Welcome to our Summer Issue of Quality Connections!

Our elections were held earlier this year and we are welcoming back Terry Adirim, MD, MPH, FAAP and Michael Rinke, MD, PhD, FAAP to the Executive Committee of COQIPS. Dr. Adirim will continue as co-chair of the Policy/Advocacy Committee and Dr. Rinke will continue as chair of the Implementation Committee. In addition, we would like to welcome a new member, Shannon Connor Phillips, MD, MPH, FAAP. Dr. Phillips is a pediatric hospitalist and was at Cleveland Clinic Children’s for many years where she was well-known for her work in quality and patient safety. She was the Cleveland Clinic Children’s Patient Safety Officer and more recently was Associate Chief Quality Officer for the Cleveland Clinic Main Campus. She has now moved on and is getting settled in her role as Intermountain Healthcare’s Chief Patient Safety and Experience Officer. She was a past member of the Society of Hospital Medicine Hospital Quality and Patient Safety Committee and currently serves on the AAP Maintenance of Certification Portfolio Program Review Panel to evaluate AAP supported quality improvement projects from inception through completion. She is certified by the National Patient Safety Foundation as a Professional in Patient Safety. She sits on the National Quality Forum Expert Panel on Common Formats, a group that helps evolve Common Formats (common definitions and reporting formats that allow collection and submission of standardized information regarding patient safety events) for all settings for which they have been developed. She also had the opportunity to participate on an Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) Taskforce that published “Guiding Principles for Public Reporting of Provider Performance.”

As we welcome newly (re)elected members, we also must also bid adieu to two others who have made outstanding contributions to the work of the council. We thank David Bundy, MD, FAAP for his incredible work on the Executive Committee of COQIPS and particularly for his work on the Implementation Committee. One of the projects that the Executive Committee is very excited about is the Implementation Guide web page of aap.org. This page houses tools like key driver diagrams, patient education materials, webinars, etc., to help implement guidelines in practice. Last but certainly not least, we also thank Suzette Oyeku, MD, FAAP for her position as Liaison to the National Institute for Children’s Health Quality (NICHQ). She was an integral part of the council leadership for many years (2013-2017), offering sage guidance and thoughtful feedback on the work of the council and AAP initiatives overall, and she is a wonderful advocate for children, to boot. We will be working with NICHQ leadership to identify the incoming NICHQ liaison.
Updates from the COQIPS Executive Committee

Education Committee Update

2017 National Conference & Exhibition in Chicago, IL
Join us for the COQIPS H Program on Saturday, September 16, 2017. Everyone is welcome to attend this program where you will hear about innovative quality improvement and patient safety research and projects, and have a chance to network with experts and colleagues. You will leave this session with practical, implementable strategies to help you improve patient care. The tentative agenda is outlined below as well as some additional NCE sessions that may be of interest.

A full program agenda will be posted on the COQIPS website when it is available.

Congratulations to those selected for the abstracts program. This year we are expecting 51 posters and 10 oral presentations.

H1031 - Council on Quality Improvement and Patient Safety Program
Saturday, September 16
9:00AM - 4:30PM
McCormick Place West, S105 A-C

Agenda
9:00 AM - Scientific Abstract Session - Moderator: Laura Ferguson, MD, FAAP
9:15 AM - Abstract Presentations
10:30 AM - Break
10:45 AM - Abstract Presentations
12:00 PM - Poster Viewing and Networking Session (with Appetizers)
1:00 PM - Business Meeting and Announcement of Best Poster and Best Abstract
1:50 PM - Break
2:00 PM - The Essentials of Rigorous Quality Improvement Implementation and Evaluation (details below)
4:30 PM - Adjourn

Essentials of Rigorous Quality Improvement:
Quality improvement is defined as systematic data-guided activities designed to bring about immediate positive changes in the delivery of health care in particular settings. This session will review three essential topics needed in performing rigorous quality improvement: 1) the application of theory, 2) understanding context, 3) using data over time. Participants will learn through didactics, case examples and exercises in which they will apply the topics to their own QI.

