



**AUTISM  
LEARNING  
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# Next Steps for Pediatricians After Making an Autism Diagnosis



## What are the next steps that pediatricians should take after diagnosing a patient with autism?

1. For patients who meet the DSM-5 criteria for a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ICD-10 F84.0), pediatricians should **refer patients to a local provider of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy**. Early identification and intervention for children with Autism is the most critical component in their prognosis. **There is no need to wait for a specialist to confirm the diagnosis. Therapy should begin as soon as possible!**
2. Referrals for speech therapy and occupational therapy are also recommended due to language and fine motor delays, as well as sensory processing concerns, that are common in children with Autism.

## What is ABA Therapy?

ABA therapy utilizes a range of evidence-based practices to improve a child's skills across developmental areas and reduce and replace interfering behaviors with more appropriate ones.

ABA therapy services are offered in the child's home, at one of our clinics, at the child's school, and/or in the community.

**Contact us today if you have a patient with Autism to refer for ABA therapy. We will walk your patient through the insurance process to get services started ASAP!**

**We Accept Most Insurance Plans, Including Medicaid!**

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