

What is a Medical Home?

A medical home is not just a building, house, or hospital. It is an approach to providing high quality, coordinated health care that emphasizes the partnership between doctors and families. Children and youth who have a medical home receive the care they need from a pediatrician, family physician, or health care professional who partners with their families. A medical home identifies and helps coordinate all medical and non-medical services needed to help children reach their full potential.

Why is "Medical Home" Important to You & Your Child?

- With strong, trusting relationships, health providers really stand behind you, your child and family
- Good relationships with committed providers relieve you of some of the stress of coordinating all the services your child needs

Your Medical Home



Supporting Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs

Statewide Parent Advocacy Network

American Academy of Pediatrics
NJ Chapter

New Jersey Pediatric Council
On Research & Education

New Jersey Department of Health and
Senior Services

American Academy of Pediatrics
DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®
New Jersey Chapter



In a Medical Home:

- ☑ I am valued and treated as the expert on my child.
- ☑ I am treated as a central partner on my child's health care team.
- ☑ My child's health care provider and I share respect and trust.
- ☑ My culture and religious beliefs are valued.
- ☑ My preferences for treatment and care are met when possible.
- ☑ My provider partners with me and my child to learn about and meet my child's medical and non-medical needs.
- ☑ My child receives his/her check ups (vaccinations) and urgent care (24/7).
- ☑ I get help accessing specialty care or community services when needed.
- ☑ My child's doctor shares helpful information with other members of the care team and helps manage my child's care.
- ☑ I feel supported when my child gets sick or has a special health care needs.
- ☑ I am given information to help me understand my child's ongoing health needs including parent-to-parent support.
- ☑ My doctor makes sure I understand the treatment choices for my child.

A Medical Home Should Be...

- ☐ **ACCESSIBLE**
 - Care is provided in the child's community and is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
 - All insurance, including Medicaid and NJ FamilyCare, is accepted and changes are accommodated
- ☐ **FAMILY CENTERED**
 - Recognition that the family is the principal caregiver and the center of strength and support for children
 - Unbiased and complete information is shared on an ongoing basis
- ☐ **CONTINUOUS**
 - Same primary pediatric health care professionals are available from infancy through adolescence
 - Assistance with transitions (to school, home, and adult services) is provided
- ☐ **COMPREHENSIVE**
 - Includes sick visits and well visits
 - Provides educational and community referrals
- ☐ **COORDINATED**
 - Families are linked to support, educational, and community-based services
 - Information is centralized
- ☐ **COMPASSIONATE**
 - Concern for well-being of child and family is expressed and demonstrated
- ☐ **CULTURALLY COMPETENT**
 - Family's culture and religious beliefs are recognized, valued, and respected

National Medical Home Resources

Family Voices National Center for Family-Professional Partnerships
www.familyvoices.org/info/ncfpp/

Healthy Children (parenting site of aap.org)
www.healthychildren.org

Institute for Family Centered Care
www.familycenteredcare.org

National Center for Medical Home Implementation
www.medicalhomeinfo.org

New Jersey Medical Home Resources

Family Voices New Jersey
www.spannj.org/familywrap/familyvoices

New Jersey Family to Family Health Center
www.spannj.org/family2family/

New Jersey Parent to Parent
www.spannj.org/support/familywrap/parent2parent

NJ Department of Health and Senior Services
Special Child Health and Early Intervention Services (SCHEIS)
www.nj.gov/health/fhs/sch

How Can Families Help in a Medical Home?

"Families are key to promoting medical home at the practice, policy and practical level and accomplishing our goal of a medical home for every child. Families are best able to communicate with others advocating for the needs of their children. They also have an important role to play in educating healthcare professionals around the changes in attitudes, behaviors, practices, and procedures that are needed to truly implement medical home." **Merle McPherson, MD, FAAP and Parent Pioneer in establishing the Medical Home**

"Working in partnership with my son's doctors since his birth, has given my son a better quality of life, and my family the power to believe he will mature into the healthy and productive young man we have always dreamed he would be."

- A Parent of a child with special health care needs



This project is a collaboration of the Statewide Parent Advocacy Network, the American Academy of Pediatrics, New Jersey Chapter & New Jersey Pediatric Council on Research and Education, New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, New Jersey Department of Human Services, New Jersey Department of Children and Families, and 20 other state and non-profit agencies and organizations committed to improving healthy outcomes for children and adolescents with special health care needs, and their families.



"A stronger child today, is a stronger community tomorrow."

Beatrice Maidana, MD

How to make the Most of Your Child's Visit to your Doctor

- Bring a list of questions/concerns you have about your child
- Share information about your child (health, education, social-emotional development)
- Ask about community resources
- Ask about follow-up and after hours care
- To learn about age appropriate developmental milestones go to <http://www.spannj.org/Family2Family/resources.htm>

For more information about how to partner with your child's health provider contact:

Statewide Parent Advocacy Network (SPAN)
Program Director at 908-537-4673
www.spannj.org/family2family/medical_home/index
Pediatric Council on Research & Education (NJPCORE)
Program Director at 609-588-9988
www.njpcore.org/base/programs/medicalhome
NJ Department of Health and Senior Services
SCHEIS Program Manager: 609-777-7778
<http://www.state.nj.us/health/fhs/>

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