



Champion E-Correspondence

June/July 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

Project staff and leaders have been working on some exciting new resources for your use as champions. In the next month or so, you will be receiving the following resources, specifically developed for you!

- Template article on state Family-to-Family Health Information Centers, for you to customize and submit for publication in chapter newsletters, listservs, and other chapter communications
- A 2-page flyer for patients/families in your practice on how to manage their asthma, including national asthma-related resources and place holders for state-specific asthma resources.
- A quick-reference "pocket" guide, with key points for implementation of the NHLBI EPR-3 asthma guidelines in practice

MEDICAL HOME

**CHAPTER
CHAMPIONS**

**PROGRAM ON
ASTHMA**

Upcoming Events

- ◆ [National Academy for State Health Policy \(NASHP\) 24th Annual State Health Policy Conference](#)
October 3-5, 2011
Kansas City, MO
- ◆ [Patient Centered Primary Care Collaborative \(PCPCC\) 5th Annual Summit](#)
October 21, 2011
Washington, DC

Who's Who?

As mentioned in the last e-newsletter, 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 Sandra Miller, Oregon AAP Chapter Champion**.

Sandra Miller, MD, FAAP is a full-time general pediatrician in private practice. Four years ago, she attended her first Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) conference on improving patient care in practice. It was at that time that she was inspired to implement quality improvement initiatives in her own practice which then spread to her group as a whole.

Dr Miller is committed to the philosophy of "working smarter, not harder" and is motivated to help other practices in Oregon to make positive changes in patient care, while streamlining systems to make practice simpler and more outcome-oriented. In her own office, she has implemented fully open-access scheduling, using a template she developed and has improved compliance with wellness visits and vaccines through a simple reminder-card system.

She recently completed the Education for Quality Improvement in Pediatric Practice (EQIPP) medical home course, using the scholarship provided by the MHCCPA. In 2009, she led the Oregon state team of practices through a Quality Improvement (QI) project on improving asthma care in practice through the 18 month AAP Chapter Alliance for Quality Improvement (CAQI)/Chapter Quality Network (CQN) asthma pilot program. At the Oregon Pediatric Society (OPS), she is chairperson of the QI committee and is working on projects to improve physician knowledge of QI, offer training, and help physicians to complete their required Maintenance of Certification (MOC) credits as they re-certify. Recently, her office was selected to participate in Spirometry 360, which assists practices in better training staff and physicians to perform and interpret spirometry. This project will start in the fall of 2011. Additionally, Dr Miller is the physician moderator of the "Asthma Medical Home Chapter Champion" listserv for chapter champions participating in EQIPP courses who would like to share progress, challenges and successes. Dr Miller applied for a MHCCPA visiting professorship and is excited to bring further expertise on medical home, asthma and QI to the attendees of the OPS Fall Forum.

Dr Miller attended Michigan State University, completed her internship at the University of Kansas and residency in pediatrics at DeVos Children's Hospital in Grand Rapids, Michigan. She works for Oregon Medical Group in Eugene, Oregon where she lives with her husband and 18 month old son. In her spare time, she enjoys needlepoint and gardening.



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What's What?

Many of you have expressed concerns surrounding the lack of availability and funding for spacers and other asthma devices for your patients with asthma. A few champions are also working to advocate for spacer provision by Medicaid programs at the state level. The link, below, is to a sample policy from Dr Jennifer Lail's practice in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, as well as the practice's parent information sheet on spacers and nebulizers. Although this information is practice and state-specific, it might help you in your advocacy issues related to the provision of spacers. Champions are encouraged to work with AAP chapters and AAP chapter Pediatric Councils on advocacy for coverage of spacers and other devices.

[Sample Asthma Equipment Policy from Chapel Hill Pediatrics](#)

Reports and Resources

In the News...

- [Children with Public Insurance are Less Likely to Have a Medical Home](#)
- [Parents Need More Education About Children's Asthma, Study Finds](#)
- [With Promising Results, Medical Home Gains Traction Without Insurers](#)

New Clinical Report: Supporting Health Care Transition from Adolescence to Adulthood in the Medical Home

"Supporting the Health Care Transition from Adolescence to Adulthood in the Medical Home," jointly authored by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), the American Academy of Family Physicians, and the American College of Physicians, appears in the July issue of *Pediatrics*. The report provides practical guidance on how to plan and execute better health care transitions for all patients and follows a detailed algorithm from age 12 through the transfer of care to an adult medical home. The report addresses transition for all youth but also provides a pathway for youth with chronic conditions. Questions about the report can be emailed to transitions@aap.org.

Got Transition—the new National Health Care Transition Center—works with pediatric and adult primary care practices to develop resources that align with the report's guidance (www.gottransition.org).

Health care transition topics will be presented at this weekend's AAP [Future of Pediatrics Conference: Embracing Change: Improving Care for ALL Children](#) (July 29-31 in Chicago).

New Study from the Medical Group Management Association (MGMA) on the Patient Centered Medical Home

Conducted in April 2011, this study captured the views of 341 primary care and multi-specialty practices nationwide; 70% of respondents were already in the process of transforming or interested in becoming a patient-centered medical home (PCMH) while more than 20% were accredited or recognized as a PCMH by a national organization (most through the National Committee for Quality Assurance—NCQA—at Level 3 recognition). The recognition process took the majority of respondents, on average, one year to complete. The most common processes practices engage in as part of the PCMH model include assigning patients to a primary care clinician, addressing patients' mental health issues, and partnering with patients/families. Challenges cited by PCMHs include establishing care coordination agreements with referral physicians, financing transformation, and coordinating care for high-risk patients. Download the full complimentary report [here](#).

Tri-Annual Medical Home Information Sharing Webinar for AAP Leaders—Feature on the Medical Home Chapter Champions Program on Asthma!

As you know, the Academy initiated a tri-annual webinar series on medical home for Academy leaders in 2010. The purpose of these webinars is to share information regarding Academy priorities, initiatives and efforts related to medical home. Additionally, the webinars are designed to provide a forum for AAP leaders to learn about what is occurring nationally, in states and in communities related to medical home.

The latest of these webinars was held on June 30, 2011 and featured the Medical Home Chapter Champions Program on Asthma (MHCCPA)! Other topics on this webinar included Health Information Technology (HIT) and medical home (including an overview and update on the AAP Child Health Informatics Center—CHIC) and an update from the National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP) on the NASHP Consortia to Advance Medical Homes in Medicaid and CHIP.

If you were unable to participate in the June 30 webinar, you can download and view a recording of the webinar, [here](#).