

Delivering a Down syndrome Diagnosis

Suggested language to use and information to provide when delivering a diagnosis:

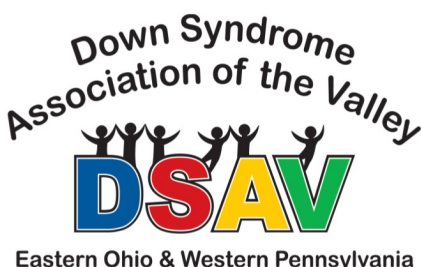
- Offer congratulations first.
- “It appears your baby may have [Down syndrome]. We will run some tests to confirm this diagnosis” or “The test results show that your baby has [Down syndrome].”
- Offer encouragement and offer positive literature and support information.
- “After you have had some time alone, I will come back and answer any questions you have.”
- Offer a DSAV New Parent Support Folder as a first resource and share the Down Syndrome Association of the Valley contact information.

More tips on the back ..



Delivering a Diagnosis Talking Points

- Give the diagnosis with BOTH parents present.
- If giving the diagnosis after birth of the baby, give parents time with the child first.
- Do not give a positive diagnosis until definitive test results are in hand
- Offer to come back later to answer questions. Bring literature & resource information.
- Do not presume to predict what a child's life will be like. Offer positive information.



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Providing support, resources, education, advocacy and opportunity for individuals with Down syndrome, their families, and our communities.