Speaker:
Evaline Alessandrini, MD, FAAP
Professor and Associate Chair of Outcomes, Department of Pediatrics
Cincinnati Children’s Hospital
Cincinnati, Ohio

Anatomy of a Quality Measure: Designing Measures to Evaluate QI Interventions
Developing valid and reliable quality metrics that are feasible to implement in
Updates from the COQIPS Executive Committee (Continued)

multiple settings is critical to improving child health. This session will provide an introduction to methods for developing valid, feasible quality indicators and the application of these metrics for QI evaluation. The session will cover common pitfalls in quality measure development and how to avoid them. Participants will have the opportunity to evaluate a set of quality metrics and make suggestions for how they might be improved.

Speaker:
Rita Mangione-Smith, MD, MPH
Professor and Chief, Division of General Pediatrics and Hospital Medicine
University of Washington, Department of Pediatrics and Seattle Children's Hospital
Seattle, Washington

Additional NCE Sessions of Interest

V1077 - PediaLink QI: MOC Part 4 Credit for Small Group Projects (Not designated for CME Credit)
Saturday, September 16
12:30PM - 1:30PM
McCormick Place West, W196 C

I2134 - Appraising the Evidence: Interpreting Clinically Relevant Journal Articles (Repeats as I3043)
Sunday, September 17
2:00PM - 3:30PM
McCormick Place West, W181 B

I3153 - MOC Credit for Your Quality Improvement Work: American Board of Pediatrics QI Project Approval Program (Repeats as I4029)
Monday, September 18
4:00PM - 5:30PM
McCormick Place West, W181 A

F4103 - Office-based Safety Team: Identify and Reduce Medical Errors in Your Practice
Tuesday, September 19
4:00PM - 4:45PM
McCormick Place West, W183 B

As a reminder, the 2017 AAP National Conference Planner is now live. Attendees can use the Conference Planner to:

• Search and review descriptions for all educational sessions and special events
• Build a customized itinerary
• Download session handouts
• Evaluate sessions
• Identify sessions with simultaneous Spanish/English interpretation

Please note, this year there is a new login process. See the link at the right for details.

If you have any questions about COQIPS education activities or if you would like to suggest an idea/topic for other educational programming, please contact either Cathleen Guch at cguch@aap.org or COQIPS Education Chairperson, Laura Ferguson, MD, FAAP at LFerguson@tamhsc.edu. We would love to hear from you!
Membership Update

To date we have 695 members! Welcome to our new and renewed members!

Dori Abel
Yasmin Akhtar
Sarah Alkhamisi
Ahmed Almadani
Saud Alsahl
Mugilan Anandarajan
Nicole Anderson
Monique Araujo
Rasha Ashour
Hany Aziz
Colleen Badke
Fabiana Barnabe
Erika Barragán
Sarah Blazovic
Richard Brant
Jonathan Brock
Andrew Buckley
Amulya Buddhavrapu
Katherine Callaghan
Jared Capouya
Judith Cedeno
Harsha Chandnani
Nnenna Chime
Neil Copeland
Andrew Cox
Thanh Dai
Danielle Daniels
Rina Desai
Maya Dewan
Leah Downey
Elizabeth Drye
Bryan Eriksen
Alok Ezhuthachan
Kelly Fegan-Bohm
Ulriche Foudji Nana
Kevin Francioni
Sarah Francis
Mackenzie Frost
Irene Gamra
Estefan Garcia
Alexa Goldfarb
Alejandro Gonzalez
Vineet Gupta
J. Nathan Hagstrom
Charles Hartin
April Hartman
Helen Healy
Akshata Hopkins
Kathiana Joseph
Christina Kim
Timothy Kline
Eileen Kuroski
Sinduja Lakkunarajah
Catherine Lam
Stephen Lauer
Francesca Le
Esther Lee
Sylvia Lee
Timmy Lee
Daniel Liu
Sarah Lowry
Keri Mallicoat
Candace Mannarino
Kelli Martinez
Joshua Maxwell
Rachel McCann
Teresa McCann
Kelly Anne McCullagh
Brock Medsker
Kirsten Mekelburg
Timothy Menz
Maria Milet Letelier
Ashraf Mohamed
Jessica Muse
Barry Newman
Vanessa Ogueri
Abhishek Pandya
Shweta Parmekar
Anuradha Pavuluri
Amy Peasley
Tina Petersen
James Plews-Ogan
Christine Raymond
Micah Resnick
Amanda Rodriguez-Murphy
Kyle Rove
Kimberly Samonte
Erica Sanders
Teresa McCann
Philin Saniachen
Gretchen Schaub
Ulfat Shaikh
Nehal Shata
James Smith
Sandra Spencer
Suad Taha
Rene Talai
Lauren Thai
Sarah Thill
Irina Topoz
Scott Treece
Violeta Tregoning
Mark Urbanski
Yanick Vibert
Yisselle Virella Perez
Adam Vukovic
Tracie Walker
Casey Ward
Pnina Weiss
Allison Williams
Jessica Young
Khalid Yunis
Ryan Zeigler

