



Champion E-Correspondence

August 2012

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 newsletter.

MEDICAL HOME

CHAPTER
CHAMPIONS

PROGRAM ON
ASTHMA

Project Updates

- **Work Plans:** Many chapter champions have made substantial progress on their initiatives related to improving asthma care for patients within the medical home, yet most of the work plans do not currently reflect these more recent accomplishments. Please submit an updated work plan to crajagopalan@aap.org by Monday, September 24. These updates should include progress on initiatives currently underway and/or new projects of interest to pursue. It is encouraged that a timeline for implementation be included and that champions consider setting certain goals to achieve prior to the 2013 conference. A [template](#) and [ideas to get you started](#) are available online for those who do not yet have a written work plan.
- **Ghostwritten Article:** The next "ghost-written" article – *Partnering with Schools to Improve Care for Children with Asthma in the Medical Home* – was sent to all chapter champions earlier this week. Now is the time to begin distributing this article to your chapter and other professional networks. Remember to customize the last part of the article to your state or locale. If you have any questions or need assistance, contact Chelsea (crajagopalan@aap.org).
- **Regional Conference Calls:** The summer 2012 MHCCPA Regional Conference Calls have concluded and notes from each call have been distributed to chapter champions. Thank you to all who were able to join us! It was inspiring to hear of the wonderful work you are accomplishing in your respective communities and states. If you have any questions or comments regarding the notes or discussions from your region's call, contact your designated Project Advisory Committee (PAC) member or Chelsea (crajagopalan@aap.org). The next round of regional conference calls will occur at the end of October and beginning of November.
- **Conference:** The date options under consideration for the 2013 Medical Home Chapter Champions Program on Asthma Conference include March 2-3, March 9-10, and March 23-24. Please respond to the poll at the following link by Monday, September 10 to select the dates that work best for your schedule: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/N7S8RTB>

Upcoming Events

- ◆ [National AAP Elections](#)
August 31-October 1
- ◆ [Webinar: Strategic Collaboration for Effective Asthma Management in Schools](#)
September 12
1:00pm Central
- ◆ [Webinar: The Supreme Court Decision on the Affordable Care Act and Its Impact on Childhood Asthma](#)
September 13
10:00am Central
- ◆ [National Academy for State Health Policy \(NASHP\) 25th Annual Conference](#)
October 15-17
Baltimore, MD
- ◆ [AAP National Conference & Exhibition](#)
October 20-23
New Orleans, LA
- ◆ [Patient-Centered Primary Care Collaborative Fall Conference](#)
October 25
Chicago, IL
- ◆ [Science of Eliminating Health Disparities Summit](#)
October 31-November 3
National Harbor, MD
- ◆ [National Forum on Quality Improvement in Health Care](#)
December 9-12
Orlando, FL



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Chapter Champion Spotlight

Chapter Champion Spotlight on Connecticut Champion: Michelle M. Cloutier, MD, FAAP

Congratulations to Chapter Champion **Michelle M. Cloutier, MD, FAAP** on being one of the four nationwide [recipients](#) of the 2012 [National Environmental Leadership Award in Asthma Management](#), presented by the [US Environmental Protection Agency](#). This award celebrates the programs and leaders who are improving the lives of people with asthma by delivering strong environmental asthma management as part of their comprehensive asthma care services.

Dr Cloutier designed the [Easy Breathing©](#) program — housed at Connecticut Children's Medical Center — as a cost-effective asthma management program to assist busy primary care clinicians in diagnosing asthma and effectively treating patients. The five elements of care addressed in the program include: diagnosing asthma; determining asthma severity; prescribing appropriate therapy; developing a written Asthma Treatment Plan (that is understood by the family); and assessing asthma control. A database enables the program to track its outcomes. The program is now being implemented throughout Connecticut and in nine other states due to the success it has demonstrated on reducing medical services utilization rates for children with asthma.

Dr Cloutier received her doctorate in medicine from the University of Wisconsin and completed her pediatric and pediatric pulmonary fellowship training at the University of Florida, followed by a Critical Care fellowship at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. She is now a Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Connecticut Health Center and director of the Asthma Center at Connecticut Children's Medical Center. One of her most recent publications, [Translation of a Pediatric Asthma-Management Program into a Community in Connecticut](#), co-authored by Dorothy Wakefield, MS, was featured in the December 2011 edition of [Pediatrics](#).

Congratulations on your success, Dr Cloutier! We appreciate your leadership in the Medical Home Chapter Champions Program on Asthma and applaud the outstanding work you are doing to improve asthma care in the medical home!

Resources

AAP Chapter Pediatric Councils Offer Resources to Address Payer Issues

To assist AAP chapters and members in discussions with payers, presentations and talking points are now available through the [MyAAP Web site](#). These resources can provide the framework for consistent messaging to payers on pediatric issues. [Talking points and presentations](#) that can be tailored by other pediatric councils are currently available on medical home, preventive care, telemedicine, immunizations, obesity, and more. Presentations for additional pediatric health care topics are being collected and will be available soon.

