



Champion E-Correspondence

September 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.



Project Updates

- **Work Plans:** Chapter champions have been making substantial progress on their initiatives related to improving asthma care for patients within the medical home. If you have not already done so, [please submit your updated work plan to \[crajagopalan@aap.org\]\(mailto:crajagopalan@aap.org\)](mailto:crajagopalan@aap.org) as soon as possible (originally requested by September 24). A [template](#) and [ideas to get you started](#) are available online for those who do not yet have a written work plan.
- **Ghostwritten Article:** [Partnering with Schools to Improve Care for Children with Asthma in the Medical Home](#) – a MHCCPA “ghost-written” article – was made available to chapter champions in August. If you have not already done so, [please take this opportunity to send the article to your AAP chapter and other professional networks](mailto:crajagopalan@aap.org). Please copy crajagopalan@aap.org on emails related to this article to help us track its distribution. If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact Chelsea.
- **Asthma & Medical Home at the AAP National Conference & Exhibition (NCE):** If you are attending the Academy’s [NCE](#) in New Orleans, LA next month, be sure to check out the many sessions and abstracts related to asthma and medical home. Our very own Michelle Cloutier, MD, FAAP (Connecticut) and Sankaran Krishnan, MD, FAAP (New York 3) will be presenting.
 - [Sessions on Asthma](#)
 - [Sessions on Medical Home](#)
 - [Abstracts on Asthma](#)
 - [Abstracts on Medical Home](#)
- **Other Announcements Coming Soon:**
 - Confirmation of dates for the 2013 MHCCPA conference
 - Scheduling for the MHCCPA fall regional conference calls

Upcoming Events

- ◆ [National AAP Elections](#)
Voting Deadline: October 1
- ◆ [National Academy for State Health Policy \(NASHP\) 25th Annual Conference](#)
October 15-17
Baltimore, MD
- ◆ [Chronic Illness and Disability Conference: Transition from Pediatric to Adult Care](#)
October 17-19
Online Broadcast and Houston, TX
- ◆ [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

Chapter Champion Spotlight

Chapter Champion Spotlight on Alabama Champion: Wes Stubblefield, MD, FAAP

The Alabama Chapter Champion, Wes Stubblefield, MD, FAAP, has played an invaluable role in many asthma and medical home activities across his state. In addition to serving as the MHCCPA Chapter Champion since 2010, he is an active member of the AAP [Chapter Quality Network](#) (CQN). Dr Stubblefield originally enrolled his practice in the first phase of this asthma quality improvement project — CQN1 — in an effort to improve the quality of care for children with asthma. During the second phase of the project — CQN2 — he served as Physician Leader for the Alabama Chapter. He is now serving on the National Leadership Team for CQN3 and has been working with other leaders in the state to pilot a home intervention program. Dr Stubblefield’s practice was one of the four pediatric practices selected to participate in the Blue Cross Blue Shield Medical Home Demonstration Pilot in Alabama, in which he spearheaded the transformation of his practice into a medical home. (*Continued on next page.*)



Chapter Champion Spotlight (continued)

Originally from Vernon, AL, Dr Stubblefield received his undergraduate degree from Lipscomb University in Nashville, TN and then attended the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Medicine. His residency training in pediatrics was completed at Vanderbilt Children's Hospital. He joined [Pediatric Associates of Auburn](#) in 2007. He is on staff at [East Alabama Medical Center](#) and is the Medical Director of the Care Network of East Alabama, Inc, an Alabama Medicaid regional care coordination pilot network. He serves as an Area Representative on the Executive Board of the AAP Alabama Chapter and a member of the Lee County Medical Society, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, the American Medical Association, and the American Academy of Pediatrics.

He and his wife Jennifer have a ten-year old daughter, Peyton. When not at work, he enjoys family activities, reading, technology, and photography, and is a certified Les Mills BodyPump and RPM instructor at a local gym.

Thanks for all you do, Dr Stubblefield! We appreciate your leadership in the Medical Home Chapter Champions Program on Asthma and the Chapter Quality Network, and applaud your efforts as you spread quality asthma care and the medical home model across the state of Alabama!

Resources

Assessing and Addressing Health Care Disparities for the Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) Model

The PCMH model represents a unique opportunity to implement solutions to bridge the gap in healthcare disparities barriers to improving healthcare outcomes. The [Patient-Centered Primary Care Collaborative](#) (PCPCC) has made this [presentation](#) and the related [slides](#) available to educate health care providers on how to assess their practices for cultural competency and to provide information on various resources available to improve patient-provider communications and partnerships. The recommendations include offering the following to patients and families: simplified medication instructions that address health literacy; video demonstrations to promote proper medication techniques; personalized, actionable discharge instructions in single and dual language formats; customizable, translated vital healthcare documents; and easy-to-follow reconciled patient medication summaries.

Advancing Primary Care through Health Information Technology (HIT)

In this [presentation](#), a panel of speakers from [Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services](#) (CMS), the [Office of the National Coordinator for Health](#) (ONC), and the [National Committee for Quality Assurance](#) (NCQA) discuss various aspects of HIT and its importance of advancing the PCMH. In particular, the following topics are covered: practice transformation through health information technology from a provider's perspective; the relationship between HIT use and payment reform models; Regional Extension Centers (RECs) and their work with primary care providers on their path to meaningful use; and how the meaningful use requirements have been integrated into NCQA PCMH 2011 standards.

