## HELPFUL QUESTIONS your pediatrician might ask about a child in foster care

1 Family History Prenatal history and care, any infections during pregnancy, any medications, vitamins taken, if there was late prenatal care, if there were regular follow ups. Was there an ultrasound or other diagnostic testing that was done to determine any concerns in utero or genetically? Were there any drugs or alcohol used?

The mother's history during this pregnancy and prior pregnancies, or general history. For example, any history of thyroid disease, diabetes, congenital heart disease, major infections, mental illness, intellectual disabilities, hearing or vision concerns or any operations on the mother.

Maternal History 2

Paternal History

The father's history including any history of thyroid disease, diabetes, congenital heart disease, major infections, mental illness, intellectual disabilities, hearing or vision concerns or any operations on the father.

Were there any problems with infections, premature rupture of membranes, maternal disease like eclampsia? What were the APGAR scores? Was the baby breech? Was there a nuchal cord? Was there a need for ventilation?

Delivery Details 4

Newborn Details

Were there newborn problems with jaundice, blood type incompatibility, phototherapy, feeding concerns, or problems with glucose? Was there any difficulty that needed a transfer to the neonatal intensive care unit or step down unit? Was the baby breastfed or formula fed? Any problems passing stools during the first 24 hours?

As children grow, are there any concerns about their gross, fine motor, speech or social interactions? Are there any mental health concerns, such as ADHD, autism, anxiety or depression.

Development Concerns 6

7 Consistent Care

Was there consistent care at appropriate intervals with a medical provider?

Were there any hospitalizations for medical or mental illness?

Hospital Stays 8

9 Abuse or Neglect

Is there any history of abuse or neglect?

Are both parents aware of the child entering foster care? Have other birth family members been contacted?.

Birth Parents and Family

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Questions provided by Miriam Medero-Eng, MD, a member of the Focus on the Family Physician's Resource Council.