

In this well child visit scenario, Mrs. Kim has brought Lisa for her six month check-up.

Mrs. Kim has been seeing Dr. Miller since Lisa was born.

During the office visit, Dr. Miller spoke with the mother regarding how the baby is doing in day care, and asked about any colds, rashes, and so forth.

Mrs. Kim explains that she doesn't have Lisa in day care and instead brings Lisa to work with her at the nail salon.

Dr. Miller explains that there are many potential health dangers in a nail salon, such as chemical fumes, equipment, and fluids. Growing children may be particularly vulnerable to pollutants.

The Doctor asks if she has any alternatives for childcare.

Mrs. Kim explains that her mother has offered to watch Lisa.

Mrs. Kim is lucky that she has alternatives for Lisa's care. Not all patients will. The doctor mentions other alternatives to day care such as trading off with a co-worker, or any other ways in which exposure can be limited. When there's a concern about exposure to fumes at home or elsewhere, and other options to avoid exposure are not available, you can suggest ventilating the exposure area as much as possible.

A good intake form that deals with patient and family environmental history will alert you to at work exposures that could harm children.

For more information on nail salon safety in particular, visit EPA's web site and review the publication titled, *Protecting the Health of Nail Salon Workers*.

This concludes this scenario. Click on the close window located in the bottom right hand corner of this screen to return to the Northside Pediatrics waiting room.