



Checklist for Choosing a Doctor to Consider

Print out this checklist below and ask these questions of every doctor

Questions to ask the doctor	Doctor #1	Doctor #2	Doctor #3
After submitting my insurance information to you, what will my out of pocket costs be for deductibles, co-pays, etc?			
Which hospitals does the doctor use? How close are those hospitals to me?			
What are the office hours (when is the doctor available and when can I speak to office staff)?			
Does the doctor or someone else in the office speak the language that I am most comfortable speaking? Do they communicate in a way that I am comfortable (eg - live telephone calls, voicemail, emails, fax, snail mail, etc)			
How many other doctors "cover" for the doctor when he or she is not available? Who are they?			
How long does it usually take to get a routine appointment?			
How long might I need to wait in the office before seeing the doctor?			
What happens if I need to cancel an appointment? Will I have to pay for it anyway?			



Questions to ask the doctor	Doctor #1	Doctor #2	Doctor #3
Does the office send reminders about prevention tests? Appointments?			
What do I do if I need urgent care or have an emergency?			
Does the doctor (or a nurse or physician assistant) give advice over the phone for common medical problems?			
Will this doctor talk to my other doctors so that everyone is on the same page regarding medications, treatments etc			
Did the people in the office seem friendly, accessible, informative and accommodating to me?			
Is the doctor favorably ranked by any rating system for physicians?			
Is the doctor board certified or accredited in his/ her specialty?			
Once you see the doctor, things to consider so as to determine if you want to keep this doctor (or seek another one). If possible, accompany your loved one on his or her first visit. Did the doctor:			
Give you and your loved one a chance to ask questions?			
Really listen to these questions?			
Answer in terms you understood?			
Show respect for you and your loved one?			
Ask you both questions?			



Questions to ask the doctor	Doctor #1	Doctor #2	Doctor #3
Make you both feel comfortable?			
Address the health problem(s) your loved one came with?			
Ask about treatment preferences?			
Spend enough time with you?			

