Champion E-Correspondence

July 2015

This is an e-mail communication related to the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) “Medical Home Chapter Champions Program on Asthma, Allergy and Anaphylaxis.” 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

Medical Home Chapter Champions Program on Asthma, Allergy and Anaphylaxis
Greetings from Elk Grove Village, Illinois! As we look forward to the Educational and Networking Conference for the Chapter Champions on October 9 & 10, 2015, in Rosemont, Illinois, many parents are thinking about getting their children back to school. It is the time of the year to talk to parents about preparing to go Back to School with Allergies and Asthma.

Upcoming Events

- Webinar: Breathing Easy at Home: Partnering to Increase Smoke-Free Policies in Federally Assisted Housing, August 5 at 11am PT/12pm MT/1pm CT/2pm ET
- Webinar: Best Practices to Improve Community Health, August 6 at 11:30am PT/12:30pm MT/1:30pm CT/2:30pm ET
- Webinar: Lung Infections in Indigenous American Children: A Hidden Disparity, August 25 at 11am PT/12pm MT/1pm CT/2pm ET
- 10th Annual Alaska Asthma & Allergy Conference, September 11-12, Girdwood, AK
- US Anaphylaxis Summit – 2015, September 18, San Ramon, CA; October 2, Dallas, TX; October 16, Boston, MA
- Adverse Childhood Experiences Southeastern Summit 2015: Building Resilient, Interdisciplinary Workforces, Communities & Families, September 24-26, Asheville, NC
- 2015 Association of State and Territorial Health Officials Annual Meeting, September 29-October 1, Salt Lake City, UT
- AAP MHCCPAAA Chapter Champions Educational and Networking Conference, October 9-10, Rosemont, IL
- Blazing New Trails: Innovations in State Health Policy, October 19-21, Dallas, TX
- AAP National Conference and Exhibition, October 24-27, Washington, DC
- 2015 APHA Annual Meeting & Exposition, October 31-November 4, Chicago, IL
- FARE Teen Summit, November 13-15, Washington, DC

Reports

Associations Between Practice-Reported Medical Homeness and Health Care Utilization Among Publicly Insured Children
This article published in Academic Pediatrics (May-June 2015) used practice-reported assessments and Medicaid claims from child-serving practices in three states participating in the Children’s Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 Quality Demonstration Grant Program to estimate the association between medical homeness (tertiles) and receipt of well-child care and nonurgent, preventable, or avoidable emergency department (ED) use. The study found that children covered by Medicaid who receive care in practices that have implemented a patient-centered medical home (PCMH) model may have fewer non-urgent and avoidable visits to emergency departments. The patient-centered medical home (PCMH) is widely promoted as a model to improve the quality of primary care and lead to more efficient use of health care services.
Potentially Preventable Pediatric Hospital Inpatient Stays for Asthma and Diabetes, 2003-2012
According to data recently published (June 2015) in a Statistical Brief by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), the rate of potentially preventable hospital stays for asthma decreased among children between 2003 and 2012, and the biggest decline — nearly 50 percent — was shown for children ages 15 to 17 (dropping from 73 stays to 39 stays per 100,000 children). The estimates are based upon an analysis done for the National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Reports (NHQR/NHDR). Data came from the Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project (HCUP) 2003-2011 Nationwide Inpatient Sample (NIS).

Bringing Patients Into the Patient-Centered Medical Home Lessons Learned in a Large Primary Care Practice
This article in the North Carolina Medical Journal demonstrates that in the right setting, robust patient leadership and a clear mission can empower a Patient Advisory Council (PAC) to have a dramatic impact on a complex primary care practice. There is consensus that patients need to be engaged with their care, but how to do this in a primary care setting remains unclear. This case study demonstrates PAC engagement with the operations of a patient-centered medical home.

Psychosocial Factors Associated With Adolescent Electronic Cigarette and Cigarette Use
This study published in Pediatrics (August 2015) looked at patterns of cigarette and e-cigarette use among adolescents in southern California. Data was analyzed from 2,084 adolescents in 11th- and 12th-grades in order to determine the role that psychosocial factors play in the initiation of cigarette and e-cigarette use. These factors include whether cigarettes or e-cigarettes are used by others in the home, friends’ use of cigarettes or e-cigarettes, and overall attitude toward cigarette and e-cigarette use. Most youth who reported e-cigarette use had friends who used them, and psychosocial variables indicating a favorable e-cigarette social environment were strongly associated with both cigarette and e-cigarette use. Almost half of current e-cigarette users reported that they did not believe there were health risks associated with their use. Authors observed higher rates of e-cigarette use compared to cigarettes, with one-fourth of teens in the study reporting ever having used e-cigarettes and nearly 10 percent reporting current use, which is higher than the 5.7 percent of teens reporting current cigarette use. The study points out that the high rate of e-cigarette use among adolescents is of concern because while tobacco control efforts have been successful in reducing teen smoking rates, especially in California, e-cigarettes may lead to a “renormalization” of smoking and undermine the progress made in reducing teen smoking.

