Developmental Behaviour Checklist – Early Screen (DBC-ES)

Overview
The Developmental Behaviour Checklist – Early Screen (DBC-ES; Gray & Tonge, 2005) is an autism screening instrument derived from the Developmental Behaviour Checklist Parent/Primary Caregiver Report (DBC-P). The DBC-ES comprises 17 items from the original checklist and is intended for children 18 to 48 months.

Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Tool/Author</th>
<th>Screening/Diagnosis</th>
<th>Age Range*</th>
<th>Method of Administration/Format</th>
<th>Approximate Time to Administer</th>
<th>Subscales</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Developmental Checklist – Early Screen (DBC-ES)</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>1.5–4</td>
<td>The DBC-ES is a subset of items derived from the DBC-P (Developmental Checklist–Parent/Primary Caregiver Report)</td>
<td>5–10 min.</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gray, K.M., &amp; Tonge, B.J. (2005)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Yields cutoff score</td>
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</table>

*In years except where noted.  
## Developmental Behaviour Checklist – Early Screen (DBC-ES)

### Research

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author (Year)</th>
<th>Age Range (in years)</th>
<th>Sample Size</th>
<th>Topic Addressed</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Gray, Tonge, Sweeney, & Einfeld, S. (2008) | 20–51 months | 207 | Reliability, Validity, Internal consistency, Inter-rater reliability, Sensitivity and specificity | Inter-rater reliability: between parents (interclass correlation of 0.772 \( p < 0.01 \))
Validity: Total score correlated with ADI-R Social domain (\( r = 0.47, p < 0.01 \)), Verbal Communication domain (\( r = 0.36, p < 0.01 \)), Non-verbal Communication domain (\( r = 0.37, p < 0.01 \)), and Restricted and Repetitive domain (\( r = 0.53, p < 0.01 \))
Internal consistency: Cronbach’s =0.87
Inter-rater reliability: \( r = 0.772 (p < 0.01) \)
Sensitivity and specificity: Using cut-off score of \( > 11 \) sensitivity = 0.83 (95% CI: 0.76-0.89) and specificity of 0.48 (95% CI: 0.35-0.60) |

### References


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