Early Signs of Developmental Delays

RECOGNIZING DEVELOPMENTAL DELAYS:

Recognizing developmental delays early can make a big difference in a child's growth and future success in learning. Here's what to look out for in speech, motor skills, and social interactions:

Speech Delays:

- By 12 months: Limited or no babbling.
- By 18 months: Limited vocabulary; not using simple words to communicate.
- By 24 months: Not combining words into simple sentences; unclear speech.

Motor Skills Delays:

- By 6 months: Difficulty holding up head or reaching for toys.
- By 12 months: Not crawling or pulling up to stand, difficulty grasping small objects.
- By 24 months: Trouble walking or running.

Social Interaction Delays:

- By 6 months: Lack of smiling or making eye contact, not responding to social cues.
- By 12 months: Not showing interest in playing with others or imitating actions.
- By 24 months: Difficulty playing pretend games, not sharing or taking turns.

Importance of Early Intervention:

- Improves outcomes: Early intervention can enhance a child's development and learning.
- Reduces challenges: Addressing delays early can minimize future difficulties in school and social settings.
- Supports families: Provides resources and support to help parents and caregivers.

If you notice any of these signs, consult with a pediatrician or early childhood specialist. The sooner developmental delays are addressed, the better the outcomes for your child's future!

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