



# Choosing a Doctor for your New Baby

## We are delighted your new baby will be joining us!

Your baby can only be assigned to a Personal Care Provider after they are born and have been assigned their own Kaiser medical record number. However, we wanted to make you aware of the 4 fabulous choices we offer for the medical care of your baby so you can begin to think about which is the best fit for you and your growing family.

With the opening of our new Mission Bay campus in March 2016, please check individual provider webpages to ensure that you choose a provider who will be located at the San Francisco campus of your choice.

**Pediatric Physician**- Pediatricians are medical doctors who specialize in the care of children from newborns to age 18. When choosing a pediatrician, you get the benefit of being seen in an environment that is specifically designed for babies and children and your baby is cared for by a doctor who is trained specifically in children's health.

**Pediatric Resident Physician**- Kaiser San Francisco is part of the UCSF Pediatric Resident Training Program. UCSF Pediatric Resident doctors have completed medical school and care for your baby as part of their 3 year training to become a pediatrician. They are closely supervised by Kaiser Pediatricians who also serve on the teaching faculty at UCSF. When choosing a Pediatric Resident as your child's doctor, you get the benefit of longer and slower-paced appointments with more time for patient education and questions. You also have the benefit of the input of multiple, experienced Kaiser Pediatricians who work with the residents as well as the opportunity to help train the next generation of doctors.

**Family Medicine and Pediatric- Internal Medicine Physicians** - Family Medicine and dually trained Pediatric- Internal Medicine Physicians take care of babies, children, teens, adults and seniors. When choosing one of these providers, you get the opportunity for continuity of care throughout your baby's life and your child will not have to change doctors when they become a young adult. This option also offers the unique opportunity for the same doctor to care for everyone in your family.

**Pediatric Nurse Practitioner**- A nurse practitioner is a registered nurse who has advanced pediatric training. She has her own panel of patients in the pediatric clinic and consults with pediatricians when needed. She also works in the well-baby nursery in the hospital, examining newborns and helping getting them checked out to go home. When choosing her, you have the opportunity for continuity of care from the newborn period through adolescence.

*Prenatal Interviews are available both in person and by video visit by calling 415-833-2200.*

## **In the hospital after your baby is born**

- You will choose your baby's doctor after they are born but before they are discharged from the hospital.
- If this is not your first child, your baby can be assigned to the same doctor who cares for your older children.
- If this is your first baby, you will be provided a list of providers who are able to accept a new baby into their practice and you can choose who you would prefer.
- When choosing a doctor, make sure they see patients at the San Francisco location of your choice (Geary Campus or Mission Bay).
- Sometimes physicians who you are interested in choosing, may have a "closed practice". These providers will not be on the list of available care providers because they are caring for the maximum number of children at that time. Of note, Family Medicine Physician panels are always open to newborns and children.
- Please note, you are always able to change providers in the future if you desire and practices open and close frequently.

## **Your baby's hospital follow up appointment will be in our Newborn Care Center**

You will have an appointment with one of our nurses who specializes in newborns and breastfeeding unless your baby has specific medical concerns that need close physician monitoring. The newborn care center is available by appointment over the first few months of your baby's life for infant feeding and new mom support. Appointments are available by calling 415-822-2200.

## **Home births**

If you have a home birth, please call us to choose a doctor and arrange a 2 day follow-up visit for your baby at 415-833-2200. If your baby is born at home, the 2-day visit will be scheduled with a physician in Pediatrics, Family Practice or pediatric-Internal Medicine depending on which type of doctor you choose as your baby's doctor.