

# Referral Guidelines

## Developmental Delay/Regression

### Referring provider's initial evaluation and management can include:

- Developmental surveillance- please see AAP guidelines <http://aappolicy.aappublications.org/cgi/content/full/pediatrics;118/1/405>
- In addition to the developmental evaluation, a medical diagnostic evaluation to identify an underlying etiology should be undertaken. This evaluation should consider biological, environmental, and established risk factors for delayed development.
- Vision screening and objective hearing evaluation;
- Review of newborn metabolic screening and growth charts;
- Update of environmental, medical, family and social history for additional risk factors are integral to this evaluation.
- Referral to and input from early intervention specialists ([eicolorado.org](http://eicolorado.org)) and physical, occupational and speech therapists, as appropriate.

### When to initiate referral:

- Evidence of significant delay in two or more areas of development
- Evidence of regression
- Head size crossing percentiles or baseline microcephaly
- For delays in a single area of development- lack of progress toward typical development after three to six months of intervention

### What records can referring provider send?

- Growth charts
- Results of developmental screening tools
- Early intervention and therapy reports

- Newborn screening results
- Any medical information about other family members with developmental concerns
- Results of vision, hearing screenings

### Children's Colorado's workup will likely include:

- Please see best practice references AAN evidence report genetic and metabolic testing <http://www.neurology.org/content/77/17/1629.full.html>: 2a.
- Detailed medical, birth, social, family and environmental history will be obtained.
- A general medical examination and detailed neurologic examination will be performed.
- Head imaging for abnormal or abnormally growing head
- Genetic testing as indicated.
- Referral to other clinics as indicated may be recommended (e.g., Neurosurgery, Neurodevelopmental Behavioral Pediatrics)

### Who to refer to:

- Patients with developmental delay or regression can be evaluated by any of our general pediatric neurologists.
- **Please call 720-777-6895 to make an appointment.**
- Our neurology staff practice throughout metro Denver and appointments are available at our St. Joseph's, Parker, Broomfield, Littleton and Wheat Ridge locations.

### Want to provide information to your patients and families?

Tell them to visit [childrenscolorado.org/Neuro](http://childrenscolorado.org/Neuro)

### Contact the Neurology Department

A Children's Hospital Colorado Pediatric Neurologist is available at all times for consultation and can be reached through OneCall at 720-777-3999 or toll free at 800-525-4871 or by calling the Neurology department directly at 720-777-6895, option 2.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call 720-777-6895.

Medical Records: Medical records needed for upcoming appointments in Neurology can be faxed to 720-777-7197.

