feet and read off the corresponding length in **centimeters** to the RA who is recording the measurements.
3. **Measuring head circumference**

After measuring length, say: **Now I am going to measure *****'s head.**

Measure the head while the infant is lying down (or, if necessary, while s/he is sitting up supported by the PC)

When the infant is ready, place the tape around the largest part of his/her head. This will usually be across the ridge of the eyebrows and above the ears (do not place the tape over the infant’s ears).

Read aloud the measurement in centimeters and the second RA should record it. After recording the measurements in the protocol, record the measurements onto the paper tape measure and present it to the PC.

**Camera setup:**
The entire undressing, weighing, measuring and redressing should be video recorded if possible.

The camera should be moved, or re-focused as needed, to keep the PC and baby in the viewfinder during the entire undressing, weighing/measuring, and re-dressing.

If the PC prefers to undress the infant in private, at least keep the video tape running during all weighing and measuring.

The RA should inform the PC that the assessment has been completed and the PC can now get the baby dressed again.
Growth Assessment Form
June 4, 1996

Date: ______ ______ ______
 mm dd yyyy

Subject ID: _______________________

Interviewer ID: ___________________

Height: ______.____ cm

Weight: ______.____ kg

Head Circumference: ______.____ cm

Reference: Average height and weight for 6 month old infants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>BOYS 60-75 cm</th>
<th>GIRLS 60-75 cm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HEIGHT</td>
<td>60-75 cm</td>
<td>60-75 cm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEIGHT</td>
<td>6-10.5 kg</td>
<td>5-10 kg</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Was this assessment completed?
   1. Yes     End
   2. No      Go to Q. 2

2. Why not?

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ed. init. ed. date

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