

# WHAT TO ASK YOUR BABY'S DOCTOR

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1. Can I call you day or night?
2. What are the symptoms you want to know about?
3. What situations demand that I go straight to the emergency room? Do I call you first?
4. If you're not here when I call, who are the other doctors who will advise me? Do they share your philosophy on nursing, nutrition, and child development?
5. How much do you charge for an office visit? How much for routine vaccinations?
6. How long does it take to schedule an appointment?
7. How long will my baby and I be kept waiting to see you?
8. What are your views on breastfeeding? Bottle feeding?
9. Do you advise feeding on demand or on schedule?
10. If I am breastfeeding, in what situations will you advise me to stop?  
If I have infections? If my baby shows a slow weight gain? If I go back to work?
11. Do you routinely order laboratory tests? For what symptoms?



A doctor's personality and style will probably rank as high in importance as their availability and affordability. Your personal preferences and instincts will weigh heavily in your choice.

Ask yourself:

- Do they make me feel confident?
- Do I feel comfortable talking with them?
- Do they seem flexible or rigid? Will they respect my philosophy of baby care or expect me to follow theirs?
- Do they make me feel reluctant to pick up the phone and call after office hours if I just need advice?
- Do the nurses and receptionists seem helpful, courteous and concerned?



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