Typical Infant Development: Social Communication

When Should We Be Concerned???

Disclosures

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Objectives

Through the following video presentations,

1. To better understand typical social communication development in infants
2. To become more knowledgeable about the earliest signs of ASD in young infants
3. To better recognize subtle developmental anomalies of social communication in infants
Typical Infant Development

To Talk
To Think
To Walk
To Relate
To Belong
To Move

Newborn Eye Contact
How early can infants engage in "conversation"?
10-12 weeks of age

Twins ‘Conversing’
How early do infants understand changes in facial expression? ~5 months of age

Courtesy of Discovery Health
Act Early Texas!

Happy-Sad Face

How early do infants understand changes in facial expression?

~5 months of age

Courtesy of Discovery Health

Act Early Texas!

Who Can Fly?

~7 months of age

Act Early Texas!

Infants In The Mirror
Infant Response To Their Name

~7 months of age

Courtesy of Discovery Health

Infant Eye Gaze

How early do infants recognize the importance of eye contact?

~7 months of age

Courtesy of Discovery Health

Infant Babbling

How early do infants babble and imitate speech?

~8-9 months of age

Courtesy of Discovery Health
How early do infants use gestures to communicate?

~9-11 months of age

Courtesy of Discovery Health
Infant Following Gaze

How early do infants follow another’s gaze?

~10 months of age

Courtesy of Discovery Health

Theory of Mind

~12 months of age

Toddler
Joint Visual Attention

How important is the combination of gaze & pointing for learning?

13 months of age

Courtesy of Discovery Health
How early do infants understand the nonverbal pragmatics of language? <13-14 months of age

Courtesy of Discovery Health

Early "Normal" Echolalia
False Beliefs

~18 months of age

Toddler Imitation

How important is imitation for learning in infancy?
18 months of age

Courtesy of Discovery Health

Toddler Activities

~15 months of age
In Summary

When you walk into the room to see:

• Any infant whose parent or other person shares any developmental concerns, regardless of how nebulous they seem
• Any infant not gesturing, pointing, waving, etc, to communicate before the onset of words
• Any toddler not yet speaking spontaneous single words or gesturing
  -With or without temper tantrums

LISTEN TO THE MOTHERS

Mothers are usually correct in their concerns about their child’s development

“I’m concerned about his thumb sucking.”