Child Psychiatry Information



In order to prepare you for your child’s appointment with our psychiatrist, please review the information below. The Doctor will gather an extensive history about your child at the initial appointment. This guide is intended to make the evaluation go smoothly.

◙ History of present illness

◙ Appetite – does your child have a good or poor appetite.

◙ Sleep – how much sleep is your child getting, what time does he/she go to bed and what time does he/she get up in the morning.

◙ Energy level – low, medium/moderate, or high.

◙ Has your child already been diagnosed with a condition and if so, who diagnosed them – are they currently taking medications?

◙ Has your child been an in-patient at a hospital or other psychiatric facility in the past – if so, when, where and why?

◙ Has your child received any kind of therapy/counseling in the past – if so, when and where?

◙ Substance abuse problems – details.

◙ Suicide attempt(s)?

◙ Has your child had any psychological/school testing performed – if so, when and what were the results?

◙ Is your child allergic to any medications? If so, what type of reaction did he/she have?

◙ Child’s past medical history.

◙ Has your child passed a hearing and vision screening test?

◙ Has your child had any surgeries? If so, describe.

◙ Mother’s pregnancy information: normal vaginal delivery or c-section, did mother use any drugs or alcohol during pregnancy, was the child delivered full term or premature, any problems at birth, child’s birth weight, mom’s age at time of delivery.

◙ Child’s milestones: when did he/she walk, talk, potty train?

◙ Family history: anyone in the family with seizures, diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, thyroid problems, sickle cell, sudden death, heart attack or other heart problems, cancer?

◙ Family history of mental conditions: any family member with depression, schizophrenia, mental retardation, ADHD, anxiety, bipolar disorder, suicide attempts, suicides completed, drug abuse (alcohol, marijuana, opiates, cocaine, prescription medication)?

◙ Academic history: what grade is your child in currently, does he/she attend public or private school, has he/she repeated a grade, problems with truancy, suspensions, detentions, expulsions, any learning disorders?

◙ Recent stressors: academics, finances, foster care, legal problems, separation from family, social, parental death?

◙ Are there any firearms in the home?

◙ Any history of trauma or abuse: psychological, sexual, physical, neglect, witnessed violence, DCFS involvement?

◙ Are parental rights intact?

Your child may be asked other questions such as: what is the current date, what city, state, country we are in, what season it is, how he/she is currently feeling, does he/she want to hurt self or anyone else, does he/she hear or see things that other people do not see.

It is important not to bring other siblings or children to the appointments with the Doctor. Distractions make it difficult for the doctor to give the patient the appropriate time and attention needed.

At all follow up appointments, please bring all medications the child is taking. The Doctor will want to be very specific about medications – is the child taking the medication as prescribed, having any side effects, how much medication you have left.

If you are unable to bring your child to a follow up appointment, it is necessary to have a specific form completed and sent with the party bringing your child. You MUST send the appropriate form or your child will not be allowed to be seen.

If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact our office.



***Promoting Lifelong Health and Wellness Close to Home.***

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