



Choosing Wisely Campaign Toolkit



Choosing Wisely was an initiative of over 80 medical societies and organizations, led by the American Board of Internal Medicine Foundation (ABIM Foundation), that sought to advance a national dialogue on avoiding unnecessary medical tests, treatments and procedures.

Its mission was to promote conversations between physicians and patients to help them



choose care that is:

- Supported by evidence
- Not duplicative of other tests or procedures already received
- Free from harm
- Truly necessary



An initiative of the ABIM Foundation

The American Academy of Pediatrics joined Choosing Wisely in 2012 during its inaugural year. Soon thereafter AAP experts were asked to identify tests or procedures commonly used in their specialty whose necessity should be questioned and discussed with patients. This call to action resulted in 16 pediatric medical subspecialty and surgical specialty-specific lists of "Things Providers and Patients should Question" to reduce low value care.

Note: ABIM's Foundation's Choosing Wisely campaign ended in 2023. The lists below are no longer updated by AAP. They will remain available for download and use through the remainder of 2024.

AAP Choosing Wisely Lists

The clinical guidance contained in the following AAP lists was originally created as part of Choosing Wisely, a partnership between ABIM Foundation and specialty societies that was active from 2012-23. These pediatric-specific lists aim to improve patient outcomes and help AAP members to be wise stewards of health care resources.

**Cardiology
and
Cardiac
Surgery**

Dermatology

Endocrinology

**Environmental
Health**

**Gastroenterology,
Hepatology
and
Nutrition**

**Infectious
Diseases**

**Neonatal
Perinatal
Medicine**

Nephrology

**Neurological
Surgery**

Orthopedics

**Pediatric
Emergency
Medicine**

**Pediatric
Hospital
Medicine**

**Pediatric
Pulmonology
and
Sleep
Medicine**

Rheumatology

Surgery

Urology

AAP News Articles

[Choosing Wisely list outlines tests to avoid in the ED](#)

[Choosing Wisely list outlines unnecessary urologic tests, procedures](#)

[Choosing Wisely list focuses on pediatric environmental health](#)

[Communication Key to Risk Management When Choosing Wisely.](#)

[Choosing Wisely in Nephrology.](#)

[Endocrinology: Should You Order These 5 Tests?](#)

[5 Things to Question in Orthopedics](#)

[Choosing Wisely Pediatric Cardiology.](#)

Information for Parents and Families

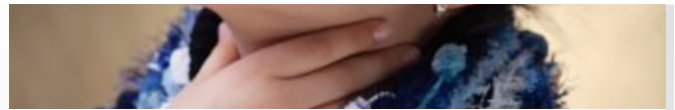




HealthyChildren.org

AAP List of Endocrine Tests Doctors & Patients Should Think Twice About

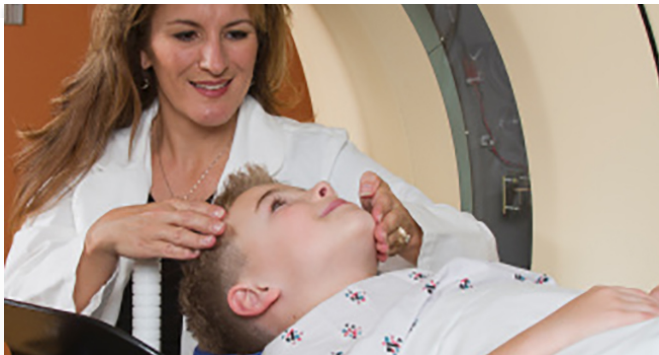
[Read](#)



HealthyChildren.org

Why Most Sore Throats, Coughs & Runny Noses Don't Need Antibiotics

[Read](#)



HealthyChildren.org

CT Scans for Children with Head Injuries

[Read](#)



HealthyChildren.org

Treatments & Tests Your Premie May Not Need in the Hospital

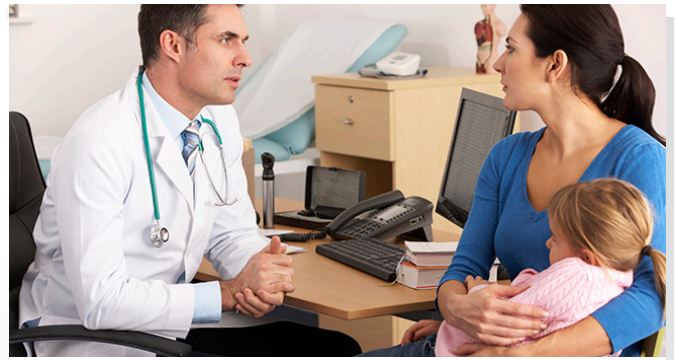
[Read](#)



HealthyChildren.org

The Truth About Home Apnea Monitors for SIDs

[Read](#)



HealthyChildren.org

AAP List of Medical Procedures Doctors & Patients Should Think Twice About

[Read](#)

Note: Choosing Wisely guidance should not be used to establish health care insurance coverage decisions or exclusions. Rather, it is meant to spur conversations between physicians and patients about what is appropriate and necessary treatment.

Disclaimer: The guidance in Choosing Wisely lists does not indicate an exclusive course of treatment or serve as a standard of medical care. Variations, taking into account individual circumstances, may be appropriate.

Last Updated 07/18/2023

Source American Academy of Pediatrics

© Copyright 2025 American Academy of Pediatrics. All rights reserved.