



Follow-Up Appointment: Early Intervention or Early Childhood Intervention

The neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) team celebrates with you as your baby goes home! Because your baby is a NICU graduate, he or she is at higher risk for certain problems after discharge. That's why your baby needs important follow-up appointments to ensure his or her best health.

Why does my baby need this appointment?

- Babies born premature, with low birth weight, or with other complications around birth are at higher risk for delays in development or problems with movement and speech.
- *Early intervention/early childhood intervention (EI/ECI)* is a program to promote your baby's best development by helping you be your baby's first and most important teacher.
- EI/ECI experts include teachers and rehabilitation therapists such as occupational therapists, physical therapists, and speech language pathologists.
- EI/ECI experts help prevent and also diagnosis and treat problems with movement, feeding, and language.
- Because a baby's job is to play, EI/ECI experts use play activities to help your baby learn how best to move, feed, talk, and play.

Where is the appointment?

(Many EI programs make home visits to teach you how to help your baby's development.)

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

When is the appointment?

Date: _____ Time: _____

You need to call the EI/ECI office to schedule your baby's appointment.

The EI/ECI office will call you to schedule your baby's appointment.

Important Things to Remember

- Each follow-up appointment with EI/ECI is important and is in addition to well-child check-ups with your baby's primary care provider and any high-risk infant follow-up appointments.
- If you are unable to keep this important follow-up appointment, please call to reschedule.

The above information is provided to help you better understand your baby's care. Always follow the instructions given by your baby's provider and ask questions if you have concerns about your baby.

Online Resources

American Academy of Pediatrics
www.aap.org

High-Risk Infant Follow-Up Quality of Care Initiative
www.ccsrif.org

American Occupational Therapy Association, Inc.
www.aota.org

Kids Health
www.kidshealth.org