

Genetic Contributions to the Developmental Journey Part I

Red Flag Handout | September 2023



EVERY CHILD WITH A GENETIC CONDITION HAS **RED FLAGS**...

...**BUT EVERY CHILD WITH A RED FLAG DOES NOT HAVE A GENETIC CONDITION**

The following are categorical examples of red flags:

Movement

- **Motor Delay** (not holding head, rolling over, crawling or walking)
- **Lack of Coordination** of hands and fingers
- **Hypotonia:** floppy or low muscle tone
- **Hypertonia:** stiff or high muscle tone
- **Muscle Weakness**

Speech

- **Delayed or Hard to Understand Speech**
- **Not Babbling**
- **Not Responding to Name**
- **Echolalia:** Repeating other people's words or phrases

Behavior

- **Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)**
- **Repetitive Movements**
- **Constantly Crying,** low frustration tolerance
- **Lack of Eye Contact**
- **ADHD/ Impulsive or Hyperactive Behavior**
- **Social/ Emotional:** Difficulty interacting with others, not smiling
- **Not Interested in Play**

Digestive/ Feeding

- **Difficulty Swallowing**
- **Extreme Struggles with Latching and Breastfeeding**
- **Use of a Feeding Tube**
- **Constantly Hungry**
- **Poor Appetite and/or Extreme Pickiness**
- **Persistent Vomiting**
- **Gagging on Food**

Growth

- **Slow or Uneven Growth**
- **Slow Weight Gain/ Failure to Thrive**
- **Growing too Fast/ too Tall**
- **Fatigues Quickly When Active**
- **"Growing Pains" and Muscle Aches**

Physical Features

- **Birth Defects** such as cleft lip or palate
- **Macrophaly/ Microphaly:** unusually large/ small head size for age
- **Stature:** Unusually short or tall height for age
- **Facial Feature Differences** (small chin, wide forehead)
- **Frequent Joint Dislocations** (hip dysplasia)
- **Spinal and Skeletal Differences**

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TALKS
on Tuesdays



Complicated Medical Issues

- **Symptoms with Now Known Cause**
- **Children with Multiple Symptoms**
- **Regression:** Loss of milestones
- **Immune Issues**
- **Neurological Concerns** such as seizures or migraines
- **Pulmonary/ Cardiac Concerns**
- **Pediatric Concerns**

The Rules of “Too” and “Two”

- **TOO tall**
- **TOO short**
- **TOO early**
- **TOO many**
- **TOO young**
- **TOO different**
- **TOO many illnesses**

- **TWO tumors**
- **TWO generations**
- **TWO in the family**
- **TWO birth defects**



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