



# IN CONVERSATION

WITH THE NATIONAL MEDICAL HOME AUTISM INITIATIVE

NEWSLETTER FOR MEDICAL HOME PARTNERSHIPS

Issue 2: Spring 2007

## You've identified a child with social-emotional issues...now what?

After Jane Squires and Diane Bricker developed the Ages and Stages Questionnaires developmental screening tool, they began getting requests from professionals for a tool that looked specifically at social emotional behavior. Then, once the Ages and Stages Questionnaires: Social-Emotional screener began to be used in the field, professionals sought further guidance on how to determine interventions to help children with social - emotional issues.

Those requests resulted in the development of a systematic approach called Activity-Based Intervention: Social Emotional, mapped out in the new book An Activity-Based Approach to Developing Young Children's Social Emotional Competence.

Take a look at this example to see how ABI:SE works.

FULL ARTICLE & FREE DOWNLOAD >>

<http://www.brookespublishing.com/newsletters/ec-article-0207.htm>

Activity-based approaches and learning activities...

An Activity-Based Approach to Developing Young Children's Social Emotional Competence by Jane Squires & Diane Bricker

<http://www.brookespublishing.com/store/books/squires-7373/index.htm>

Ages & Stages Learning Activities

<http://www.brookespublishing.com/store/books/twombly-7705/index.htm>

## Autism Society of WI 2007 Annual Conference

May 10-12, 2007

Kalahari Resort & Convention Center - Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin

### Keynote Speakers

Thursday May 10th	<b>Dr. Jed Baker</b>
Friday May 11th	<b>Judy Endow</b>
Saturday May 12th	<b>Temple Grandin</b>

Register now at <http://www.asw4autism.org/>

*One day registration fee scholarship available to Medical Home Partners  
Contact Christine Breunig for more info*

# U OF M STUDY FINDS THAT PRIMARY MEDICAL CARE FOR CHILDREN WITH AUTISM NEEDS IMPROVEMENT

*Care Does Not Meet Criteria Set By American Academy of Pediatric*

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (April 2, 2007)

Children with autism do not receive the same quality of primary care as children with other special health care needs, according to research from the University of Minnesota Medical School.

A study published in the *Archives of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine* found that parents of children with autism were less likely to report that their children received the type of primary care advocated by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) when compared to parents of children with other special health care needs. The "medical home model," which is defined by the AAP as accessible, continuous, comprehensive, family-centered, compassionate, culturally effective, and coordinated with specialized services was used as a measure for ideal primary care of children.

"This study shows that children with autism are less likely to receive the type of primary medical care that we hope for all children," says principal investigator Allison Brachlow, M.D., research fellow at the Department of Pediatrics. "With increasing numbers of children diagnosed with autism, it is imperative to understand how to provide optimal care for these children."

Specifically, Brachlow found that parents of children with autism were less likely to report their child's care was family-centered comprehensive, or coordinated. For example, parents of children with autism were less likely to report that their child's primary care provider spent adequate time with them, offered understandable explanations, or discussed outside services, such as speech and occupational therapies. Furthermore, parents of children with autism were more likely to report difficulties obtaining subspecialty care, such as referrals to a gastroenterologist or other subspecialty doctor.

Researchers analyzed data from the National Survey for Children's Health (NSCH) which surveyed 102,353 parents or legal guardians of children under 18 across the nation. Of this number, 495 children were identified as having autism and 18,119 were defined as children with other special health care needs such as asthma, attention deficit disorder, behavioral conduct problems, and depression.

As a disease, autism presents challenges which may contribute to difficulties in providing primary care.

"While there is a recognized genetic component to autism, the cause is still unknown. Additionally, the diagnosis of autism is clinical, meaning there are no blood tests to determine if a patient has autism. Currently, there are many therapies and treatments for autism, each with varying degrees of supporting scientific evidence." Brachlow notes, "Epidemiological research is challenging because children with autism appear to be a heterogeneous group. Further research is needed to determine and implement the best models of primary care delivery for children with complex medical conditions, such as autism."

According to the Autism Society of America, autism is estimated to affect approximately one in every 150 births. This accounts for approximately 1.5 million Americans who have been diagnosed with some form of autism, which varies in its severity. It is expected that the number could reach 4 million within ten years.

The Academic Health Center is home to the University of Minnesota's six health professional schools and colleges as well as several health-related centers and institutes. Founded in 1851, the University is one of the oldest and largest land grant institutions in the country. The AHC prepares the new health professionals who improve the health of communities, discover and deliver new treatments and cures, and strengthen the health economy.

## **Parents are able to access their child's immunization record on-line....**

"As part of the Public Immunization Record Access feature, parents and legal guardians can now have access to look up their child's immunization record in the Wisconsin Immunization Registry (WIR). Many children in Wisconsin receive immunizations from more than one provider.

Without access to a child's immunization information, it can be difficult to know which vaccine a child needs at any particular time.

You can now log onto the registry at <http://dhfsWIR.org> to check for immunization information. In the Public Immunization Record Access section you will find a blue "Public Immunization Record Access" hyperlink.

When you click on the hyperlink a screen will appear that will require you to enter a first name, last name, birth date and either a Social Security or Medicaid number. If your immunization provider is using the registry and has entered your child's Social Security number or Medicaid ID, you will be able to access their record.

