

Pediatric Neurology **Massachusetts General Hospital *for* Children**

Welcome! This packet includes helpful information about your child's upcoming appointment in the Pediatric Neurology Clinic at the Massachusetts General Hospital *for* Children. Please read this packet before your child's first appointment.

We have included a **Pediatric Neurology Intake Form** in this packet. Please fill out the entire intake form before your first appointment. Please bring this form with you to your first appointment.

What to Bring to Your First Appointment

- Pediatric Neurology Intake Form
- Medical Records, Examples of medical records include:
 - Discharge summaries from recent hospital admissions or emergency room visits
 - MRI or CT scans: Please bring a CD or Film copy of the test. To get a CD or Film copy please call the center where your child's MRI or CT was done.
 - Reports from past neurologists
 - Neuropsychological testing
 - Early intervention or school based developmental testing (core Evaluation)
 - Lab Results (blood, urine, or CSF)
 - Results from metabolic or biochemical testing
 - EEG Reports

How to Prepare for your Appointment

Going to a doctor's office can be scary. Some families find it helpful to write down questions they have for the doctor before their appointment. This way they can make sure that all of their questions are asked.

Your child does not need to do anything special on the day his appointment. He should eat, sleep, and play as he would any other day.

What to Expect

When you arrive, please check-in at the front desk. 60-90 minutes are scheduled for your first appointment and 30-45 minutes are allotted for follow-up appointments. At the end of your appointment, you will be able to schedule a follow-up appointment if you choose.

Typical Evaluation

Your child's doctor will begin by reviewing your current concerns and your child's symptoms. Next the doctor will ask you about your child's medical history. The doctor will review your child's family health history, and his/her social history. The doctor will also ask about your child's development.

Next, the doctor will examine your child. The exam will include a detailed neurological exam, which helps the doctor look at how your child's brain and nervous system are working. The exam may include looking into your child's eyes with a bright light or asking your child to complete simple tasks. The details of your child's exam will be determined by your child's age and developmental level.

Finally, the doctor will review his or her findings with you. Together you will discuss further testing and/or a treatment plan. Our staff, at the front desk, will assist you with setting up future testing if needed. **Please note that no formal neuropsychological testing will be performed during your exam in the neurology clinic.**

Our staff looks forward to serving you and your family. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions prior to your appointment or visit our website at <http://massgeneral.org/neurology/childneurology>.