Champion E-Correspondence  
March 2013

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 Webinar Series: Academy Resources and Information to Support Chapter Champions
This 3-part webinar series—designed to provide chapter champions with information about the tools, resources, and opportunities that are available to you as members of the Academy—will kick off on April 18. Based on feedback from the regional conference calls and other communications and conversations with champions, the topic areas selected for the webinar series include Advocacy, Payment & Finance, and Special Interest Groups. We hope the information provided is helpful to you and that it supports all chapter champions in your efforts to be effective leaders of medical home and asthma initiatives in your communities, chapters, and states. The webinars will be recorded and archived online for those who are unable to attend the live offering. For additional information, contact Chelsea (craigagopalan@aap.org).

Advocacy — Thursday, April 18 at 12pm Eastern/11am Central/10am Mountain/9am Pacific, Click here to register!
Payment & Finance — Schedule and registration information coming soon!
Special Interest Groups — Schedule and registration information coming soon!

Thanks to All Attendees for a Great Conference!
The 2013 MHCCPA Conference took place on March 2-3, 2013 in Rosemont, IL. Thanks to all who attended for your lively discussion, active participation, and energy for continuing to improve asthma care in the context of the medical home! Conference materials are available here and will remain on this site for another few weeks. The conference was made possible through funding from The JPB Foundation. If you have any questions about the conference, contact Chelsea (craigagopalan@aap.org).

Upcoming Events

◆ Webinar: Friendly, Following, and Liking—Social Media in a Patient- and Family-centered Health System, hosted by the Institute for Patient— and Family-Centered Care, April 4, 12pm Central
◆ Moving Forward with Patient- and Family-Centered Care: Partnerships for Quality and Safety Training Seminar, April 15-18, Annapolis, MD
◆ Webinar: How to Use Data to Improve Care Delivery, hosted by the National Center for Medical Home Implementation, April 25, 12pm Central
◆ 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
◆ Asthma Awareness Month, May
◆ Pediatric Academic Societies Annual Meeting, May 4-7, Washington, DC
◆ Pediatric Telehealth Colloquium, May 5-7, Austin, TX
◆ AAP National Conference & Exhibition, October 26-29, Orlando, FL
Chapter Champion Spotlight

Chapter Champion Spotlight on Alaska: Melinda Rathkopf, MD, FAAAAI, FACAI, FAAP

Melinda Rathkopf, MD, FAAAAI, FACAI, FAAP recently joined the Medical Home Chapter Champions Program on Asthma as the Alaska Chapter Champion. Dr Rathkopf is a pediatric allergist/immunologist at the Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology Center of Alaska and Assistant Clinical Professor at the University of Washington.

Dr Rathkopf has been actively pursuing various initiatives to advance asthma care in her community and state. She is working with the AAP Alaska Chapter to develop a survey for primary care pediatricians regarding their needs related to asthma. On a regular basis she offers lectures and demonstrations on spirometry, provides guidance to colleagues on how spirometry can be incorporated into primary care according to the NHLBI guidelines, and also assists with interpretation of spirometry results. She is working with her local hospital to identify areas for improvement in in-patient asthma care and asthma care upon discharge. Dr Rathkopf also helps to organize community asthma screenings with the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America.

Dr Rathkopf earned her medical degree at Emory University School of Medicine in Atlanta, GA. She then entered the US Air Force, completing pediatric residency training at Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi, MS. She practiced general pediatrics for a couple of years prior to fellowship training in allergy and immunology at Wilford Hall Medical Center in San Antonio, TX. She served nine years as an Air Force physician before joining the Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology Center of Alaska. She has been practicing in Anchorage since July 2006.

In addition to being a fellow of the AAP, Dr Rathkopf is a fellow of the American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology (ACAAI) and the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology (AAAAI). She is also a member of the Joint Council of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology, Clinical Immunology Society, and the AAP Section on Allergy and Immunology and the Council for Clinical Information Technology. She regularly uses social media (eg, Facebook, Twitter, American EHR blog) to educate others and bring awareness to asthma issues.

Dr Rathkopf, thank you for your dedication to the Medical Home Chapter Champions Program on Asthma and to improving the lives of children with asthma within the medical home!

Resources

Medical Home HOW TO Webinar Series

The AAP and its National Center for Medical Home Implementation (NCMHI) are hosting a free four part webinar series through May on how to effectively deliver care through the medical home model. Building on the success of two previous medical home webinar series (2009 and 2011), the NCMHI will provide engaging educational “how to” presentations focused on several important facets of pediatric care delivery, including empowering youth, reducing health disparities, using data to improve quality, and employing best practices in family-centered care. The webinars will feature expert faculty and provide targeted information and tools. The webinars will introduce new products from the NCMHI, such as updated state profiles in the Medical Home Data Portal, promising practices regarding language access services, and a new family-centered care monograph. The target audience for the webinars include pediatric primary care providers, specialists, patient and family advocates, policy administrators, and anyone interested in advancing the medical home model for all children and youth. For additional information, contact Angela Tobin (atobin@aap.org).

How to Use Data to Improve Care Delivery — April 25, 12pm Central, Click here to register!
How to Incorporate Best Practices in Family Centered Care in Your Practice — May 29, 12pm Central, Click here to register!
How to Engage Youth in Their Health Care — Recording available
How to Enhance Care Delivery for a Diverse Population — Recording available
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Resources (continued)

Children’s Electronic Health Record (EHR) Format Released

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) recently released the Children’s Electronic Health Record Format. The AAP served on the development team to help ensure that the Format would meet the needs of health care providers who care for children. The Format is not an actual EHR, but provides direction on the functional requirements that an EHR should meet to perform optimally for the particular needs of children (eg, prenatal and newborn screening tests, growth data, immunizations, well child and preventive care, information for children with special health care needs, etc). Click here to learn more about the Children’s EHR Format and to gain access to the Format.

Reports

Readiness of Primary Care Practices for Medical Home Certification

This study, published in Pediatrics, compared data from the 2007 and 2008 National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey and that National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) patient-centered medical home (PCMH) standards to determine if and where associations exist between a practice’s general characteristics and the success the practice has in achieving medical home standards. The practices involved scored higher on items related to direct patient care and lower in areas related to health information technology. The authors conclude that effective strategies for medical home transformation particularly in small practices—which provide the majority of primary care for children in the US—need to be developed and/or spread.

Time and Risk Preferences and the Use of Asthma Controller Medication

This Pediatrics study, released earlier this month, employed an online survey for students with asthma to determine the role of risk tolerance, time preference, and other asthma-specific attitudes in adherence to control medications. Students with high rates of risk tolerance and those who discounted future potentially adverse outcomes (ie, perceived the need for medication to be lower since there was no immediate “gratification” or relief provided by using the medication) had low adherence. It was recommended that asthma intervention programs and health care providers incorporate an assessment of patients’ tolerance for risk and time preference to best support the patient in their medication adherence. Click here to access the article.

In the News...

- Room for improvement for patient-centered medical homes in engaging patients in quality improvement
- BPA exposure tied to greater risk for asthma in children
- Fewer children with asthma are exposed to secondhand smoke
- Federal agencies working together to make homes healthier