Asthma & Physical Activity in the School

The [National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute](#) has released an updated version of the [Asthma & Physical Activity in the School](#) booklet that provides tips for school staff to partner with parents and health care providers to empower students to take control of their asthma. It also outlines practical ways to keep students with asthma safe this school year, while still encouraging their participation in sports and physical activities.

Redesigning State Health Care Delivery System Programs to Optimize Performance

Earlier this summer, the [US Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services](#) (CMS) announced the [State Innovation Models Initiative](#) that will provide \$275 million to fund innovative payment and service delivery transformation initiatives. The [National Academy for State Health Policy](#) (NASHP) hosted a webinar on August 15 to educate the health care community about state delivery reform efforts and how states might use the State Innovation Models initiative as a strategy to advance their efforts. Faculty included Alan Weil (NASHP Executive Director), Andy Allison (Arkansas Medicaid Director), and Jeanene Smith (Administrator of Oregon Health Policy and Research). A [recording](#) and [slides](#) of the presentation are now available.

Integrating Environmental Health in the Electronic Health Record

In this [presentation](#), faculty from the [US Environmental Protection Agency](#), [Community Asthma Prevention Program](#) at the [Children's Hospital of Philadelphia](#), and the [Mid-Atlantic Center for Children's Health and the Environment](#) discuss asthma management in terms of environmental triggers. Topics covered include the role of environmental education in treating children with asthma and how including environmental conditions on medical charts can be helpful for determining effective treatments.



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Reports

A Comparative Review of Essential Health Benefits Pertinent to Children in Large Federal, State, and Small Group Health Insurance Plans: Implications for Selecting State Benchmark Plans

The AAP released a [new report on essential health benefits \(EHB\) for children](#). The Affordable Care Act requires health insurance plans in the private market and health insurance exchanges to offer 10 EHB categories of services beginning in 2014. The report compares coverage and costs for each of the 10 EHB categories currently offered by the three largest federal employee health plans, one of the largest state employee plans and one of the largest small group plans in five states — Alabama, Colorado, Maryland, Texas, and Washington. The report found geographic, cost, and coverage inconsistencies in EHBs for children: overall, the federal employee health plans offered the most comprehensive coverage options for children available under private insurance, followed by state employee plans; small group plans, with some exceptions, were found to have the most limited coverage of children's services; and, most significantly, none of these plans approached the breadth of coverage and cost-sharing protection available under Medicaid or the states' separate CHIP plans.

Cultural Competence Education for Students in Medicine and Public Health

This [report](#) identifies competencies designed to enable faculty in medical schools and public health graduate schools and programs to standardize curricula, benchmark student performance, and prepare graduates for culturally competent practice. The report comprises recommendations of a joint expert panel of educators convened by the [Association of American Medical Colleges](#) and the [Association of Schools of Public Health](#). The panel's recommendations aim to ensure that students acquire cultural competencies in their chosen fields to prepare them for successful practice, including the development and delivery of appropriate health care and population health programs, services, and policies for an increasingly diverse US population. Contents include recommendations for embedding cultural competence education within and across curricula of medicine and public health, exemplary case studies, and a road map for the future.

Emergency Equipment and Supplies in the School Setting

The [National Association of School Nurses](#) (NASN) released this [issue brief](#) earlier this year, which was endorsed by the AAP in July. The report states, "Providing an environment that is responsive to emergency health needs of students is essential to creating a safe school setting. School districts are accountable for developing programs that to the greatest extent possible provide an effective response to urgent and emergency health problems of students, staff, and even visitors to school buildings. The NASN supports an established minimal standard of emergency equipment and supplies to minimize further systemic insult or injury and manage life-threatening emergency conditions." There are separate sets of recommendations for schools without a nurse and those with a nurse. An example recommendation for schools that have a nurse is to have Albuterol on hand in case of emergency.

In the News...

- [How Can Physicians Ensure They Hit Quality Targets and Get Paid Fairly?](#)
- [Using "Concierge Medicine" to Provide Patient-Centered Care in Rural Communities](#)
- [The National Committee for Quality Assurance Launches Case Management Accreditation Program Emphasizing Care Coordination](#)
- [The National Quality Forum Endorses 12 Patient-Centered Quality Measures](#)
- [American College of Physicians and Society of General Internal Medicine Support the Patient-Centered Medical Home Model](#)
- [Patient-Centered Team Care is Taking Off](#)
- [GlaxoSmithKline's Mepolizumab Effective in Treating Severe Asthma in Trial](#)
- [Smoking During Pregnancy May Cause Asthma, Wheezing in Kids](#)
- [Asthma and Other Allergic Diseases are Gender Related, Not Simply Hereditary](#)

The AAP [Medical Home Chapter Champions Program on Asthma](#) staff provides 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 Chelsea Rajagopalan at crajagopalan@aap.org or 800/433-9016, ext 4311. If you would like to unsubscribe to the Champions E-Correspondence, contact Chelsea Rajagopalan.