For more information about how to get involved in the Membership Committee please contact Dr Wayne Franklin (waynefranklin@gmail.com), Membership Committee Chairperson, or Cathleen Guch (cguch@aap.org).
My quality journey began as a pediatrics resident at NYU School of Medicine, when I spent much of my time caring for patients at Bellevue Hospital in New York City, one of the oldest public hospitals in the United States. It was there that I began to recognize that I wanted to pursue a career where I could focus on addressing quality and safety issues. The stories of the families who sought care at Bellevue Hospital inspired me to search for ways to improve care. Stories like these: The young Mexican mother and her 7-month-old who came to the emergency department for their third visit in a month with recurrent febrile seizures. The mother had been giving her child one drop instead of one dropperful of acetaminophen. The Tibetan father, who stopped giving his 6-month-old antibiotics for a urinary tract infection after 2 days. She was looking better – and he wanted to save the precious medicine for later. The child was ultimately admitted for IV antibiotics to treat a pyelonephritis.

As a pediatrics resident, it seemed like I encountered mishaps like these almost daily, where improved provider-parent communication could have made a difference. It was clear that practical, evidence-based solutions were needed. I realized that one way I could have an impact in addressing quality and safety issues was through gathering data and conducting research, which could then be used to inform policy change. With this in mind, I pursued training in health services research through the CDC-sponsored Medicine and Public Health Research Fellowship program at the NYU School of Medicine, starting in 2005.

It was during my fellowship that I became aware of a framework within which to consider these miscommunication issues - the health literacy framework. In this framework, health literacy lies at the intersection point between the skills and abilities that patients and their families bring to the table - and the demands and complexities of the tasks that we as health care providers and the health care system put before our patients and families. I began to focus my research on health literacy as a key factor related to adverse child health outcomes and poverty-associated health disparities. This has remained my focus over the past decade, after joining the faculty in the Division of General Pediatrics at the NYU School of Medicine in 2007. Since that time, my work in developing health literacy-informed intervention strategies addressing medication safety, chronic disease management, and obesity prevention, conducted as a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Physician Faculty Scholar and as a principal investigator of several NIH/NICHD-funded R01 grants, have been cited by the Joint Commission and AAP as models for improving the delivery of clinical care.

Addressing medication safety has been a primary focus of my work. Much of my research in this area has been influenced by my involvement in the CDC’s PrOTECT (Preventing Overdoses & Treatment Errors in Children Taskforce) Initiative since its formation in 2008. This multi-sector collaboration includes public health agencies, professional organizations, consumer advocates, private sector companies, as well as academic experts. Early on, standardization of dosing instructions was identified by CDC PrOTECT as a priority issue, prompting me to conduct a series of studies which provided key evidence for a national move to an “mL”-exclusive system (and avoidance of “spoon”-based dosing), informing CDC and FDA support for this change, which is also endorsed in a 2015 AAP Policy Statement.

The presence of a cadre of strong mentors has been critical to my quality journey. In particular, Alan Mendelsohn, Bernard Dreyer, and Michael Wolf, have each played important roles in shaping my path, as I
My Quality Journey (Continued from page 5)

sought to promote quality and safely using the lens of health literacy.

Over the years, I have actively looked for ways to increase provider awareness of opportunities to improve the quality of care delivery using a health literacy perspective, including locally through work with NYU pediatric residents, as well as nationally, as part of the AAP’s Council on Quality Improvement and Patient Safety (COQIPS). Recently, I provided health literacy expertise on a COQIPS quality improvement intervention to improve health literacy-informed provider communication, which allowed AAP members to earn Part 2 and Part 4 Maintenance of Certification and CME credits through a hands-on learning session at the AAP National Conference and Exhibition combined with a series of webinars. As a current COQIPS Executive Committee member, I am in the process of writing an AAP Policy Statement on preventing home medication administration errors, and serve as the co-chair of the Patient Safety Committee.

