

Did you know that parental observations are key to the early diagnosis of Autism?

It's important to discuss with your pediatrician, any developmental concerns you have with your child and ask for a developmental screening as recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Note that many physicians do not routinely perform developmental screenings. Don't be afraid to ask. You are your child's voice.



Early diagnosis and intervention will give your child the promise of a brighter future.



Autism is a lifelong developmental disability that typically appears during the first three years of life. This neurological disorder interferes with the normal development of the brain in areas that control verbal and nonverbal communication, social interaction and sensory development.



Friends of Autism

is a non-profit volunteer organization who's mission is to raise awareness of the unique needs and contributions of people with autism.

Our efforts are focused on searching for a cure, awareness and early detection, and improving the quality of life for persons with autism.

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1 in 250
babies born today
will be diagnosed with Autism.

Is
YOUR CHILD
on the right
developmental path?

Be informed of what you can do
to ensure the brightest future for your child.

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EASY STEPS to ensure your child is on the right developmental path:



1. Complete the Red Flag checklist in this brochure to evaluate your child's development. Your observations are invaluable to your physician and vital to your baby's health.

2. Every child **will** develop differently. While some developmental stages may occur with slight delay, others are warning signs that may need immediate attention. **Share your concerns with your pediatrician.**

3. Request a developmental screening by your pediatrician and visit the Autism Society of Wisconsin website at www.asw4autism.org, for a complete list of physicians able to diagnose developmental delays such as Autism.

Be sure to request a developmental screening at EVERY WELL-VISIT to help monitor your child's growth and development.

FACT: The most common developmental disability is Autism.

FACT: 4 out of every 5 children diagnosed with Autism are boys.











To get involved with Autism research and awareness

in Wisconsin visit our website at:

www.friendsofautism.org

Parental concerns that are **Red Flags** for Autism

Please complete this checklist. If your baby shows any of these warning signs, ask your pediatrician or family practitioner for an immediate evaluation:

-  No big smiles or other warm, joyful expressions by six months or thereafter. YES NO
-  Failure or inconsistent response to child's name being called or child appears deaf. YES NO
-  No Facial imitating such as sticking out tongue or playing simple games like Peek-A-Boo, Pat-A-Cake or giving High Fives by nine months. YES NO
-  Does not know how to play with toys. YES NO
-  No babbling by 12 months. YES NO
-  Shows little or no interest in other children. YES NO
-  No gesturing such as pointing, showing, reaching or waving by 12 months. YES NO
-  Does not make eye contact with parent or caregiver. YES NO
-  No words or occasional words by 16 months. YES NO
-  Any **LOSS** of speech or skills such as pointing or waving bye-bye. YES NO

If you've checked YES to any of these warning signs, talk to your physician immediately.