

Baby and child screenings

Well-baby exam — birth to 2 years*: Infants who leave the hospital less than two days (48 hours) after birth need to be seen by a doctor within two to four days after being born. Also, you might want to talk to a doctor before your baby is born. You might talk to the doctor if you are a first-time parent, are having a high-risk pregnancy, or want to learn about feeding, circumcision or well-baby care. At the well-baby exam you may get advice on your child's safety, health, healthy eating and development. At these exams, your baby may get vaccines and these screenings:

Screenings	Age (in months)									
	birth	1	2	4	6	9	12	15	18	24
Hearing	as a newborn and when your doctor suggests									
Weight, length and head circumference (the length around the head)	at each visit									
Hemoglobin or hematocrit (blood count)						once between 9 and 12				
Lead testing unless you are sure the child has not been around lead							at 12			at 24
Development and behavior	at each visit									
Oral/dental health					at 6	at 9	at 12		at 18	at 24
Autism									at 18	at 24

Well-child exam — ages 2½ to 10 years*: You may get advice about how to keep your child safe, how to prevent injuries, good health, healthy eating and development. At ages 3 and 6, a referral to a dentist may be suggested. At these well-child exams, your child may get vaccines and these screenings:

Screenings	Age (in years)								
	2½	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Blood pressure		each year starting at 3 years							
Vision					each year				
Hearing					each year				
Height, weight, body mass index (BMI)**					each year				
Development and behavior					at each visit				
Oral/dental health	at 2½								

Well-child exam — ages 11 to 18 years*: The doctor may talk to you about health and wellness issues. These include healthy eating, exercise, healthy weight, how to prevent injuries, avoiding tobacco, alcohol and drugs, sexual behavior, dental health, mental health and secondhand smoke. At these exams, your child may get vaccines and these screenings:

Screenings	Age (in years)							
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Blood pressure				each year				
Vision				each year				
Hearing				each year				
Height, weight, BMI**				each year				
Chlamydia		for sexually active women aged 25 and younger						
Development and behavior				each year				

*This guide is for people with average risk. Some people may be at higher risk for health issues due to their family health history, their race or ethnicity, or other reasons. Talk to your doctor if you have concerns about your health.

**Height and weight is used to find BMI. BMI for children is based on gender and age. It is used to see if a person is underweight, overweight or at risk for overweight. BMI for adults is used to see if a person is overweight or obese.