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## **Next Steps Program Referral Criteria**

Please refer to the following criteria when considering a referral to the Next Steps Program:

High risk infants (term or preterm) post discharge from a NICU:

- Premature infants
  - o LBW, VLBW, ELBW, IUGR, SGA
  - Extreme prematurity <28wk GA automatic referral</li>
  - Gestational age <32 weeks with significant chronic medical condition</li>
- Infants with respiratory difficulties (including chronic lung disease or bronchopulmonary dysplasia,
  Meconium aspiration syndrome, oxygen dependency, ventilator dependency, tracheostomy dependent)
- Infants that are technology dependent (tracheostomy, gastrostomy, ventilator)
- Infants with HIE with or without total body cooling, perinatal stroke, seizures
- Infants with genetic defects other than Down syndrome (Infants with Down syndrome can be referred directly into the Down syndrome program within the Center).
- Infants with history of NEC resulting in short gut syndrome or other feeding difficulty requiring NG or g-tube feeds or TPN.
- Infants with severe congenital heart disease such as tetralogy of fallot or single ventricle or other cyanotic congenital heart defects
- Infants s/p ECMO
- Infants with multiple congenital anomalies
- Prenatal drug exposure (preterm and term) resulting in significant morbidity
- Infants with developmental delays or neurologic impairment hx of IVH, hydrocephalus, VP shunt or subgaleal shunt

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