Algorithm to help families access healthcare and special education/early intervention services
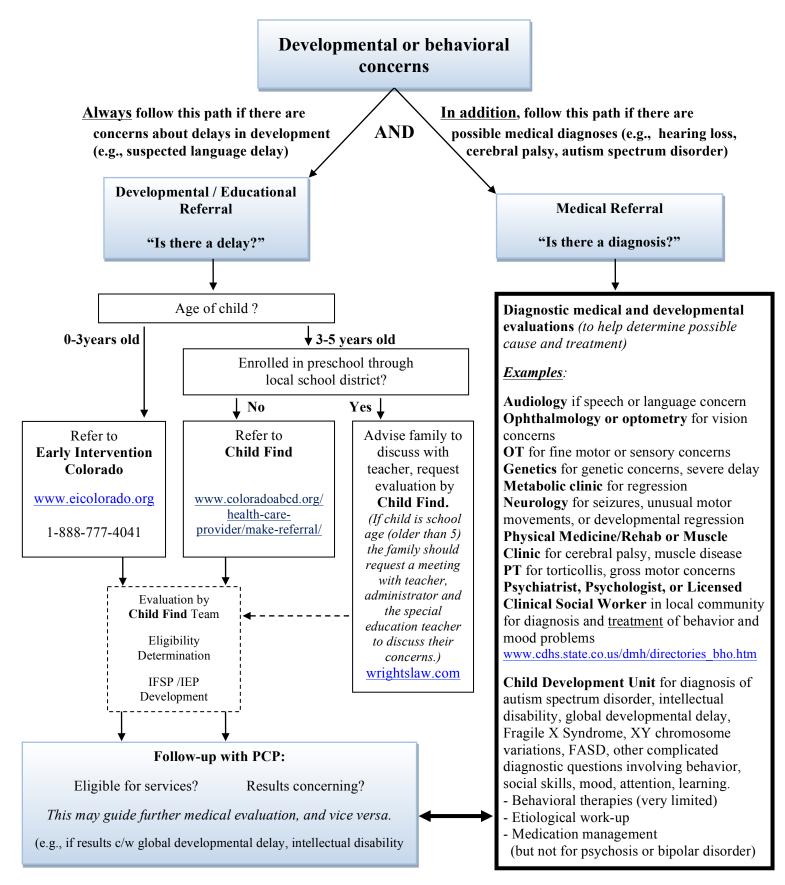
Developmental or behavioral concerns

<u>**Always**</u> **follow this path if there are concerns about delays in development (e.g., suspected language delay)**

AND

In addition, **follow this path if there are possible medical diagnoses (e.g., hearing loss, cerebral palsy, autism spectrum disorder)**

Developmental / Educational Referral

"Is there a delay?"

Age of child ?

0-3 years old

3-5 years old

Enrolled in preschool through local school district?

No   **Yes**

Refer to **Early Intervention Colorado**

www.eicolorado.org

1-888-777-4041

Refer to **Child Find**

www.coloradoabcd.org/ health-care- provider/make-referral/

Advise family to discuss with teacher, request evaluation by **Child Find.**
(If child is school age (older than 5) the family should request a meeting with teacher, administrator and the special education teacher to discuss their concerns.)
wrightslaw.com

Evaluation by **Child Find** Team

Eligibility Determination

IFSP /IEP Development

Follow-up with PCP:

Eligible for services?   Results concerning?

This may guide further medical evaluation, and vice versa.

(e.g., if results c/w global developmental delay, intellectual disability

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Medical Referral

"Is there a diagnosis?"

Diagnostic medical and developmental evaluations *(to help determine possible cause and treatment)*

<u>*Examples*</u>:

Audiology if speech or language concern
Ophthalmology or optometry for vision concerns
OT for fine motor or sensory concerns
Genetics for genetic concerns, severe delay
Metabolic clinic for regression
Neurology for seizures, unusual motor movements, or developmental regression
Physical Medicine/Rehab or Muscle Clinic for cerebral palsy, muscle disease
PT for torticollis, gross motor concerns
Psychiatrist, Psychologist, or Licensed Clinical Social Worker in local community for diagnosis and treatment of behavior and mood problems
www.cdhs.state.co.us/dmh/directories_bho.htm

Child Development Unit for diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder, intellectual disability, global developmental delay, Fragile X Syndrome, XY chromosome variations, FASD, other complicated diagnostic questions involving behavior, social skills, mood, attention, learning.
- Behavioral therapies (very limited)
- Etiological work-up
- Medication management
  (but not for psychosis or bipolar disorder)

Shaded areas   = PCP Role

Bill Campbell, MD   8/2015