Engaging the next generation of providers in quality and safety issues has been an especially fulfilling part of my current position as an Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Population Health at the NYU School of Medicine. Each year, I work with medical students, residents, and fellows, in the hopes that they, too, will be inspired to begin their own quality and safety journey. Clinically, the patients I see continue to inspire me to continue my journey to promote the delivery of health literacy-sensitive, high quality care.
Multiple Attempts at ACA Repeal Unsuccessful

In the early morning hours of July 28th, the Senate voted and failed to pass the “skinny” repeal bill, which was a scaled down version of the Republican plan to repeal parts of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). The bill was defeated 51-49 when three Republican Senators, John McCain, Susan Collins and Lisa Murkowski, voted against the measure. This is likely the end of the efforts to overturn the ACA at least for now.

In early May, the House narrowly passed their version of a “repeal and replace” of the ACA. The House bill would eliminate tax penalties for people who go without health insurance and would also roll back state-by-state expansions of Medicaid, which currently covers millions of low-income Americans. In place of government-subsidized insurance policies offered exclusively on the Affordable Care Act’s marketplaces, the bill would have offered tax credits of $2,000 to $4,000 a year, depending on age. The House bill would convert Medicaid from an open-ended entitlement to a state block grant (or states can choose an allotment per beneficiary). While the House version would have reduced the federal deficit, it would leave 24 million people uncovered according to the Congressional Budget Office.

The Senate has struggled to pass their own version of “repeal and replace”. They found that they didn’t have the votes to pass their first version, notably drafted by 12 Senators in closed-door sessions. The AAP participated in vigorous advocacy and lobbying efforts with other health care organizations to defeat the attempts to roll-back the ACA.

Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP)

CHIP celebrates its 20th anniversary this year and is up for reauthorization. However, with all of the attention on repealing the ACA, the CHIP reauthorization has received little attention. The Medicaid Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act (MACRA), passed in 2015, extended the program funding through September 30, 2017. Congress will need to act to extend funding past September. CHIP covers uninsured children who do not meet eligibility for Medicaid. For CHIP, most states cover children up to or above the 200 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL) and those states that expand coverage up to 300 percent of the FPL, receive an enhanced federal match. If Congress does not extend funding soon, most states will run out of funds by early 2018.

The Department of Health and Human Services House Bill Moves Forward

On July 12th, the House released the draft 2018 Labor, Health and Human Services (HHS) and Education funding bill, which includes funding for programs within the Department of labor, the HHS and Department of Education. In total, the draft bill includes $156 billion in discretionary funding which is a reduction of $5 billion below the FY 2017 level. For HHS, the bill includes a total of $77.6 billion which is a decrease of $542 million from FY 2017 but $14.5 billion above the President’s request.

The bill provides $35 million for NIH which is an increase of $1.1 billion above FY 2017 and $8.6 billion above the President’s budget request. The bill also provides $300 million for the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), which is $24 million below FY 2017. The budget request proposes to merge most of AHRQ’s activities into NIH. The House bill also contains several provisions to prevent the implementation of the ACA including prohibiting the use of any new discretionary funding for further implementation.

AAP Advocacy Efforts

Children’s Hospital Association (CHA) Update

Mimi Saffer
VP, Quality Improvement and Quality Measurement
CHA Liaison to COQIPS

The Children’s Hospital Association (CHA) is focused on transforming care for children using the triple aim as the foundation of the work: healthier children through the provision of better care and smarter spending. Priorities and highlights in quality improvement and accountability measurement for 2017 include:

Quality Improvement
The Improving Pediatric Sepsis Outcomes (IPSO) Collaborative to reduce sepsis mortalities and hospital-onset severe sepsis has completed one year of work targeting diagnosis and treatment across the hospital. Forty-seven hospitals are currently enrolled and additional hospitals will join in July. The AAP Section on Emergency Medicine’s Pediatric Septic Shock Collaborative provided a strong foundation to build this new collaborative. For more information visit: https://www.childrenshospitals.org/Programs-and-Services/Quality-Improvement-and-Measurement/Collaboratives/Sepsis.