Health IT–Enabled Care Coordination: A National Survey of Patient-Centered Medical Home Clinicians
This article published in the Annals of Family Medicine (May/June 2015) describes the role of health information technology (HIT) in offering promising tools for improving care coordination. In order to find practices likely to be at the forefront of this developing area, practices recognized under the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) 2011 Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) program were sampled. The study found that even among practices having a strong commitment to the medical home model, the use of HIT to support care coordination objectives is not consistent.

Financial Barriers to Care Among Low-Income Children With Asthma: Health Care Reform Implications
This article published in JAMA Pediatrics (July 2014) examines the associations between cost-sharing, income, and care seeking and financial stress among children with asthma. The study concluded that cost-related barriers to care among children with asthma were concentrated among low-income families with higher cost-sharing levels. The ACA’s low-income subsidies could reduce these barriers for many families, but millions of dependents for whom employer-sponsored family coverage is unhealthy could remain at risk for cost-related problems because of ACA subsidy eligibility rules.
**Telehealth Care Vital to Future of Medical Home**

In this article in the August 2015 issue of AAP News, the author discusses the role of telehealth in enhancing the medical home model. Telehealth can facilitate several medical home components such as maintaining the long-term, trusting relationship between physician and patient via “virtual house calls,” which is central to continuity of care. Several steps are still needed to implement virtual visits in the medical home, including guidance, advocacy, and education.

**Population Health Considerations for Pediatric Asthma: Findings from the 2011–2012 California Health Interview Survey**

This study*, published in the journal Population Health Management (June 2015), reports the analysis of data from the 2011-12 California Health Interview Survey. It details several issues affecting asthma care and offers a number of public policy strategies that could help remedy these shortcomings. To understand the status of asthma in California, the researchers mined data from the most recent California Health Interview Survey, which includes 44,000 households from every county in California. The goal was to identify population health considerations for pediatric asthma in California to inform the development of quality improvement interventions.

*Log-in access required for full article

**Advancing the Pediatric Medical Home Model in Missouri: New Resource from NCMHI**

As part of its ongoing collaboration with the National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP), the National Center for Medical Home Implementation (NCMHI) has published its latest state profile highlighting Missouri’s initiatives to advance the medical home model in pediatrics. Missouri currently operates two Section 2703 Health Home programs with a focus on primary care and behavioral health integration that work in tandem to deliver improved care for qualifying children and adult Medicaid beneficiaries. Profiles designed to highlight how public health programs are implementing and advancing the medical home model in pediatric populations were previously available for Vermont, Colorado, Alabama, Oregon, Iowa and Connecticut. As profiles are developed for additional states, they will be shared with you via this e-newsletter.

**Resources on E-cigarettes Now Available**

The AAP Julius B. Richmond Center, dedicated to the elimination of tobacco and secondhand smoke, has created a webpage dedicated to offering педиatрическим ресурсам about electronic nicotine delivery systems, or e-cigarettes. Included on this page are fact sheets, presentations, and information about the AAP’s actions on these products.

**Community Health Centers: Meeting the Needs of a Diverse and Growing Asian American, Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander (AA&NHOPI) Population**

This infographic, published May 2015, illustrates the needs of the diverse and growing Asian American, Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander population in the United States, what community health centers can do to meet these needs, and how AAPCHO can help.
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Resources (continued)

Connect with AAP for MOC Success
The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) continues to expand its offerings for members to fulfill requirements for Maintenance of Certification (MOC).

The Academy provides solutions for individuals from online quality improvement courses to PREP self-assessments to live CME events. The AAP MOC Portfolio Program also provides guidance for members interested in developing or providing MOC activities through nationally-affiliated AAP groups (e.g., Sections and Councils).

