Welcome Medical Home Chapter Champions!

Welcome! You are receiving this e-newsletter because you have agreed to serve as your chapter's champion for the American Academy of Pediatrics new program, the Medical Home Chapter Champions Program on Asthma (MHCCPA)! Thank you for interest and enthusiasm in participating in this exciting project.

This e-newsletter will be distributed monthly and will be the main mode of information sharing between the AAP program staff and you, the chapter champions. Going forward, you will receive this e-newsletter—via e-mail—on or close to the first of each month. You can rely on it as a source for medical home and asthma-related updates and resources, as well as other program-related information. The goal is to keep you informed via brief and concise updates. As always, you should also feel free to contact me for more information or with any questions along the way. I look forward to working with all of you!

Suzi Montasir, MPH
Program Manager, Division of Children with Special Needs
American Academy of Pediatrics
smontasir@aap.org; 800/433-9016, ext 4311

Who's Who?

To date, you are one of 31 AAP medical home chapter champions. Recruitment is ongoing with the goal of having a champion from every state/chapter. To download a current roster of Medical Home Chapter Champions (MHCC), click here. In future issues, this section will highlight best practices and experiences that chapters, states and/or champions would like to share related to implementation of National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) guidelines for the diagnosis and management of asthma within the context of providing a medical home for all children.

A project advisory committee (PAC) is being established to oversee the strategic direction of the Medical Home Chapter Champions Program on Asthma. Next month I will include information about the PAC including details regarding how it is structured, their role in linking with chapter champions, and more! Stay tuned…

What's What?

♦ Some champions and others have expressed confusion regarding whether the MHCCPA is a program for asthma chapter champions or medical home chapter champions. It is both! We hope to work with and through the chapter champions to ensure that all children are receiving care in the context of the medical home—and that children with asthma are cared for—and their treatment is managed—based on the core principles of medical home.

♦ A recent article regarding disparities in the prevalence of quality medical homes for children with asthma states that “recent guidelines of the National Asthma Education and Preventive Program (NAEPP) continue to emphasize the importance of children with asthma having an ongoing relationship with a medical home to make sure that they receive high-quality asthma care. This ongoing relationship is thought to allow for better monitoring and management of the condition and the provider to play a better coordinating role when the child requires care from one or more specialists…” (read more).

♦ Never heard of the National Center for Medical Home Implementation? The National Center for Medical Home Implementation works to ensure that all children and youth, including those with special health care needs, have the services and support necessary for full community inclusion through medical homes. The National Center works in cooperation with federal agencies and other partners and stakeholders to achieve its mission. The National Center provides medical home resources, tracks state-level medical home initiatives, and offers technical assistance and support to physicians, families, and other medical and non-medical providers who care for children. It is funded via a cooperative agreement between the Maternal and Child Health Bureau/HRSA and the American Academy of Pediatrics.
Reports and Resources

◆ Changing pO2licy: The Elements for Improving Childhood Asthma Outcomes webinar from the George Washington University School of Public Health (supported by the Merck Childhood Asthma Network, Inc. (MCAN) and the RCHN Community Health Foundation).
  * Recording of webinar
  * PowerPoint™ slides from the webinar
  * Changing pO2licy: The Elements for Improving Childhood Asthma Outcomes full report
  * Childhood asthma policy video

◆ The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has a robust asthma Web site. Need a comprehensive presentation on asthma for educational efforts at the local/state level? Look no further! Asthma: A Presentation of Asthma Management and Prevention (slide presentation and speaker notes) is available from the CDC. This 75 slide presentation depicts the pathophysiology of asthma; prevalence, mortality/morbidity measures at the national level; risk factors; medical management; and the public health response needed to successfully fight asthma.

◆ In the News…
  * Asthma Rates Rising Across the U.S.: Prevalence varies significantly between states, CDC report shows
  * Lessons that Patient-Centered Medical Homes Can Learn from the Mistakes of HMOs
  * “Medical Home” Concept for Medically Fragile Children Significantly Decreases ED Visits

◆ AAP Resources—Look for the Academy’s new policy statement related to health disparities in the April issue of Pediatrics:
  * Children Should Have Equal Opportunities for Health
    Many children in the United States fail to reach their full health and developmental potential because of a complex set of social and environmental factors that keep them from opportunities for health and well-being. According to a new policy statement from the American Academy of Pediatrics, “Health Equity and Children’s Rights,” (April 2010, Pediatrics) pediatricians can address these health disparities in practice. According to the policy statement, eliminating health disparities would make a significant difference in the overall health of children and the adults they will become…

◆ Medical Home Chapter Champions Program on Asthma (MHCCPA) Resources:
  * MHCCPA overview flyer
  * Medical home chapter champions job description

The AAP Medical Home Chapter Champions Program on Asthma staff send this e-mail update to the Academy’s medical home chapter champions, other interested AAP members and staff. For additional information on medical home, please visit the National Center for Medical Home Implementation Web site. All comments and inquiries can be sent to Suzi Montasir at smontasir@aap.org or 800/433-9016, ext 4311. If you would like to unsubscribe o the update, please respond to this e-mail so staff can make the change.