



## Champion E-Correspondence

September/October 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.

**MEDICAL HOME**

**CHAPTER  
CHAMPIONS**

**PROGRAM ON  
ASTHMA  
ALLERGY  
AND  
ANAPHYLAXIS**

### Project Updates

#### Medical Home Chapter Champions Program on Asthma, Allergy and Anaphylaxis

Greetings from Elk Grove Village, Illinois! Thank you all for a wonderful conference earlier this month! It was a pleasure meeting everyone and spending time with you. We look forward to continuing to support you all in the great work that you do! The conference electronic syllabus can be accessed [here](#).

### Upcoming Events

- ◆ Webinar: [Protecting Children From Tobacco, Nicotine, and Tobacco Smoke](#), October 28 at 9am PT/10am MT/11am CT/12pm ET
- ◆ [2015 APHA Annual Meeting & Exposition](#), October 31-November 4, Chicago, IL
- ◆ [FARE Teen Summit](#), November 13-15, Washington, DC
- ◆ Webinar: [Effectively Engaging Families: How Motivational Interviewing can be used to Improve Asthma Management with Patients and their Families](#), December 14 at 9am PT/10am MT/11am CT/12pm ET
- ◆ [The Future is Now, AMCHP 2016](#), January 23-26, Washington, DC
- ◆ Register Today! [2016 AAP Legislative Conference](#), April 3-5, Washington, DC

### Reports

#### **School Food Allergy and Anaphylaxis Management for the Pediatrician—Extending the Medical Home with Critical Collaborations**

This [article](#) published in *Pediatric Clinics* (December 2015), highlights how primary care pediatricians can help further the goals of the medical home, by including the school health professional team in a child's overall medical plan for managing life-threatening allergies and anaphylaxis. The article aims to guide community pediatricians by strengthening their understanding of essential principles and components in effective food allergy management in the school setting and to direct readers to additional resources to support this goal, as well as to empower pediatricians to be the stewards in collaborations that bridge the medical, family, and educational homes for the sake of children with food allergies and other potential life threatening allergies.

#### **How Strong Is the Primary Care Safety Net? Assessing the Ability of Federally Qualified Health Centers to Serve as Patient-Centered Medical Homes**

A new [issue brief](#) published by Commonwealth Fund (September 2015) examines the extent to which community health centers are able to deliver high-quality patient care—and finds that the proportion of health centers that can serve as medical homes nearly doubled between 2009 and 2013.

#### **Furry Pets Modulate Gut Microbiota Composition in Infants at Risk for Allergic Disease**

In a recent [study](#) published in the *Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology* (September 2015), researchers found that infants in households with furry pets shared some of the animals' gut bacteria—possibly explaining why early animal exposure may protect against some allergies. According to the article, past research has linked growing up on a farm or exposure to dog dander indoors with protection against airway allergens, with other studies showing increased "richness and diversity" in the gut microbes of kids exposed to household pets.



### Reports (continued)

#### ***Communication Barriers in Treating Childhood Asthma: The Link between Effective Asthma Action Plan Communication and Health Outcomes for Hispanic Families with Language Barriers***

Effective communication is critical to managing health conditions, especially in emergency situations. For families with limited English proficiency (LEP), communication barriers may result in serious health problems. A [report](#) in July 2014 following a study from a Child Health Innovation Grant Award, found this is particularly true for children with asthma.

#### ***Community Based Approaches for Optimal Asthma Outcomes and Accountable Population Health***

This [white paper](#) published by the Center for Health Policy at Brookings in September 2015, includes information on the limitations of conventional asthma treatment, opportunities for improvement, and the major barriers to implementing these innovations. It describes a broadened care delivery model that can be implemented through practical and incremental reforms, and is based on a joint Brookings and Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America (AAFA) roundtable that was convened in March 2015.

#### ***Recommendations for Prevention and Control of Influenza in Children, 2015–2016***

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) has updated its recommendations for the prevention and treatment of influenza in children. A recent [policy statement](#) published in *Pediatrics* (October 2015), provided recommendations for routine use of seasonal influenza vaccine and antiviral medications for the prevention and treatment of influenza in children. The AAP recommends annual seasonal influenza immunization for all people 6 months and older, including all children and adolescents. More details can be found in the statement document.

#### ***The Montana Patient-Centered Medical Home Program – One Year of Data***

A recent [report](#) provides one year of data on the Montana Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) Program. The Montana PCMH Program qualified its first practices and payers -- including three health insurers and Medicaid -- in 2014. The report, released in early September 2015, serves as the baseline data for the growing program. The baseline data (aggregated and anonymous) supports the proposition that the PCMH program advances comprehensive primary care and will keep Montanans healthier. Evidence gathered from PCMH programs across the country demonstrates that in the long term, the Montana program can reduce unnecessary emergency room visits and hospitalizations, especially for patients with chronic disease such as asthma.

