

WHAT IF ADDITIONAL MEDICAL TESTS ARE RECOMMENDED?



Early intervention does not pay for medical testing, so you would need to work with your insurance and your child's pediatrician or family physician to arrange any additional medical testing that is needed.

WHAT SHOULD I DO TO PREPARE FOR MY VISIT?

1. Complete any paperwork required by the diagnostic site.
2. Write down any questions you have for the diagnostic team – **Remember you know your child best!**
3. Consider your child's likes, dislikes, strengths, and needs so that you can share them with the team.
4. Prepare snacks/drinks and any other items you might want to bring with you as the process can take 2-3 hours.
5. Ensure that you have the site address and someone to go with you, if you prefer.
6. Confirm with your service coordinator that an interpreter will be available if needed.

Medical Services

For Diagnostic and
Evaluation Purposes in
Early Intervention



WHAT ARE MEDICAL DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES?

Medical services for diagnostic, evaluation and assessment purposes are services provided by a licensed physician or a multidisciplinary team (if needed) under the direction of a licensed physician to determine a child's developmental status and need for early intervention supports and services. Medical diagnostic services may be appropriate:

1. when past evaluations have failed to establish eligibility and additional developmental diagnostic services may assist with eligibility determination;
2. when additional medical information may help with understanding a child's current and past developmental performance.

WHO PROVIDES THESE SERVICES?

Medical diagnostic services are provided under the direction of a licensed physician and may include other disciplines as necessary to understand your child's developmental status and need for early intervention supports and services.

HOW DO I OBTAIN MEDICAL DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES?

Your interest in medical diagnostic services should be discussed with your Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) team. If your team determines that a medical diagnostic visit would be beneficial, your service coordinator can help you schedule a visit.

There are several diagnostic centers throughout the state. Your service coordinator will provide you with information about the location of these centers as well as an estimate of how soon the service could be provided.

WHAT HAPPENS DURING A MEDICAL DIAGNOSTIC VISIT?

A physician (often with a diagnostic team) completes a comprehensive neurodevelopmental assessment which includes:

1. a detailed medical, developmental, neurologic, behavioral, family, and social history
2. a review of prior evaluations, assessments, and IFSPs
3. a review of current early intervention services
4. a physical examination
5. administration of pediatric assessment tools (as needed)

The diagnostic team will summarize the findings and may provide a variety of medical, educational, and social recommendations. Some recommendations may be for services and supports that Early Intervention does not provide, but the diagnostic team, CFC staff, or your physician may be able to direct you to potential resources.

WHAT HAPPENS WITH RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE DIAGNOSTIC TEAM?

Recommendations by the diagnostic team that impact your child's IFSP will need to be considered by the full IFSP team to determine if changes will be made. Decisions regarding length, frequency, intensity, and delivery method of EI services are determined by the IFSP team. Remember that IFSP services and supports focus on the child's routines, activities, and interests to increase the child's participation in family and community life and, to the maximum extent possible, are provided in the child's natural environment.

