The Pediatric Nausea Assessment Tool (PeNAT)


The following script is to ensure that children understand the concept of nausea, to center their attention on the feeling of nausea, and to explain how to use the PeNAT. Two standard are developed for administering the instrument: one for children older than 8 years and one for children aged 8 years or younger.

Group 1: children receiving chemotherapy.
Group 2: children receiving cancer chemotherapy before hematopoietic stem cell transplantation.
Group 3: children with cancer who were not receiving cancer chemotherapy.

INTRODUCTION SCRIPT
CHILDREN 4 TO 8 YEARS

Determine from the parent(s) what terms their family uses for vomiting and nausea.

To the child:

Have you ever thrown up (use family term above) before?

If yes, how did your tummy feel just before you threw up (use family term above)?

We call that feeling nausea or being nauseous. In your family you call that feeling __________.

If no, have you ever felt like you were going to throw up (use family term) but didn't?
If yes, how did your tummy feel then?

We call that feeling nausea or being nauseous. In your family you call that feeling ________.

FOR GROUP 1:

Some children who get chemo feel nauseous (use family term) and some don’t. Right now, which kind of child is more like you?

If child says no nausea, show faces A and B.

Some children who get chemo feel no nausea (use family term) at all, like this face, and some feel a little bit nauseous (use family term), like this face. Point to the each face at the appropriate time and use hands to emphasize “no nausea” and “a little bit”. Which child is more like you right now?

If child says some nausea, show faces C and D.

Some children who get chemo feel some nausea (use family term), like this face, and some feel a lot of nausea (use family term), like this face. Point to the each face at the appropriate time and use hands to emphasize “some nausea” and “a lot”. Which child is more like you right now?

FOR GROUPS 2 & 3:

Some children feel nauseous (use family term) and some don’t. Which kind of child do you feel more like right now?

If child says no nausea, show faces A and B.

Some children feel no nausea (use family term) at all, like this face, and some feel a little bit nauseous (use family term), like this face. Point to the each face at the appropriate time and use hands to emphasize “no nausea” and “a little bit”. Which child is more like you right now?

If child says some nausea, show faces C and D.

Some children feel some nausea (use family term), like this face, and some feel a lot of nausea (use family term), like this face. Point to the each face at the appropriate time and use hands to emphasize “some nausea” and “a lot”. Which child is more like you right now?

INTRODUCTION SCRIPT
CHILDREN 9 TO 18 YEARS

Determine from the parent(s) what terms their family uses for vomiting and nausea.

To the child:
Have you ever thrown up (use family term above) before?

If yes, how did your tummy feel just before you threw up (use family term above)?

We call that feeling nausea or being nauseous. In your family you call that feeling __________.

If no, have you ever felt like you were going to throw up (use family term) but didn’t?

If yes, how did your tummy feel then?

We call that feeling nausea or being nauseous. In your family you call that feeling __________.

FOR GROUP 1:

Some children who get chemo feel nauseous (use family term) and some don’t. These faces show children who feel no nausea at all, who feel a little bit nauseous, who feel even more nauseous and who feel nauseous a whole lot. **Point to each face at the appropriate time.** Which face is more like you right now?

FOR GROUPS 2 & 3:

Some children feel nauseous (use family term) and some don’t. These faces show children who feel no nausea at all, who feel a little bit nauseous, who feel even more nauseous and who feel nauseous a whole lot. **Point to each face at the appropriate time.** Which face is more like you right now?

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