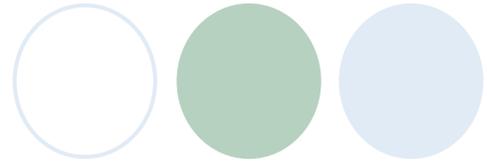
#### ***Risk of Anaphylaxis after Vaccination in Children and Adults***

A recent US government [study\\*](#), published in the *Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology* (October 2015), has shared reassuring news for concerned parents -- vaccines rarely trigger serious and potentially fatal allergic reactions. Just 33 people had a serious, potentially life-threatening allergic reaction -- also known as anaphylaxis -- out of 25 million vaccines given, according to research from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. That's 1.3 people in every million who gets a vaccine.

#### ***Primary Care Transformation***

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality has funded three grant initiatives to better understand the challenges faced by primary care practices as they transform into patient-centered medical homes and also help to support this transformation. The three grant types include: [Transforming Primary Care Practice \(TPC\) grants](#), [Infrastructure for Maintaining Primary Care Transformation \(IMPACT\) grants](#), and [Estimating the Costs of Supporting Primary Care Practice Transformation grants](#).

\*Subscription log in may be required



## Champion E-Correspondence

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### Reports (continued)

#### ***Lacerations and Embedded Needles Caused by Epinephrine Autoinjector Use in Children***

A recent [article](#) published in the *Annals of Emergency Medicine* (October 2015) shares study findings that show that although epinephrine autoinjectors are lifesaving devices in the management of anaphylaxis, some have caused lacerations and other injuries in children. Minimizing needle injection time, improving device design, and providing instructions to immobilize the leg before use may decrease the risk of these injuries.

#### ***A Difference-in-Difference Analysis of Changes in Quality, Utilization and Cost Following the Colorado Multi-Payer Patient-Centered Medical Home Pilot***

Study [findings](#)\* published in the *Journal of General Internal Medicine* (October 2015) showed that a multipayer medical home program piloted in Colorado led to a sustained reduction in emergency department use and costs over three years, although there were no overall cost savings for practices or patients. Primary care visits also decreased over the three-year study period.

\*Subscription log in may be required

### Resources

#### **Medical Home Chapter Champions Resource Packet**

[Section 2: Asthma, Allergy and Anaphylaxis](#), of the Medical Home Chapter Champions Program on Asthma, Allergy and Anaphylaxis Resource Packet is available! For helpful information, including state-specific asthma information and guides, please visit the [program webpage](#).

#### **Asthma Environmental Intervention Guide for School-Based Health Centers (SBHC)**

This [resource guide](#), developed by the Public Health Institute's Regional Asthma Management & Prevention (RAMP) in partnership with the California School-Based Health Alliance, describes the relationship between asthma and a number of environmental asthma triggers, and shares scientific evidence and strategies for SBHC staff in their work to reduce asthma through an environmental approach.

#### **The Breathe Easies: Asthma Music Videos for Kids and Caregivers**

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Ad Council recently launched public service announcements featuring a new band of puppets who star in online music videos for kids and caregivers about asthma triggers and how to prevent attacks. [Click here](#) to watch the videos and grab the code to embed the videos on YOUR website.



#### **Advancing the Pediatric Medical Home Model in Michigan: 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 [Michigan's](#) initiatives to advance the medical home model in pediatrics. The Michigan Primary Care Transformation (MiPCT) project is the largest multi-payer patient-centered medical home (PCMH) program in the country, with 346 PCMH practices serving over 1.1 million members, including **over 100,000 children and youth**. 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](#), [Connecticut](#), and [Missouri](#). As profiles are developed for additional states, they will be shared with you via this e-newsletter.



## Champion E-Correspondence

September/October 2015

### Resources (continued)

#### What is Medical Home? Expert Interviews and Testimonials

The [National Center for Medical Home Implementation YouTube channel](#) includes over 70 videos from pediatric medical home clinicians and family advocates. Each video describes components of the pediatric medical home, strategies to implement medical home, and lessons learned from individuals who have implemented pediatric medical homes.



**NATIONAL CENTER FOR MEDICAL HOME IMPLEMENTATION**

Check out the [National Center for Medical Home Implementation New and Improved Website!](#) The Web site provides pediatric medical home information, tools, and resources for **practices, clinicians, families, and state agencies.**

#### MCAN (Merck Childhood Asthma Network, Inc) Resources and Tools in Asthma Management

MCAN has made available a number of resources and tools on [AsthmaCommunityNetwork.org](#), ensuring that the best practices and findings of MCAN's programs will continue to inform effective asthma management. Visit the [MCAN Library](#) to access available asthma resources.



#### Wee Breathers™ Program Now Available in Spanish

The Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America (AAFA) recently created a Spanish-language version of its Wee Breathers™ program, which is a flexible and interactive program used by asthma educators to educate families and young children about asthma care and prevention. The program curriculum consists of seven one-hour lessons, an instructor's guide and two checklists for identifying asthma triggers in the home and in child care centers. Program handout materials are easy-to-read (6<sup>th</sup> grade reading level or lower) and are now available in Spanish. Wee Breathers™ in Spanish is made possible by a cooperative agreement between AAFA and the National Asthma Control Program of the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). All program materials are available free-of-charge at [www.aafa.org/WeeBreathers](http://www.aafa.org/WeeBreathers).

