



American Academy of Pediatrics Access Principles

**As Approved by the Board of Directors
10/11/2011**

- ❖ Every child should receive care in a medical home with a primary care pediatrician, and access to pediatric medical subspecialists, pediatric surgical specialists, pediatric mental and dental professionals, and hospitals with appropriate pediatric expertise.
- ❖ Quality health care is a right, regardless of income, for every child, pregnant women, their families, and ultimately all individuals.
- ❖ Every child must have quality health insurance.
- ❖ All health insurance plans should have a comprehensive age-appropriate benefits package directed to the special needs of the pediatric population as recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP).
- ❖ All health plans should have payment rates that assure that children receive all recommended and needed services.

* The concept of quality health insurance includes portability, continuous coverage, streamlined and simplified administrative aspects, choice of clinician(s), and coordination with existing maternal and child health programs to ensure maximum health benefits to families.