Discover which MOC solution is right for you, and keep up with developing news at the newly revised http://www.aap.org/mocinfo. This article in the June issue of AAP News contains a comprehensive look at what’s available and how to access resources.

Policy and Advocacy

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) Strategic Visioning

NHLBI’s Strategic Visioning process is designed in three phases to engage the entire NHLBI community in identifying the most Compelling Questions and Critical Challenges in heart, lung, blood, and sleep research. All partners and stakeholders are invited to help determine NHLBI’s future direction, and participation is welcomed in an ongoing process that will inform NHLBI’s priority setting, decision making, and resource allocation.

National Asthma Education and Prevention Program (NAEPP) June Coordinating Committee Meeting

The National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) recently convened a meeting of the National Asthma Education and Prevention Program (NAEPP) Coordinating Committee. During the meeting, the Asthma Evidence Review Process was discussed, with key milestones noted. A final Needs Assessment Report approved by the NHLBI Advisory Council was shared. The report defined the six priority topics for potential updates:

1) Role of adjustable medication dosing in recurrent wheezing and asthma;
2) Role of long acting anti-muscarinic agents (LAMAs) in asthma management as add-on to inhaled corticosteroids (ICS);
3) Role of bronchial thermoplasty in adult severe asthma;
4) Role of Fractional Exhaled Nitric Oxide (FeNO) in diagnosis, medication selection, and monitoring treatment response in asthma;
5) Role of remediation of indoor allergens (e.g., house dust mites/animals/pests) in asthma management;
6) Role of immunotherapy in treatment of asthma.

For more information review the meeting notes and slides.
Food Allergies: Global Burden, Causes, Treatment, Prevention and Public Policy

Nearly 15 million people are affected by food allergies in the United States alone, and current global trends show that this number of individuals is increasing, particularly in developed countries. A new Institute of Medicine (IOM) committee will be formed to examine critical issues related to food allergy (FA), including the prevalence and severity of FA and its impact on affected individuals, families, and communities; and current understanding of FA as a disease, and in diagnostics, treatments, prevention, and public policy. This consensus study will engage a broad array of stakeholders, including government agencies, organizations, academic institutions, industries, policy makers, and patient organization groups in addition to bringing together leading investigators from relevant fields, clinicians, and parents to engage in review of the issues surrounding FA. An open meeting (workshop) will take place August 31 – September 2, 2015. Register to attend. If you would like to attend the sessions of this meeting that are open to the public or need more information contact Kyra Cappelucci at kcappelucci@nas.edu or 202/334-3913

Funding Opportunity: Asthma and Allergic Diseases Cooperative Research Centers

The purpose of this announcement is to invite applications from single institutions or consortia of institutions to participate in the Asthma and Allergic Diseases Cooperative Research Centers (AADCRC) program. The program will support centers that integrate clinical and basic research to conduct studies on the mechanisms underlying the onset and progression of diseases of interest, including asthma, rhinitis (allergic and non-allergic), chronic rhinosinusitis, atopic dermatitis, food allergy, and drug allergy. The overarching goal of the program is to improve the understanding of the pathogenesis of these conditions and to provide a rational foundation for new, effective treatments and prevention strategies. Optional letters of intent are due September 2. To learn more, click here. Applications are due October 2.

In the News...

◆ New Asthma Projects Aim to Help Floridians Breathe Easier
◆ [Philadelphia Housing Authority] PHA Bans Smoking In All Public Housing Units
◆ Facebook Reminders Help Teens Control Asthma
◆ Climate Change: What You Can Do
◆ Non-Profit Startup Launches Free ICD-10 Conversion Tools
◆ The Stress Factor in Asthma
◆ Childhood Asthma Rates Down 10 Percent in 10 Years According to UK’s Oldest Asthma Survey
◆ Allergies, Sinuses and Asthma: Can Sinus Surgery Help?
◆ Second Severe Allergic Reaction Can Occur Hours After First
◆ Study Uncovers Mechanism Responsible for Pollen-Induced Allergies
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Chapter Champions Call to Action

As a chapter champion, we encourage you to have a good understanding of educational opportunities in your chapter/state as they relate to medical home and asthma, allergy and anaphylaxis management. Contact your chapter leadership today and find out how you can contribute to the educational opportunities in your chapter. Consider participating in upcoming chapter annual (and other educational) meetings, hospital grand rounds/residency training opportunities, or chapter and/or state-wide webinars.

As always, we regularly update the program website with resources that might be useful to champions. Be sure to check out our website!