

Pediatrician Interview Questions

Pediatrician name: _____

Following are questions you may want to ask the pediatrician and office staff to determine the characteristics that are important to you.

The Pediatrician's Availability

Children can get sick or hurt without warning, so it's important to know how easily you can reach your pediatrician in an emergency.

1. What are your daily office hours? On weekends and holidays?
2. How accessible are you by phone? How soon will you return my calls? Is there a special telephone hour for asking routine questions?
3. What happens when medical problems occur after office hours? If you are unavailable, who is on call?
4. What hospitals are you affiliated with?
5. How many pediatricians are in your practice?
6. How much or how little of my child's care do you delegate to the nurse or receptionist?

The Pediatrician's Background

To feel confident about a pediatrician's qualifications and background, ask these questions:

1. Where did you attend medical school?
2. Where did you complete your residency?
3. Are you board-certified in pediatrics?
4. Are you a member of any professional organizations?

Baby Care

1. Where do you stand on:
 - Breastfeeding or Bottle-feeding?
 - Circumcision?
 - Getting baby to sleep?
 - Antibiotics?
 - Alternative Medicine?

Financial Policies

While it's difficult to place a value on your child's health, you need to know how much your pediatric care will cost before you choose a pediatrician. Consider these points:

1. Are the pediatrician's services covered by your insurance plan?
2. What is the payment policy?
3. What financial arrangements can be made for visits not reimbursed by your insurance company?
4. Will the office staff help you process insurance claim forms?

Questions to Ask Yourself

1. Did you feel comfortable with the doctor?
2. Is the office conveniently located?
3. How long were you kept waiting?
4. Did the waiting room and the examination rooms have toys and books to occupy your child?
5. Was everything clean?
6. How helpful were the nurses and support staff in the office?