The SCOPE Dialysis Collaborative works to prevent infections in pediatric peritoneal dialysis (PD) and hemodialysis (HD) patients. SCOPE has 41 centers and continues to expand. As of May 2017, SCOPE Collaborative sites prevented an estimated 389 peritonitis infections and 240 hospitalizations and saved an estimated $7.2 million. Scholarly output is high with 7 publications and 3 manuscripts in preparation. SCOPE has been recognized by the CDC for its groundbreaking infection prevention strategies leading off the CDC’s national campaign to improve dialysis care. For more information visit: https://www.childrenshospitals.org/Programs-and-Services/Quality-Improvement-and-Measurement/Collaboratives/SCOPE.

Patient Safety
CHA’s Child Health Patient Safety Organization (PSO) enables children’s hospitals to share safety event information and experiences to accelerate the elimination of preventable harm. Child Health PSO is the only federally registered pediatric-specific PSO by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) under the 2008 Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Act Final Rule to provide federal privilege protections for confidential event reporting.

Quality Measurement
CHA continues to implement a suite of new strategies for the advocacy of quality measures in response to emerging opportunities in the health care environment. Priorities for 2017 are:

- Analysis and dissemination of the CHA survey findings regarding measures that members are using for payor contracting and accountability requirements. For additional information visit: https://www.childrenshospitals.org/-/media/Files/CHA/Main/Quality_and_Performance/Patient_Safety/Child-Health-PSO-2016-Annual-Report.pdf?la=en&hash=824E6B7F226C94418752499B24CADC794AB95489.

- Expand the CHA measure selection toolkit, including the measures catalogue.

For additional information, contact Mimi Saffer, VP, Quality Improvement and Quality Measurement at 919.542.3450.
Announcements, Opportunities, and Resources from the AAP

Family Partnerships—New Article Type in Pediatrics
The editors of the Academy’s peer-reviewed journal, Pediatrics, introduced a new article type last year called “Family Partnerships”. More information about these articles and the guidelines for submitting articles for consideration can be found here: http://www.aappublications.org/content/pediatrics-author-guidelines#family_partnerships.

To date, 3 articles have been published under this new category. Titles of the articles and links to same can be found below. Normally, articles published in Pediatrics require a subscription to access; however, articles published under the “Family Partnerships” category are open for all to access.

Increasing Awareness of Sudden Death in Pediatric Epilepsy Together (February 2017)
Parent-Physician Partnership at the Edge of Viability (April 2017)
An Innovative Collaborative Model of Care for Undiagnosed Complex Medical Conditions (May 2017)

For more information about the Family Partnerships articles, please contact Kate Larson at klarson@aap.org.

Engaging Parents and Families
Families are experts when it comes to their own children, and should be considered an essential partner in pediatric care. These resources outline the importance of youth and family centered care, assessing family centeredness, and provide tips for implementation in pediatric practice.

EQIPP Bright Futures – Middle Childhood and Adolescence
Interpret and implement the latest Bright Futures into everyday practice

New EQIPP Courses on Bright Futures Now Available!
Two new courses, EQIPP: Bright Futures—Middle Childhood and Adolescence and Bright Futures—Infancy and Early Childhood, are designed to help guide physicians on how to interpret and implement the Bright Futures: Guidelines for Health Supervision 4th Edition into everyday practice.

In these two courses, you will collect and analyze data, identify gaps in care, and create improvement plans to address those gaps. The supporting content in the barriers and suggested ideas for change grid provides practical steps to close gaps and improve the care of patients. These key activities contribute to high-quality, ongoing pediatric care that can improve your delivery of care to patients and families in your practice.

AAP members receive EQIPP courses as a valuable member benefit and are eligible for ABP MOC Part 4 credit. To register, visit shop.aap.org/onlinecourses.

What's the Latest with the Flu: Information from the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)

Current Flu Situation
Flu activity is winding down in most of the country for this season. It's important to note that flu viruses may continue to circulate at low levels, even during the summer. Providers should continue to encourage annual influenza vaccination, and vaccinate children as long as influenza vaccine is available. With 101 pediatric deaths from influenza reported this flu season, it is wise to be vigilant. Even one preventable death is too many.

AAP Pediatrics Articles
The May 2017 issue of the journal Pediatrics included two studies that may be of interest. The first article, “Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Among Child Care Center Directors in 2008 and 2016”, compares data collected from child care center directors prior to the H1N1 pandemic of 2009 with data in 2016. Only 7% of directors had taken actions to prepare their centers for a pandemic influenza outbreak. Recommended actions are included to help child care center directors increase preparedness efforts. The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) also circulated information in this AAP News article.

