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**

**MHCCPA Conference**
The 2013 MHCCPA Conference is right around the corner! We look forward to seeing you on March 2-3 in Rosemont (Chicago area), IL for a weekend of education, networking, and fun! (To those of you who are unable to join us this year, you will be missed.) Please stay tuned for confirmation details and other preparatory information for the conference in the coming weeks. If you have any questions in the meantime, please contact Elsa Hall (ehall@aap.org, 847/434-7605) or Chelsea Rajagopalan (crajagopalan@aap.org, 847/434-4311).

**JPB Foundation Launches New Website**
The JPB Foundation—which funds the Medical Home Chapter Champions Program on Asthma through the AAP Accelerating Improved Care for Children with Asthma Program—recently launched a new website. The mission of the foundation is to enhance the quality of life through transformational initiatives that promote the health of communities by: supporting medical research around chronic diseases, creating opportunities for those living in poverty, and enriching and sustaining the environment. To learn more about The JPB Foundation, click [here](#).

**Upcoming Events**

- Webinar: [International Survey of Primary Care Physicians](#), hosted by The Commonwealth Fund, February 5, 12pm Central
- Webinar: [Developing Mechanisms for Sustainable Funding of Community Asthma Management](#), hosted by the Childhood Asthma Leadership Coalition, February 6, 11:30am Central
- [Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs (AMCHP) Annual Conference](#), February 9-12, Washington, DC
- Webinar: [Building a Medical Home Residency Training Program for Medicine Departments & Health Centers](#), hosted by the Patient-Centered Primary Care Collaborative, February 14, 11am Central
- [American Academy of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology (AAAAI) Annual Meeting](#), February 22-26, San Antonio, TX
- **2013 Medical Home Chapter Champions Program on Asthma Conference**, March 2-3, Rosemont (Chicago area), IL
- [National Conference on Quality Health Care for Culturally Diverse Populations](#), March 11-14, Oakland, CA
- [National Medical Home Summit](#), March 13-15, Philadelphia, PA
- **Moving Forward with Patient- and Family-Centered Care: Partnerships for Quality and Safety Training Seminar**, April 15-18, Annapolis, MD
- [National Conference on Health Disparities Research at the Intersection of Race, Ethnicity, and Disability](#), April 25-26, Washington, DC
- [AAP Legislative Conference](#), April 28-30, Washington, DC
- [Pediatric Academic Societies Annual Meeting](#), May 4-7, Washington, DC

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The Medical Home Chapter Champions Program on Asthma is a part of the Academy’s Accelerating Improved Care for Children with Asthma Program (AICCAP), which is made possible by funding from The JPB Foundation.
Opportunities

Call for Papers: Asthma Control and Prevention at School

The *Journal of School Health* will be devoting an issue later this year to the subject of asthma control and prevention at school. Reports on original research, general review articles, or commentaries are currently being accepted. Letters of intent to submit articles should be sent to Robert J. McDermott, PhD, Editor-in-Chief ([rjmcdermott@ashaweb.org](mailto:rjmcdermott@ashaweb.org)) by May 15. Full articles following *Journal* style are due using the ScholarOne online submission system no later than June 1.

Grant Opportunity: Promoting Compassionate Health Care within the Patient-Centered Medical Home

The Schwartz Center for Compassionate Healthcare is dedicated to strengthening relationships between patients and health care providers by promoting compassionate, patient-centered care. In the past, the Center has supported a wide range of innovative programs that improve the patient-provider relationship in the areas of communication, cultural competency, end-of-life care, and more. This year, the Schwartz Center is requesting proposals that focus on enhancing and promoting compassionate health care within the patient-centered medical home. Proposals should describe how grant funds will be used to support sustained and compassionate relationships between patients and families and their health care providers. Specific initiatives for maintaining the continuity of care—especially when health care transition or team-based care are involved—should be outlined. The grant period is for 1 or 2 years and the annual range of funding is $25-75,000. Letters of interest are due by February 15. Click here for additional information.

Call for Applications: Macy Faculty Scholars Program

The *Macy Faculty Scholars Program* is designed to support early- to mid-career faculty in medicine and nursing who are dedicated to improving the education of health professionals. Faculty are selected each year to pursue educational change at their home institutions, making innovations that better prepare health professions graduates to succeed in health care systems and meet our nation’s health care needs. Scholars receive salary support of $100,000 per year for 2 years and at least 50% protected time for 2 years to pursue their educational projects. Applications must be submitted by 2pm Central on March 6. Click here for additional information.

Resources

Roadmap to Reduce Disparities

The *Robert Wood Johnson Foundation* developed the *Six Steps to Curb Disparities* infographic to help people and organizations embed objectives related to reducing disparities in all health care quality improvement efforts. The framework is designed to be flexible with respect to the cause of disparity, patient population, and region. The six steps include: link quality and equity, create a culture of equity, diagnose the disparity, design the activity, secure buy-in, and implement change. The graphic is available to download, print, display, and distribute. Click here to read how the roadmap was developed and tips for accomplishing the six steps.

Health Care Innovations Exchange

The *Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality* (AHRQ) *Health Care Innovations Exchange* is designed to help health care providers solve problems, improve quality, and reduce disparities. The Exchange recently featured several promising practices to reduce health disparities among children, including a program that provides culturally competent asthma care to Latino families, a state policy that increases access to Medicaid coverage for uninsured children, and a medical center’s use of text messaging to increase vaccination rates among low-income minority children. The featured *QualityTools* section of the website offers resources to help health care providers and other organizations implement evidence-based innovations. Click here to read more about the Innovations Exchange.
Champion E-Correspondence

January 2013

Reports

Exercise-Induced Wheeze, Urgent Medical Visits, and Neighborhood Asthma Prevalence

In this study, researchers examined the relationship between prevalence of asthma in neighborhoods, asthma-related urgent medical visits, and exercise-induced wheezing (EIW). There was an association observed between urgent medical visits for asthma and the frequency of wheeze symptoms. There also was a relationship between wheezing and neighborhood prevalence of asthma (adjusted for race, ethnicity, environmental tobacco smoke, and income). The authors concluded that EIW may contribute to disparities in asthma-related urgent medical visits between high- and low-income neighborhoods, and that EIW should be considered a risk indicator for visits to urgent care.

Hospital Admissions for Childhood Asthma After Smoke-Free Legislation in England

This study, published in Pediatrics, highlighted the population health benefits of enacting smoke-free legislation. Past studies have shown that smoke-free legislation is associated with reduced rates of asthma-related hospital admissions and emergency department visits, however, this study indicated how significant the effects are and how rapidly they can be realized. When assessed over time, a 9% reduction in hospitalizations resulted immediately after enacting the legislation, followed by a 3.5% decrease in hospitalizations per year.

Improving-Patient Decision-Making in Health Care

This series of reports from the Dartmouth Atlas Project suggests that the treatment a patient receives can depend more on physician recommendations than patient preferences. When there are multiple treatment options, a patient’s location and their physician can play an important role in the type of treatment selected and received. There were 9 reports developed for various geographic regions of the US. Researchers emphasize the importance of patients serving as a member of his/her health care team to take part in the shared-decision making process and choose health care options that are in line with medical evidence and the patient’s values.

In the News...

- Novel influenza vaccine gets federal approval
- Changes in scheduling reduce wait times for pediatric appointments
- Digital communication may improve doctor-patient relationship
- Doctor-patient communication plays role in drug adherence
- AAP calls for doctors in every school district
- Team-based care may hold promise for physician shortages

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.