

Choosing Your Baby's Health Care Provider



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? _____