**Webinar Recording:** [Yellow Zone Practice Parameters for Management of Acute Loss of Asthma Control](#)

**Podcast Recording:** [A + IAQ: Cost-Effective First Steps for Schools to Implement an IAQ Management Program and Improve Asthma Outcomes](#)

### Policy and Advocacy

#### Do you have a Children's Cabinet in your State?

AAP chapters can help **advocate** for a children's cabinet statute, **seek** chapter representation on children's cabinet, **learn** your state children's cabinet priorities, **develop** and **maintain** relationships with cabinet members, and **include** the children's cabinet in your chapter activities. To learn more about existing Children's Cabinet, view the following [webinar recording](#) and [presentation slides](#). For more information please contact the AAP Division of State Government Affairs at 800-433-9016 ext 7799 or [stgov@aap.org](mailto:stgov@aap.org).

#### Grassroots Advocacy: AAP Key Contact Program

Key Contacts are AAP members who are interested in receiving advocacy opportunities and timely policy updates from the AAP Department of Federal Affairs on federal legislation and other issues important to the Academy. Through regular e-mail communication with specific requests for action, the Department of Federal Affairs keeps Key Contacts informed of the latest legislative developments affecting children and pediatricians. To become an AAP Key Contact, email [kids1st@aap.org](mailto:kids1st@aap.org) with your name, AAP ID if known, and your preferred e-mail address. If you have questions about federal advocacy, contact AAP Department of Federal Affairs at 800-347-8600.



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September/October 2015

### Ways to Engage

#### AAP CATCH (Community Access to Child Health) Projects of Interest to Chapter Champions

CATCH supports pediatricians to collaborate within their communities so that all children have access to needed health services and a medical home. In its 20-year history, CATCH has made an impact in communities around the country. Read about how it has influenced community pediatrics in this *Pediatrics* [article](#). Below are a list of current asthma projects that might be of interest to you. For more CATCH projects, please check out the [CATCH grant database](#).

- [Asthma Community Ties/Innovation Network \(ACTION\)](#), Miami, FL
- [Electronic Reminders to Enhance Asthma Control](#), Charlottesville, VA
- [Helping Orlando Children Catch Their Breath](#), Orlando, FL
- [Asthma Safety Net](#), Lincoln, NE
- [Community Asthma Initiative's Medical Home Project](#), Boston, MA
- [Growing Well Cincinnati Asthma Improvement Project](#), Cincinnati, OH

#### Engage with AAP on Social Media

Twitter is a powerful tool that allows individuals and organizations to amplify messages, connect with new and diverse networks, and gain access to local-, state- and federal-level decision-makers. As a pediatrician, Twitter also offers you the opportunity to be part of a community that encourages the exchanging of ideas around child health, while not being constrained by time or geography. To stay up-to-date on child health news, follow and engage with AAP on social media via @AmerAcadPeds, @AAPPres, @AAPNews and @healthychildren. You also can subscribe to AAP's official #tweetiatrician list on Twitter by visiting <https://twitter.com/AmerAcadPeds/lists/tweetiatricians>. Request to be added to the list by emailing AAP's social media community manager, Cassandra Blohowiak, at [cblohowiak@aap.org](mailto:cblohowiak@aap.org).

#### Seeking Volunteers: AAP Asthma Mobile Application

The AAP recently developed a [clinician asthma app](#) and a [teen asthma app](#) with the aim of strengthening and improving older children and adolescents' adherence and compliance with asthma self-management. Pediatrician volunteers are being sought to take part in the next round of pilot testing (two brief surveys), or informally provide feedback on the apps. If you are interested in participating in this pilot testing or providing feedback, please contact Mark Ruthman, Manager, Digital Publishing, at [MRuthman@aap.org](mailto:MRuthman@aap.org) or 800/433-9016, ext. 7640.

### In the News...

- ◆ [Children, Cigarettes and E-cigarettes](#)
- ◆ ['Good Bacteria' Key To Stopping Asthma](#)
- ◆ ['Green' Public Housing May Help Families Breathe Easier](#)
- ◆ [HIMSS Analytics: Slight Uptick in Telemedicine Adoption Rates](#)
- ◆ [Kids May Be More Likely to Get Asthma if Grandma Smoked While Pregnant: Study](#)
- ◆ [New Cell Type Appears to Drive Life-Threatening Food Allergies](#)
- ◆ [OLFUS Study Supports Safety, Efficacy of DBV's Viaskin Peanut Patch in Children with Peanut Allergy](#)
- ◆ [Patient-Centered Medical Home Upkeep Costs \\$8000 per Month](#)
- ◆ [Researchers find Protein that Plays Crucial Role In Development of Allergic Airway Inflammation](#)
- ◆ [Researchers One Step Closer to Developing Asthma Vaccine](#)
- ◆ [Regulatory T Cells May Reduce Susceptibility to Allergies](#)