State-by-State Legislative Fact Sheets for Children's Health Care

The [National Association of Children's Hospitals](#) recently released [fact sheets](#) that summarize state-by-state legislation that has been enacted to date this year that affect children's health care coverage and access – particularly under Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) – and initiatives to improve health care quality. Trends identified include: a state focus on enhancing benefits for children covered by Medicaid and CHIP; the continued use of provider assessments to finance states' share of Medicaid; the pursuit of quality initiatives to improve care for Medicaid and CHIP beneficiaries while reducing program costs; and a transition to new Medicaid reimbursement methodologies.

GetAsthmaHelp.org

The [Asthma Initiative of Michigan](#) – a project of the American Lung Association of Michigan, Michigan Public Health Institute, and Michigan Department of Community Health – formed a coalition of asthma experts from public and private agencies across the state with knowledge in the areas of clinical care, education, environmental quality, and surveillance to develop a website with asthma-related resources and information for health care professionals, patients, families, and schools. One tool offered on the site that may be of particular interest is the [Asthma Patient Follow-up Tool](#).

**Special thanks to Julia Richerson, MD, FAAP (Kentucky) for suggesting this resource.*



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Reports

Benefits of Implementing the Primary Care Patient-Centered Medical Home: A Review of Cost and Quality Results

This [Patient-Centered Primary Care Collaborative](#) (PCPCC) report documents cost and quality outcomes from recent primary care PCMH pilots and demonstration projects across the United States. It provides a summary of 34 peer reviewed and industry reports from PCMH initiatives from the past two years, highlighting cost and quality outcomes data. The results provide substantial empirical support for the PCMH and the health care professionals, health plans, employers, and policymakers who are adopting it, as well as the patients and their families receiving this care. The report also defines the features of a PCMH and provides data from 23 case studies to demonstrate how each feature of a PCMH contributes to lower costs, improved care, and better health outcomes. The [full report](#) and [one-page fact sheet](#) are available online.

Implementing the PCMH Model in Solo and Small Practices

A [study](#) in the *Journal of General Internal Medicine* – supported by the [Commonwealth Fund](#) – showed 80% of solo or small practice groups that received financial and organizational assistance (eg, help with practice redesign, care management, increased reimbursement) were designated NCQA Level 3 PCMH status. Only 14% of those not receiving these types of support achieved the designation.

The Joint Commission Children's Asthma Care Quality Measures and Asthma Readmissions

In 2003, the [Joint Commission](#) introduced 3 Children's Asthma Care (CAC) measures to improve the quality of pediatric inpatient asthma care. The measures include: CAC-1 – use of relievers for inpatient asthma; CAC-2 – use of systemic corticosteroids for inpatient asthma; and CAC-3 – home management plan of care given to patient/caregiver. A quality improvement study that took place from 2005-2010 was designed to test the validity of these measures by examining the association between provider compliance and asthma hospitalization outcomes after full implementation of the asthma care process model. The [study](#) concludes that CAC-3 is a valid quality measure, while CAC-1 and CAC-2 may be questionable as quality measures, possibly due to high baseline compliance. Overall, there was significant and sustained decrease in hospital asthma readmission rates shown by providers who implemented the asthma care process model.

Communication during Pediatric Asthma Visits and Self-Reported Asthma Medication Adherence

A recent [study](#) published in *Pediatrics* provides additional evidence that clinicians should ask for patient and caregiver input into their patient's asthma treatment plan, as recommended by the NHLBI guidelines. In this study, children ages 8 through 16 with mild, moderate, or severe persistent asthma and their caregivers were recruited at pediatric practices in nonurban areas of North Carolina. All medical visits were audio-tape recorded. Children and caregivers were interviewed 1 month after their medical visits regarding the child's control medication adherence. Children reported an average control medication adherence for the past week of 72%, whereas caregivers reported the child's average control medication adherence for the past week was 85%. When providers asked for caregiver input into the asthma treatment plan at the patient visit, caregivers reported significantly higher child medication adherence 1 month later. Taking this step to enhance provider-patient communication by including patients and their families in the development of the asthma treatment plan can lead to better medication adherence and asthma control.

In the News...

- [How a Case Manager Can Help You Coordinate Care](#)
- [How Patients View Your Medical Home](#)
- [McDonald Army Health Center Introduces New Model of Patient-Centered Health Care](#)
- [Medical Boards Work to Facilitate Practice Across State Lines](#)
- [Chronic Conditions Raise Pediatric Medical Error Rates](#)
- [Physicians Have Concerns About Growth of Urgent Care Clinics](#)
- [Family Problems that Can Interfere with Adherence to Asthma Drugs](#)
- [Pediatric Use of Budesonide Affects Height in Adulthood](#)
- [Systematic Review of Long-Acting B2-Agonists Versus Higher Doses of Inhaled Corticosteroids](#)
- [US and Mexico Sign Agreement Addressing Air Pollution Issues on the Border](#)

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 crajaopalan@aap.org or 800/433-9016, ext 4311. If you would like to unsubscribe to the Champions E-Correspondence, contact Chelsea Rajagopalan.