The second article, “The Concordance of Parent and Child Immunization”, concluded that a child’s likelihood of following immunization recommendations is associated with the immunization behavior of their parents. Encouraging parental immunization is a means of increasing children’s immunization rates, too. This approach, along with office-based strategies (e.g., reminder recall, provider recommendations, Immunization Information Systems), are also likely to increase vaccination rates.

Additional Information
For more information, see the AAP Red Book Online Influenza Resource page and CDC FluView. All AAP “What’s the Latest with the Flu” messages are archived. Members of the AAP also have access to Flu Vaccine Recommendations and Key Speaking Points. Also see “What’s the Latest with the Flu” messages for child care providers in English and Spanish.

New Article: Key Considerations for Improving the Pediatric Primary Care and Specialist Interface
An article in the Journal of Pediatrics titled, “The Pediatric Primary Care-Specialist Interface: A Call for Action” outlines key considerations and solutions for improving relationships between pediatric primary care and subspecialists. The article summarizes key components of the family-centered medical home, including access, communication, coordination, and family-centered care, and provides solutions for enhancing the pediatric primary care and specialist relationship in the context of these components. Successful collaborative care models that can be replicated in other states and health care settings are also described.

Telehealth Support Tools
To keep you informed about the variety of telehealth-related activities, the Section on Telehealth care has made available a resource surrounding telehealth support. The online Telehealth compendium is an evolving resource that offers general online information and technical support for pediatricians who want to incorporate telehealth services into their practice. It offers resources that focus on getting started in telehealth, coding and payment, QI and evaluation, and much more! Also available is a section on CPT coding for telephone, e-mail, and telehealth services.

Please contact Trisha Calabrese, MPH at tcalabrese@aap.org for questions and additional information.
Coordinating Center for Strategic to Improving Access to Quality Health Care for Children and Youth with Epilepsy (CYE)

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) is proud to have been selected to serve as the 2016-2019 Coordinating Center for Strategic to Improving Access to Quality Health Care for Children and Youth with Epilepsy (Center) through a Cooperative Agreement, Grant # U23MC26252, with the Health Resources and Services Administration Maternal Child Health Bureau.

Between 2013-2016, the AAP served in this role and is delighted to have the opportunity to build upon the work from the previous cycle to improve access to sustainable, coordinated and comprehensive quality care for CYE, with an emphasis on those experiencing health disparities and/or residing in rural or medically underserved communities.

In this role, the AAP and its partners (Got Transition, National Institute for Children’s Health Quality (NICHQ), and the Parents’ Place of Maryland) will support the grantees in developing quality improvement learning collaboratives, conducting project evaluation, and by providing guidance on evidence-based models, best practices, and strategies regarding the patient/family-centered medical home model, youth transition using the Got Transition Six Core Elements of Health Care Transition, and telehealth/telemedicine/mobile health. For additional resources on the previous grant cycle, please visit www.aap.org/epilepsy.

Current 2016-2019 Grantees

- Boston Medical Center
- Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia
- Cleveland Clinic of Ohio
- Epilepsy Foundation of Texas
- Epilepsy Foundation of Western/Central Pennsylvania
- Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
- University of Michigan

Please contact Michelle Turner, MPH at mturner@aap.org for questions and additional information.

AAP Project ECHO Superhub

Project ECHO (Extension for Community Health Care Outcomes) is an innovative hub and spoke telementoring program that uses didactic and case-based presentations via video conferencing technology. It is designed to create knowledge networks by connecting Primary Care Providers (PCPs) in rural and underserved areas with specialty care providers at academic medical centers. These formalized partnerships increase capacity for PCPs to identify, treat, and manage the care of their patients within the medical home. Using state-of-the-art technology, clinical management tools, and case-based learning, PCPs develop knowledge and self-efficacy on diseases/conditions in which they don’t usually assume responsibility for the care and treatment.

The AAP Division of Innovation has been a partner with ECHO for more than 3 years and was recently designated as a pediatric Project ECHO Superhub, which allows the AAP to offer training and ongoing support to any interested hub (Chapter, Academic Medical Institution, etc). In partnership with the Academy, the University of New Mexico ECHO Institute continues to offer an ECHO for pediatric epilepsy, specifically ‘Seizures and Spells TeleECHO’.

Please contact Amy Shah, MPH at ashah@aap.org for questions and additional information.