



## Champion E-Correspondence

August 2011

*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*



### Project Updates

Recently (August 26, 2011), you should have received an email containing two exciting new resources (listed below) for your use as champions. Please do not hesitate to let project staff know of any questions that you may have, related to these resources! It is also requested that you notify staff of when/how you make use of these resources, for tracking purposes.

- **[Family-to-Family Health Information Centers—Linking Pediatricians and Families to Services:](#)** A one-page article providing an overview of Family-to-Family Health Information Centers and the importance of these resources for families and providers.
- **[Taking Care of Your Child's Asthma—Knowing Your Resources:](#)** A two-page flyer for families—to be used in the practice setting—providing guidance to the parents of children with asthma on what to expect when they visit their pediatrician's office and how to prepare to make the most of the visit. Also, the flyer includes listings of national and local resources for them to take home when they leave.

### Upcoming Events

- ♦ **[AAP National Conference and Exhibition \(NCE\) 2011](#)**  
October 15-18, 2011  
Boston, MA
- ♦ **[Institute for Patient- and Family-Centered Care Hospitals and Communities Moving Forward with Patient- and Family-Centered Care Training Seminar](#)**  
November 7-10, 2011  
Madison, WI

### Who's Who?

As mentioned previously, this section will now be featuring spotlights on you—the chapter champions! Each month, a champion will be randomly selected to provide an update on the work that they are doing at the chapter level, related to asthma and/or medical home. This issue's spotlight features **Dr Matthew Sadof, Massachusetts AAP Chapter Champion.**

Matthew Sadof, MD, FAAP is an assistant professor of pediatrics at Tuft's University School of Medicine and a member of the faculty at High Street Health Center Pediatrics, the ambulatory teaching site for the Pediatric and Med/Peds Residency Programs at Baystate Medical Center Children's Hospital in Springfield, MA. He has practiced and taught Community Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine since 1987. During that time, he has held community and hospital-based positions which have supported child advocacy and his commitment to community medicine. In addition to practicing and teaching Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine, at Baystate Children's Hospital, he initiated and directs a medical home care coordination program for children with special health care needs in collaboration with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. He founded and directs a sustainable Medical Home program for Children with Special Health Care Needs at Baystate Children's Hospital and chairs the Western Massachusetts Medical Home Work Group that represents over 80 community agencies.

Dr. Sadof is the director of School Based health at Baystate children's Hospital and oversees 3 school-based health clinics and is the consultant physician to the school department of the City of Springfield. Dr. Sadof is the Director of the Baystate Children's Hospital Asthma Intervention Program which began as the CDC-funded Alliance for Community Health Plan's implementation project of the National Inner City Asthma Intervention Study. He currently is directing two CDC and NEIHS funded programs that fund a community health worker intervention for children with asthma at Baystate Children's Hospital in collaboration with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MADPH) and its Asthma Disparity Initiative.

Dr Sadof has been serving as Chair of the Pioneer Valley Asthma Coalition since 2006 and has served as Co-Chair and Chair of MAAP from 2006-2009. He has worked with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MADPH) to publish the CDC funded 2009-2014 Strategic Plan for Asthma in Massachusetts and coauthored the provider consensus statement on Asthma in 2008. Most recently he has published articles on how residents learn to care for children with chronic illness, Adolescent Asthma and Subspecialty and primary care communication, including the following, published last month:

**[Matthew Sadof, MD, Robert Kaslovsky, MD, Adolescent Asthma: A Developmental Approach](#)** *Curr Opin Pediatrics.* 2011, 23: 373-378.



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### What's What?

#### Fall Isn't Just Back-to-School Season, It's Also Asthma Flare-up Season

Asthma is a major cause of school absenteeism in the United States. In 2008, children ages 5–17 [missed an average of four days of school](#) a year because of their asthma. Overall, [children miss about 10.5 million school days a year](#) as a result of asthma. Yet, flare-ups in asthma symptoms can be avoided, with help from regularly scheduled follow-up visits.

Scheduling follow-up visits is one of the six National Asthma Education and Prevention Program (NAEPP) [Guidelines Implementation Panel \(GIP\)](#) messages that providers can follow to help school-aged patients manage their asthma. This recommendation, selected from the clinical guidelines to drive improvements in asthma care and control, is based on research funded by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and others.

In addition to the two-page flyer that was developed for this project (see above), you may also want to share some other interactive resources with your patient population such as the following series of [childhood asthma videos](#), sponsored by Blue Cross Blue Shield.

### Reports and Resources

#### In the News...

- [Uncontrolled Asthma Can Affect Children's Schooling, Family Income](#)
- [Patient-Centered Care Found to Reduce Medical Costs](#)
- [Study: Poor Asthma Control in Children Means Higher Health Costs](#)

#### AHRQ Offers New Catalog of Federal Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) Activities

Last month, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) released a new patient-centered medical home [Web site](#) and *Catalogue of Federal PCMH Activities*. The catalogue summarizes the PCMH-related work of departments and agencies participating in a Federal PCMH Collaborative, including AHRQ, CMS, DOD, HRSA, NIH/NCI, SAMHSA, and the VA. AHRQ created this catalogue so the public can easily find out about PCMH work being done by participating agencies. The catalogue also provides information about ways the agencies are working together to promote a strong primary care delivery system, which includes supporting promising models of primary care transformation like the PCMH. Overviews of each participating agency's activities as well as a table comparing activities and collaborations across agencies also can be found by [here](#).

#### Revised Emergency Nursing Protocol for Students with Asthma Symptoms Who Don't Have a Personal Asthma Action Plan

The National Asthma Education and Prevention Program (NAEPP) released a revised version of the [Management of Asthma Exacerbations: School Treatment—Suggested Emergency Nursing Protocol for Students with Asthma Symptoms Who Don't Have a Personal Asthma Action Plan](#). This revised protocol includes the option of epinephrine for life-threatening exacerbations. The specific details of this protocol were developed by the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI) Expert Panel Report 3 (EPR-3) members and the language is consistent with the EPR-3.