



Pre-Adoption Consultation Services

Adoption Health Services of Western Pennsylvania

We believe that children being adopted are best served when the families who adopt them are fully prepared to meet their unique needs. We are committed to helping prospective adoptive parents to understand the predictable needs and possible future issues of children who they consider adopting, so that you may realistically assess your abilities to meet these needs.

Service	What's Included	Turn-Around Time
<p>“Adoption Medicine 101”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An in-depth discussion regarding the common medical, developmental, and psychological needs of children available for adoption in the US & around the world • A review of different care circumstances, health issues, available children, & adoption process issues for families working to decide from which country to adopt 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30-45 minute telephone conference • Can typically be scheduled within a week or less
<p>Special Needs Checklist Review</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phone consultation to review common “special needs,” what each entails, & long-term, bigger-picture issues to consider • Help in deciding which special needs a family might (or might not!) be prepared to accept 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30-45 minute telephone conference • Can typically be scheduled within a week or less

<p>Pre-Adoption Medical Referral Review <i>(International)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A comprehensive medical review of all written and photographic information • Detailed review for prospective adoptive parent(s) of what reported diagnoses mean, what additional information should be sought, what needs can be anticipated given the available information • Consultation with other specialists as needed • Phone conference to review all materials • Ongoing review of all updates and additional information on the child • Information on travel health and safety for parent(s) and child • Availability for consultation while traveling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within 3 business days
<p>Pre-Adoption Medical Referral Review <i>(US)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of all pre- and post-natal records, medical and social history of child & birth family • Detailed review for prospective adoptive... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within 3 business days

<p>Pre-Adoption Medical Referral Review (US)</p> <p>[continued]</p>	<p>parent(s) of what reported diagnoses mean, what additional information should be sought, what needs can be anticipated given the available information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phone conference to review all materials • Consultation with obstetrician, pediatrician, neonatologist as needed • Review of ongoing updates & additional information 	
<p>Medical Review of Video</p> <p><i>Accompanying initial referral information</i></p> <p><i>Obtained later in the process, or filmed by parent(s) on an initial visit (up to 15 min. length)</i></p> <p><i>Videos will only be reviewed in conjunction with other referral information, not in isolation</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of video & phone conference with parent(s) to review information gleaned • Depending upon what is shown, a video can provide valuable insights into a child's growth, development, medical conditions, & mental health • Phone conference to discuss review (together with rest of referral information, if submitted together) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within 3 business days

<p>Blind Travel Pre-Adoption Medical Review</p> <p><i>For families traveling to Russia or Ukraine with little or no information about a specific child, who will be gathering information themselves while abroad</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hour-long pre-travel phone conference covering common needs, diagnoses, & potential long-term issues of available children, what information to gather, how to measure children & plot growth, how to assess developmental milestones, prenatal alcohol exposure, how to make decisions that are good for parent(s) & child, and more • Information on travel health & safety for parent(s) & child • Telephone & electronic availability while traveling, to review all information • Review of updated information gathered throughout the process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is strongly suggested that the pre-travel phone conference be scheduled at least 7-10 days before traveling • Contact while in-country will be scheduled before travel, based upon the family's travel schedule
<p>In-Person Consultation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any of the above services, provided in-person in our office 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subject to schedule availability
<p>Expedited Review</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any of the above referral review services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24-hour turn-around • Subject to schedule availability

Letters & Documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10-day waiver letters for Russia • Other medical letters • Notarized if needed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within 3 business days
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Fees for each of these consultation services are based upon the complexity, time, and expertise required. Please call our office (412-521-6511) for current fees.

All fees are due at the time of service, and include all updated information on that child until he or she comes home. Second or subsequent referrals reviewed for the same adoption will be charged half of the relevant fee, since much of the general information conveyed will not need to be repeated.

