

FACT SHEET: Medical Home



What is a Medical Home?

A medical home is not a building or hospital. It's a way of providing care. It means your child has a trusted health care provider and team who work with your family to give ongoing, complete care.

Your pediatric team:

- Knows your child's health history and listens to your concerns
- Works with you to meet the needs of your child and family
- Builds a trusting relationship with you and your child
- Treats your child with compassion and understands their strengths
- Creates a care plan with you and your child

A medical home should be:

- Accessible: Easy to get care, including location and insurance coverage
- Family-centered: Families are partners in all decisions
- Comprehensive: Offers preventive, primary and specialty care
- Continuous: One primary health care provider cares for your child from infancy to adulthood
- Comprehensive: Offers preventive, primary and specialty care
- Coordinated: Care plan shared with all providers and community resources
- Respectful: Values your family's culture, language and traditions

How can a medical home benefit my child and family?

Working closely with your child's health care team leads to better health. In a medical home, you and your child feel comfortable asking questions and sharing concerns, needs and priorities. You also get help connecting with other providers and community services.

Tips on making the most of your child's health appointments:

Before the visit:

- Write down your questions and tell the office about any special health needs

During the visit:

- Ask questions if something isn't clear
- Repeat what you understand and confirm with the doctor
- Share what you need to keep your child healthy and ask for an "After-Visit Summary"

After the visit:

- Follow up if needed and contact the office if you still have questions or concerns

Sources: <https://www.healthychildren.org> and <https://www.aap.org>