

**American Academy of Pediatrics
Preamble to Patient-Centered Medical Home Joint Principles**

Every child deserves a medical home. The American Academy of Pediatrics describes the medical home as a model of delivering primary care that is accessible, continuous, comprehensive, family-centered, coordinated, compassionate, and culturally effective care. In February 2007, the attached consensus statement on medical home principles was developed and jointly endorsed by ACP, AAFP, AOA, and AAP.

Understanding the unique needs of children and families, the Academy wishes to highlight certain critical pediatric medical home principles:

- *Family-centered partnership:* A medical home provides family-centered care through a trusting, collaborative, working partnership with families, respecting their diversity and recognizing that they are the constant in a child's life.
- *Community-based system:* The medical home is an integral part of the community-based system, a family centered- coordinated network of community-based services designed to promote the healthy development and well being of children and their families. As such, the medical home works with a coordinated team, provides ongoing primary care, and facilitates access to and coordinates with, a broad range of specialty, ancillary, and related community services.
- *Transitions:* The goal of transitions is to optimize life-long health and well-being and potential through the provision of high-quality, developmentally appropriate, health care services that continue uninterrupted as the individual moves along and within systems of services and from adolescence to adulthood.
- *Value:* Recognizing the importance of quality health care, appropriate payment for medical home activities is imperative. A high-performance health care system requires appropriate financing to support and sustain medical homes that promote system-wide quality care with optimal health outcomes, family satisfaction, and cost efficiency.

Resources:

American Academy of Pediatrics National Center of Medical Home Initiatives for Children With Special Needs www.medicalhomeinfo.org

American Academy of Pediatrics; Medical Home Initiatives for Children With Special Needs Project Advisory Committee. The Medical Home (RE9262). Pediatrics. 2002;110(1):184-186.

<http://aappolicy.aappublications.org/cgi/content/full/pediatrics;110/1/184>

American Academy of Pediatrics; Committee on Hospital Care. Family-Centered Care and the Pediatrician's Role. Pediatrics 2003 112: 691-696.

<http://aappolicy.aappublications.org/cgi/content/full/pediatrics;112/3/691>

American Academy of Pediatrics; Committee on Community Health Services The pediatrician's role in community pediatrics. Pediatrics. 1999; 103(6):1304-1306.
<http://aappolicy.aappublications.org/cgi/content/full/pediatrics;103/6/1304>

American Academy of Pediatrics, American Academy of Family Physicians, and American College of Physicians-American Society of Internal Medicine
A Consensus Statement on Health Care Transitions for Young Adults With Special Health Care Needs. Pediatrics 2002 110: 1304-1306.
<http://aappolicy.aappublications.org/cgi/content/full/pediatrics;110/6/S1/1304>

American Academy of Pediatrics; Council on Children With Disabilities. Care Coordination in the Medical Home: Integrating Health and Related Systems of Care for Children With Special Health Care Needs. Pediatrics 2005 116: 1238-1244.
<http://aappolicy.aappublications.org/cgi/content/full/pediatrics;116/5/1238>

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