The Autism Center at Children’s Hospital
Diagnostic Evaluation Clinic
PROVIDER REFERRAL GUIDE

Our Diagnostic Evaluation Clinic

- We provide comprehensive diagnostic evaluations to assess for autism spectrum disorder (ASD).
  - Evaluations typically include measures of developmental, cognitive, adaptive, and overall behavioral functioning, as well as measures specific to symptoms of ASD.
- We see children 18 months to 21 years of age.

How to Refer a Child for a Diagnostic Evaluation

- The preferred method for referring is through Epic.
  - Our referral coordinators will update the referral with notes in the triage section.
- Referring providers (e.g., pediatricians, psychologists, psychiatrists, neurologists, etc.) can also fax a referral to the Autism Center at 504-896-7273.
- Please include the child’s name, date of birth, parent/caregiver name, contact information, and the diagnosis to be ruled out.
- Psychological testing usually requires a preauthorization from the child’s insurance company. We must submit supporting documentation to justify the request for testing units. As such, we require referring providers to include supporting documentation when referring a child for evaluation. At least one of the following must be included with the referral:
  - Your last clinic note including the reason for referral and specific concerns and observations and/or
  - Another document that includes information about observations, previous assessment of symptoms, or concerns that prompted the referral for an evaluation in our clinic (e.g., an Early Steps evaluation, a school evaluation)
  - Results of an autism-specific screening instrument (e.g., M-CHAT, BISCUIT, SCQ, AQ-10) can be included but may not be sufficient for insurance preauthorization purposes.
- After the referral is faxed, the parent/caregiver must call our office at 504-896-7272 to confirm placement on the wait list.
- We appreciate your understanding and look forward to working with you and meeting the children you refer to our clinic!