

# Your Child's Feeding Evaluation

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**Children's**<sup>SM</sup>  
Healthcare of Atlanta

## What can I expect at my child's feeding evaluation?

After your child's doctor refers him for a feeding evaluation:

- Make an appointment for a feeding evaluation by calling our rehabilitation scheduling department at **404-785-7100** or going to **choa.org/rehabappointment**.
- Your child's evaluation will be scheduled for a two-hour session.

## What do I need to do before my child's evaluation?

- Arrange childcare for your other children so that you can take part in your child's evaluation.
- Complete the case history form included in our welcome packet and on **choa.org/rehabcasehistory**.
  - Answer all of the questions about your family and your child's health, development, speech and language patterns and functional abilities in daily life.
  - List any concerns you have about your child's speech and language or sensory processing. Your concerns could be related to possible feeding problems. This could provide us with information that may be useful during the assessment.
  - **Bring the completed case history form with you to the evaluation.**
- Complete a three-day diet diary for your child.
  - The diary should include the time of day, type of food offered, amount of food consumed and how long each feeding took.
  - **Bring the diary with you to the evaluation.**
- Also bring these items with you to your child's evaluation:
  - Bottles, cups or spoons that your child uses or recognizes
  - Any formula they are receiving, even if it is only for tube feedings
  - One or two types of foods (creamy, crunchy, mixed, etc.) that your child likes or is able to eat
  - One or two types of foods (creamy, crunchy, mixed, etc.) that your child does not like or has trouble eating
  - Any related assessment results, medical information or school reports
- Give your child any medicine that is necessary.

## What will my child's evaluation include?

- We will interview you to review your child's medical history and determine his specific feeding problems.
- We will observe your child's eating and drinking. Your child will need to eat about 30-45 minutes after the scheduled appointment time. Be sure he is hungry enough to eat several bites of various foods or to drink from a couple of different bottles during the appointment. Your child will not necessarily eat a full meal during the evaluation.
- After the evaluation, we will discuss our findings, make recommendations and develop a plan of care.

Our therapists want to address everything sufficiently, so a follow-up appointment may be needed to answer additional questions or concerns.

If you have any questions, call the Children's location where your child will be evaluated. Ask to speak with the therapist you are scheduled to see.

Go to **choa.org/rehablocations** to find the phone number for your outpatient location.