

# Australian Journal of Educational & Developmental Psychology (AJEDP)

Volume 8 2008

---

## Effect of violating the indicated age window for a parent-completed child development screening questionnaire

Harald Janson

The Norwegian Center for Child Behavioral Development  
Oslo, Norway

Jane Squires

Early Intervention Program & Department of Special Education and Clinical Sciences  
University of Oregon, USA

Jörg Richter

Regional Centre for Child and Adolescent Mental Health  
Oslo, Norway

### Abstract

The sensitivity of developmental screening tests depends on age-referencing. We investigated the effect on screening positive on the Ages and Stages Questionnaires (ASQ) - parent-completed questionnaires for children 4 to 60 months - depending on being within or outside the indicated age window for a questionnaire. Data came from a Norwegian population sample including 2,633 questionnaires. 10% of appropriate-age children screened positive in comparison to 22% of 1-2 months too young and 5% of children 1-2 months too old. The results highlight the importance of paying close attention to the child's age in developmental screening.

[Link to full text paper pdf \(105KB\)](#)

*Uploaded: 18 December 2008*

---