



Champion E-Correspondence

JUNE 2010

This is an e-mail communication related to the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) "Medical Home Chapter Champions Program on Asthma." It is designed to provide AAP medical home chapter champions with resources as well as current clinical and other information. The Champion E-Correspondence is sent on a monthly basis. Feel free to share the Champion E-Correspondence with colleagues. Distribution information appears at the end of this e-mail.

Project Updates

- To date, 38 chapter champions have been recruited! Recruitment continues—we still need champions in the following AAP chapters: Arkansas, California 1, California 4, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Idaho, Maine, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New York 1, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Tennessee, Vermont, and West Virginia
- The *Medical Home Chapter Champions Program on Asthma* (MHCCPA) Project Advisory Committee (PAC) will have their first meeting (via teleconference) on June 16th
- We are exploring the possibility of having an informal reception and/or meet-and-greet at this year's AAP National Conference and Exhibition (NCE). If you haven't already done so, please make sure to take the [poll](#) to let us know if you will be attending the NCE and might be interested in this opportunity!
- A listserv® has been established, specifically for this program! Send an email to MHCC@listserv.aap.org if you would like to pose a question or share information with the rest of the chapter champions, the MHCCPA PAC, and program staff.

Stay tuned for more project updates!

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Who's Who?

For the next several issues, this section will feature a spotlight on each member of the MHCCPA PAC so that you can get to know them better!

Chuck Norlin, MD, FAAP has accepted the role of chairperson for this PAC. Dr. Norlin is Professor of Pediatrics and Adjunct Professor of Biomedical Informatics at the University of Utah School of Medicine. He practices and teaches general pediatrics and served as Chief of the Division of General Pediatrics from 1993 to 2010. Since 2001, Dr. Norlin has directed the [Medical Home Portal](#), a web-based information resource to support primary care clinicians and families in caring and advocating for children with special health care needs. He has co-directed three medical home/integrated services implementation projects funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau, including the current Utah Autism Spectrum Disorder Systems Development Project.

Dr. Norlin also serves as Director of the Utah Pediatric Partnership to Improve Healthcare Quality (UPIQ), established in 2003 to improve the health of Utah's children by helping primary care physicians incorporate proven interventions, best practices, and ongoing, measurement-based improvements into their daily practice. [UPIQ](#) has involved over 170 primary care clinicians from 76 Utah practices in at least one of its 14 quality improvement projects on a variety of clinical topics, including obesity, developmental screening, ADHD, asthma, and medical home. Dr. Norlin will serve as the Medical Director and Principal Investigator for the Children's Healthcare Improvement Collaboration (CHIC), funded by a 5-year CHIPRA Quality Demonstrations grant and involving the Utah and Idaho Medicaid/CHIP programs, the Utah and Idaho chapters of the AAP, and several other partners in both states. The CHIC aims to improve health care delivery and outcomes through implementation of health information technology, quality improvement, and medical home approaches to care.

We are thrilled to welcome Dr. Norlin as the PAC chairperson and look forward to working with him. To view the current roster for the MHCCPA PAC click [here](#).

MEDICAL HOME

CHAPTER CHAMPIONS

PROGRAM ON ASTHMA

Upcoming Events

[California Society of Allergy,
Asthma and Immunology
Keck School of Medicine of USC
18th Annual Educational Meet-
ing: A Midsummer Night's
Wheeze](#)

July 9 through 11, 2010
San Francisco, CA



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What's What?

The American Academy of Pediatrics' [EQIPP program](#) provides opportunities to improve your practice and show that you have enhanced the care that you give. Participation in an EQIPP course gives you access to practical and effective tools that you can easily use in clinical settings to help identify and close gaps in your practice. EQIPP also provides you with an opportunity to earn CME credit and meet MOC Part 4: Performance in Practice requirements all at once. Each course requires some work online and offline and can be completed within 4-8 months, depending on the number of improvement cycles you implement to reach your goals.

Later this month you will be receiving an email from Corrie Pierce, Coordinator, AAP Division of Children with Special Needs, asking all MHCCPA chapter champions to select a complimentary "scholarship" for ONE of the following EQIPP courses: 1) [Diagnosing and Managing Asthma in Pediatrics*](#) or 2) [Medical Home for Pediatric Primary Care*](#).

* NOTE: The asthma course is available now and the medical home course will be available in the fall.

Look for Corrie's email and be sure to respond!

This scholarship opportunity is being offered to you via the generous grant for the MHCCPA from the *Merck Childhood Asthma Network, Inc* (MCAN).

Reports and Resources

• In the News...

- * [Children with Chronic Asthma get Help from Art Therapy](#)
- * [Childhood Asthma Linked to Risk of COPD](#)

• Physician Asthma Care Education (PACE)

Developed by physicians and public health professionals the University of Michigan Center for Managing Chronic Disease and Columbia University, the [PACE program](#) is a two-part interactive, multi-media educational seminar to improve physician awareness, ability, and use of communication and therapeutic techniques for reducing the effects of asthma on children and their families. It also provides instruction on how to document, code, and improve asthma counseling reimbursement. PACE has been found to be highly effective via research in [two rigorous studies](#). You can obtain all program materials and learn how to train yourself to be a PACE program leader and facilitator by visiting the [NHLBI Web site](#).

• Medical Home Implementation CME Series from the National Center for Medical Home Implementation

The AAP hosted a free CME series in 2008-2009 to provide child health professionals with practical strategies for implementing medical home in practice. These informative calls/webinars were led by nationally recognized experts with the goal of educating participants about the value of the family-centered medical home for all children and youth, the availability of practical tools and resources, and strategies for improving care and increasing patient/family satisfaction. The webinars were recorded and, as such, are still available. CME credit is also still available for each of the five calls/webinars of the series. Click [here](#) for more information.

• New Guidance for Action

Because asthma is one of the leading causes of school absenteeism, clinicians, families, and schools need to work together to help students with asthma manage their disease at school to improve asthma management, resulting in improved attendance and performance at school. A new article, [Working with Schools to Improve Pediatric Asthma Management](#) by Lani Wheeler MD, FAAP, et al, reviews recent research findings and provides guidance for asthma care clinicians on how to enhance school-based asthma management. Key action steps for clinicians, families, and schools include:

- * Promoting asthma-friendly schools
- * Identifying students with asthma
- * Educating students and staff about asthma
- * Reducing environmental exposures
- * Managing asthma episodes at school
- * Monitoring and coordinating care for students with asthma

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, 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 to the update, contact Suzi Montasir to make the change.