Choosing Your Baby’s Health Care Provider Worksheet

Questions to ask prospective health care providers

Which hospitals do you typically admit sick children to?

Does that include the hospital where my baby will be born?

Do you also use local and regional specialty children’s hospitals?  □ yes  □ no

Which ones?

Are you covered by my health plan?  □ yes  □ no

What are your views on infant feeding?

What kind of support do you offer for infant feeding?

Do you offer space for private breastfeeding?  □ yes  □ no  Diaper changing?  □ yes  □ no

What are your recommendations about circumcision?

If I choose circumcision who will do it?

How long is the typical waiting time to make an appointment?

How long is the typical waiting time in your waiting room?

In the exam room?

What is your system for answering routine questions?

May I ask them over the phone?  □ yes  □ no

May I talk to you or must I leave a message?

Will you return my calls or will a nurse?

How can I reach you in an emergency?

How much time do you allow for a routine office visit?

What are your fees for:  normal office visits?  ______  immunizations? ______  procedures? ______

How will I be billed?

What are your billing policies?

Do you use nurse practitioners in your practice?  □ yes  □ no  Can I meet them?  □ yes  □ no

How are they involved?

Who covers for you on weekends and vacations?

Can I visit and see you and your office in person?

Is there a charge for this visit?

When you visit a prospective health care provider, see for yourself how you feel about the:

Lobby and office — is it child- and parent-friendly?

Reception staff — are they friendly and helpful?