

What Is a Children's Medical Home?

...it is ... “..an approach to providing comprehensive primary care for the Child in Partnership with Parents/Families



“The Medical Home Is Not A Final Destination Instead, It Is A Model For Achieving Primary Care Excellence ..”



accessible,



continuous,



comprehensive,



family centered,



coordinated,



compassionate,



culturally effective



American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN™



Michigan Chapter

A medical home is defined as primary care that is

Accessible

24-hour access to care with clinician support (eg., advanced scheduling evening and weekend hours)

Continuous,

- Knows the health history and develops a care plan with the child/youth when needed

Comprehensive,

Follow up with any other health care providers a child/youth received care from when necessary

Family centered,

Partnership with patients and families in their preventive acute and chronic care needs

Coordinated,

Continuity and integration of care across all of the patient's conditions and health care needs

Compassionate,

Treat the child/youth with understanding of his/her strengths creating a trusting collaborative relationship

Culturally Effective.”

Respect and honor the culture and family traditions of the child/youth and their family

Joint Principles of the Patient-Centered Medical Home.

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)

The medical home is best described as a model or philosophy of primary care that is patient-centered, comprehensive, team-based, coordinated, accessible, and focused on quality and safety. It has become a widely accepted model for how primary care should be organized and delivered throughout the health care system, and is a philosophy of health care delivery that encourages providers and care teams to meet patients where they are, from the most simple to the most complex conditions.

It is a place where patients are treated with respect, dignity, and compassion, and enable strong and trusting relationships with providers and staff. Above all, the medical home is not a final destination instead, it is a model for achieving primary care excellence so that care is received in the right place, at the right time, and in the manner that best suits a patient's needs.

- In 2007, the major primary care physician associations developed and endorsed the [Joint Principles of the Patient-Centered Medical Home](#).
- The model has since evolved, and today the PCPCC actively promotes the medical home as defined by the [Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality \(AHRQ\)](#).

Joint Principles of the Patient-Centered Medical Home

The Medical Home is an approach to the delivery of primary care that is:

1. **Patient-centered:** A partnership among practitioners, patients, and their families ensures that decisions respect patients' wants, needs, and preferences, and that patients have the education and support they need to make decisions and participate in their own care.
2. **Comprehensive:** A team of care providers is wholly accountable for a patient's physical and mental health care needs, including prevention and wellness, acute care, and chronic care.

Features of the Medical Home

3. **Coordinated:** Care is organized across all elements of the broader health care system, including specialty care, hospitals, home health care, community services and supports.
3. **Accessible:** Patients are able to access services with shorter waiting times, "after hours" care, 24/7 electronic or telephone access, and strong communication through health IT innovations.
4. **Committed to quality and safety:** Clinicians and staff enhance quality improvement through the use of health IT and other tools to ensure that patients and families make informed decisions about their health.