This is the third edition of the OCCYSHN Medical Home newsletter. If this is your first newsletter, the goal is to inform health care providers about state medical home activities with an emphasis on children and youth with special health needs and to provide information on how you and your practice can get involved. The information in this newsletter is a collaborative effort involving staff of the Office of Health Policy and Research (OHPR), the Oregon Pediatric Improvement Partnership (OPIP), the Oregon Rural-based Practice Research Network (ORPRN), the Oregon Pediatric Society’s START project, and the Oregon Center for Children and Youth with Special Health Needs (OCCYSHN) at the Child Development and Rehabilitation Center at Oregon Health & Science University.

**Office of Health Policy and Research (OHPR):** Oregon’s Patient-Centered Primary Care Home Program Launches Online Recognition System.

In its Action Plan for Health, the Oregon Health Policy Board charged the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) with providing access to a Patient-Centered Primary Care Home (PCPCH) for all of its covered lives including Medicaid, state employees, and Oregon educators with the goal of achieving access to a PCPCH for 75% of all Oregonians by 2015. To meet this goal, the OHA launched a Patient-Centered Primary Care Home Program to transform the delivery of primary care. The standards and attributes of what Oregon defines as a Primary Care Home were based on the work of a diverse group of stakeholders who participated in the PCPCH Standards Advisory Committee.

The PCPCH Program recently launched a centralized online application and recognition system. They are currently accepting applications for PCPCH recognition, and over 20 clinics have already applied. Recognition is based on achieving standards for the core attributes of a PCPCH, which are:

- Accessible
- Accountable
- Comprehensive
- Continuity
- Coordinated
- Patient and Family Centered
Please visit www.primarycarehome.oregon.gov for more information and to access the Recognition Application, Self-Assessment Form, Implementation Guide, Technical Assistance and Reporting Guidelines, and FAQs. You may also contact the PCPCH Program with questions at PCPCH@state.or.us or call 503-373-7768.

**Oregon Pediatric Improvement Partnership (OPIP):** Enhancing Child Health in Oregon Primary Care Learning Community (ECHO).

On November 5, the Oregon Pediatric Improvement Partnership (OPIP), in collaboration with the Oregon Rural Practice-Based Research Network (ORPRN), launched the “Enhancing Child Health in Oregon Primary Care Learning Community.” The ECHO project has the goal of assisting practices in implementing the concepts of Medical Home by achieving the Oregon Patient Centered Primary Care Home (PCPCH) Standards. The project will help to identify which aspects of Medical Home have the most impact on patient outcomes. It will also categorize the unique challenges and barriers at the practice level to achieving these standards in practices that care for children. While there have been many projects focusing on Medical Home in Oregon, this learning collaborative is focused specifically on pediatric and family medicine practices, giving it a unique emphasis on the pediatric population.

Eight practices from around the state have been recruited for participation in this learning collaborative. The first learning session focused on practice-based methods for Identifying Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHN). The next learning session will focus on care coordination for this vulnerable population.

At the end of each learning session, the practices adopt an AIM statement and plan for implementation (initial steps of the PDSA or plan-do-study-act quality improvement cycle) that will carry the work forward until the next learning session. Both OPIP and ORPRN provide staff to facilitate practice changes in between learning sessions. The ECHO project will present a total of five learning sessions over the next two and a half years. By the end of the learning collaborative, project staff will develop a technical assistance package based on lessons learned from these 8 practices for use with other practices embarking on medical home quality improvement. For more information about the project, contact R.J. Gillespie, MD, gillesrj@ohsu.edu or Colleen Reuland, MS, reulandc@ohsu.edu.

**START:** Screening Tool and Referral Training (START) project of the Oregon Pediatric Society (OPS)

The START initiative for pediatric primary care presents training sessions on important clinical issues for health care providers in their local communities. START has hit the 1,000 mark! Over 1,000 pediatric medical professionals across the state have now
been trained in broad based developmental and autism screening and referral, and/or maternal depression screening and referral. The project is currently reaching out to practices and clinics to expand the reach of the maternal depression one hour lunch and learn module, so if you know of a site that may be interested, please have them contact the OPS staff.

The content is also growing. This month the project will be beta testing a new “Autism Spectrum in Your Practice” lunch-and-learn format which focuses on the management of the child with an autism spectrum disorder (ASD) in primary care once a diagnosis has been made. They also will be beta testing a new “Adolescent Depression Screening, Assessment, Diagnosis and Treatment in Your Practice” lunch-and-learn in January. In addition, an early childhood social-emotional/mental health module planning effort is underway.

OPS is pleased and excited to introduce their new START Coordinator Abby Engebose, who has joined the team and began her role December 1, 2011. Please contact her at abby.engebose@oraap.org with any questions or to set up a training in your community. For more information on the START project, please also go to www.oraap.org and click the START logo on the front page to take you to the newly produced 3rd Year Report.

**Oregon Center for Children and Youth with Special Health Needs (OCCYSHN):** The OCCYSHN Care Coordination Toolkit and Upcoming “Coffee Consultation” Webinars

OCCYSHN staff have developed two new initiatives to support medical home transformation in Oregon with a focus on children and youth with special health needs (CYSHN): the OCCYSHN Care Coordination Toolkit and upcoming “Coffee Consultation” webinars. Care coordination is a critical part of medical home transformation, and the goal of the online OCCYSHN Care Coordination Toolkit (www.ohsu.edu/xd/outreach/occyshn/programs-projects/providers.cfm) is to support primary care providers in the implementation of a comprehensive care coordination program in their offices. The toolkit provides a brief discussion of care coordination, describes necessary changes in office infrastructure, lists specific activities and tools for both basic and enhanced care coordination services, and links those activities to Oregon’s Patient Centered Primary Care Home (PCPCH) standards when appropriate.

The toolkit is based on two primary resources, the National Center for Medical Home Implementation’s (NCMHI) online interactive toolkit entitled, Building Your Medical Home, at www.pediatricmedhome.org, and the Medical Home Practice-Based Care Coordination workbook (McAllister, Presler & Cooley, 2007), www.medicalhomeimprovement.org/pdf/MHPracticeBasedCC-Workbook_7-16-07.pdf from the Center for Medical Home Improvement (CMHI), www.medicalhomeimprovement.org.
This winter the OCCYSHN will begin a series of monthly 30-minute “Coffee Consultation” webinars that focus on clinical issues for CYSHN. Health care providers can participate through their home or office computers. The sessions will be presented at 8 AM mid-week with 20 minutes formal presentation and 10 minutes for questions and case discussion. Follow-up with the speaker will be available by email after the session. Initial topics will include “Sleep 201: What to Do When Melatonin Doesn’t Work”; “Tips for a Successful Office Visit”; and “Special Issues in Sedation for CYSHN”. Information on the date, time, topic and how to sign up will be available on our website later this month. Please contact me with suggestions for topics nickelr@ohsu.edu.

**Next Edition:** Spring 2012.

Beginning with the Spring 2012 newsletter, OCCYSHN will highlight an exemplary medical home practice. Please send nominations as well as information about medical home activities in your community and any questions about the material in the newsletter to me at nickelr@ohsu.edu.