

Provider Role-Play Handout

Goals for the Conversation

- Validate parent concerns
- Explain observations in clear, nonjudgmental language
- Introduce autism as a possibility without diagnosing
- Emphasize importance of early intervention
- Provide a clear, supportive plan

Key Points to Cover

Observations

- Describe specific behaviors observed today
- Connect behaviors to expected developmental skills

Introducing Concerns

- Frame concerns around social communication development
- Explain that autism is a possibility based on patterns seen

Next Steps

- Early intervention referral (AzEIP)
- DDD eligibility referral
- Speech and occupational therapy referrals
- Referral for comprehensive developmental evaluation

Communication Approach

- Use empathetic, supportive language
- Avoid jargon
- Provide reassurance without minimizing concerns
- Offer concrete steps and resources