

# DOWN SYNDROME HEALTH CARE GUIDELINES

(Based on 1999 Down Syndrome Health Care Guidelines)\*

## Neonatal (Birth-1 Month)

- < Review parental concerns. Chromosomal karyotype; genetic counseling, if necessary.
- < If vomiting or absence of stools, check for gastrointestinal tract blockage (duodenal web or atresia or Hirschsprung disease).
- < Evaluation by a pediatric cardiologist including echocardiogram. Subacute bacterial endocarditis prophylaxis –(SBE), in susceptible children with cardiac disease.
- < Exam for plethora, thrombocytopenia.
- < Review feeding history to ensure adequate caloric intake.
- < Thyroid function test - check on results of state-mandated screening at birth.
- < Auditory brainstem response (ABR) or otoacoustic emission (OAE) test to assess congenital sensorineural hearing (at birth or 3 months).
- < Pediatric ophthalmological evaluation (by 6 months) for screening purposes.
- < Discuss value of Early Intervention (infant stimulation) and refer for enrollment in local program.
- < Referral to local Down syndrome parent group or family support and resources, as indicated.  
Referral to NDSS.



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(800) 221-4602 / [www.ndss.org](http://www.ndss.org)

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