



AAP RECOGNIZES CHILD HEALTH DAY BY PROCLAIMING THAT

Every Child Deserves a Medical Home

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) will recognize Child Health Day—on Monday, October 5th this year—by focusing on an issue close to its heart, and that of all the children, families and professionals it serves—the family-centered medical home. The Academy will celebrate by increasing awareness and the understanding of what a **MEDICAL HOME** is and why every child deserves one.

The Academy defines **MEDICAL HOME** as the kind of care we all want and deserve. A **MEDICAL HOME** is based on a trusting partnership between a child, a child's family and the pediatric team who oversees the child's health and well-being.

Child Health Day is an opportunity to consider the elements which comprise a true medical home.

A MEDICAL HOME means, for example, that:



The pediatric team and other health care providers

- Know a child's health history
- Listen to the concerns and needs of the child and the family
- Work in partnership with the child and family to ensure that both the medical and non-medical needs are met
- Create a trusting, collaborative relationship with the child and family
- Treat the child with compassion and an understanding of his/her strengths
- Develop a care plan with the child and family when needed
- Respect and honor the child's culture and family traditions



The family and the child

- Are comfortable sharing concerns and questions with the pediatric team and other health care providers
- Routinely communicate the child's needs and family priorities to the primary care provider, who promotes communication and coordination between the family and other health care providers, as well as educational and community services when necessary

Examples of patient-centered services in a MEDICAL HOME may include:



24-hour contact



Extended access to care



Information describing the practice and how to access appropriate care (e.g., patient brochure or Web site)



Care coordination

The Academy is reaching out to health care providers, parents, children, teachers, child care providers, and others on Child Health Day to spread the word about **MEDICAL HOME** and what it can mean to them. We are encouraging parents and children to be active participants in a **MEDICAL HOME** and to open a dialogue with their pediatric team about how to make the most of it.

Additional information about medical home can be found at <http://www.medicalhomeinfo.org/about/ChildHealthDay2009.html>.

We hope you will join us in spreading the word about this important initiative and the fact that *EVERY child deserves a MEDICAL HOME.*



CHILD HEALTH DAY 2009

**EVERY CHILD DESERVES A
MEDICAL HOME**

National Center for Medical Home Implementation

A cooperative agreement between the Maternal and Child Health Bureau/HRSA and the American Academy of Pediatrics

In recognition of Child Health Day, the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and the National Center for Medical Home Implementation, a program of the American Academy of Pediatrics funded by a cooperative agreement with HRSA's Maternal and Child Health Bureau, are celebrating by spreading the word about why "Every Child Deserves a Medical Home."