



Although it may be difficult to explain to parents that an infant may have a delay, ensuring a child receives early intervention should outweigh any discomfort that might arise from such a conversation. **Waiting another three months until the next well-baby visit could potentially delay much-needed therapy.**

In this short video, notice how the doctor acts in several scenarios:

## First scenario (minimal support)

- Parent brings up concern about baby's development
- Doctor explains all children develop differently; "wait and see" how the baby progresses
- If there is an early motor delay, the child misses out on an early referral

## Second scenario (not optimal)

- Doctor asks more specific questions regarding parent's concerns
- Doctor recommends keeping diary of when baby is moody, difficult, or exhibits concerning behavior
- Doctor recommends return visit in three weeks instead of typical three months for a check-up
- Doctor takes a proactive role
- Child misses out on an early referral

## Final scenario (optimal reaction)

- Doctor pinpoints one of the problem areas
- Doctor asks parent about the trouble diapering baby
- Parent responds saying yes, their son often has stiff muscle movement
- Doctor suggests a second opinion complete with a full screening and evaluation



If there are concerns, the best option is an early referral for screening and/or evaluation.

## Err on the side of caution when debating whether an infant requires a second opinion.

- Often there is a waitlist for a child to be seen by an early intervention or pediatric therapist
- It is easier to cancel an appointment than to wait until the next visit and postpone the possibility of getting the help baby needs

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