Algorithm to help families access healthcare and special education/early intervention services

**Developmental or behavioral concerns**

**Always** 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**
  - Enrolled in preschool through local school district?
    - No
      - Refer to Early Intervention Colorado
        www.eicolorado.org
        1-888-777-4041
    - Yes
      - 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.)
        www.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)

**Medical Referral**

“Is there a diagnosis?”

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

**Examples:**
- **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