If you receive a message stating that one of these numbers are not entered into the system you will have to contact your health care provider to have them enter that data for you. Your health care provider does need approval from you to enter the social security number into the system."

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## **Wisconsin First Step Help Book 2007**

### **A Directory of Services for Children with Special Needs**

Now Available On-Line at: <http://www.mch-hotlines.org>

Five regional directories are available, at no charge, each serving specific counties in Wisconsin.

Directories can also be provided in printed format by contacting Wisconsin First Step at (800) 642-7837 or [wispubhealth@mch-hotlines.org](mailto:wispubhealth@mch-hotlines.org).

## FIRST ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL NATTAP CONFERENCE

The Network of Autism Training and Technical Assistance Programs (NATTAP)  
And the Autism Society of America present...

*COMMON ISSUES. COMMON SOLUTIONS.*

*INFORMATION SHARING ACROSS THE WORLD.*

*Hosted by the Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence*

**September 26-28, 2007**

**Columbus Convention Center - Columbus, OH USA**

**For more information, please visit: [www.ocali.org/nattap2007](http://www.ocali.org/nattap2007)**

Or email: Dr. Brenda Smith Myles (Conference Chair) or  
Jill Hudson (Conference Coordinator) at [nattap@ocali.org](mailto:nattap@ocali.org)

launch a new foundation for programs and  
services for children with ASD.

This forum will provide opportunities for professionals and parents to address international, national, state, regional, and local issues concerning current models of systems, training and technical assistance, data-based decision making, and systems wide capacity building, with the ultimate goal of improving outcomes for school-age children with autism spectrum disorders (ASD).

Empirically- validated interventions will be reviewed. PBIS models across the nation will also be highlighted.

Professionals from across disciplines; state special education directors and autism specialists; influential, prominent leaders including legislators; and leaders from across the world will join us as we create a conference atmosphere that encourages networking and an exchange of ideas that will

### **Conference features include:**

Review of the prevalence rates of autism spectrum disorders and implications for each state. Presentation of empirically validated programs and initiatives to build capacity and increase learner outcomes. Overview of national trends and services in the field of autism. Facilitated roundtable discussions across topics. Networking opportunities across states, disciplines, and professional levels. Distribution of Technical Assistance guide. Review of National Teacher Competencies in ASD.

### **Content areas will include:**

Positive Behavior Intervention; Systems Models; A Review of Systems: National, Statewide and Regional; Comprehensive

Programming; Instructional Techniques and ; Building Communities of Practice; Credentials, Standards and Related Issues; Family systems and needs; Early Intervention

Models; Transition to Adulthood; Use of Technology and Assistive Technology; Higher Education

## INVITATION TO JOIN AAP COUNCIL ON CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

I understand that your practice is currently part of the National Medical Home Autism Initiative at the Waisman Center. Let me take this opportunity to invite you to join the AAP Council on Children with Disabilities, as autism is a major area of interest for the COCWD.

### **A little about us:**

The COCWD is composed of almost 500 members, most of whom are neurodevelopmental pediatricians, developmental and behavioral pediatricians, or general pediatricians who care for or have an interest in children and youth with special health care needs (CYSHCN).

### **Recent autism-specific materials developed by the COCWD:**

#### ["Understanding Autism Spectrum Disorders"](#)

This 44 page booklet, written for parents, provides critical information about autism spectrum disorders and answers all the most common questions asked by parents about ASD. ASD has lifelong conditions and this booklet will help identify symptoms so that an intervention program can be started as soon as possible.

#### ["Is Your One-Year Old Communicating with You?"](#)

This brochure helps encourage parents to share any concerns they have about their baby's language development as early as possible. Provides early language and social milestones that parents can watch for in their one-year-old child.

#### ["The Pediatrician's Role in the Diagnosis and Management of Autistic Spectrum Disorder in Children"](#) (Policy Statement & Technical Report) - May 2001 (currently under revision)

Recent autism-focused education programs presented at the AAP National Conference & Exhibition (October 2006) and sponsored by the COCWD: "Early Identification and Evaluation of Autism" and "Tailoring Treatment in Autism"

<http://www.medicalhomeinfo.org/about/CSOCWDed.html>

### **Benefits of membership in the COCWD:**

The COCWD connects with its members through contacts to local AAP chapters, a "members-only" Listserv®, a tri-annual e-Newsletter, a comprehensive website with resources that complement COCWD policies, and numerous educational offerings presented each year. In addition, COCWD members are given opportunities to: provide expert opinion and review, provide feedback on current policy, submit educational topics, and serve as faculty on COCWD-sponsored education sessions.

Additional COCWD policies, publications, & educational offerings focus on topics including: autism; care coordination; care of children and youth with cerebral palsy; developmental surveillance and screening; early intervention services; education services for CYSHCN; home care of CYSHCN; managed care and CYSHCN; sexuality of children and adolescents with developmental disabilities; and transitions.

### **Please join us online:**

1. Go to [www.aap.org/moc](http://www.aap.org/moc) and login with your AAP ID number and password.
2. Click on "Join A Section or Council" under "Get Involved".
3. Chose Council on Children with Disabilities, answer a few questions, and click "Submit". Upon submission, you will receive an invoice for the \$25 annual COCWD dues. Membership in COCWD will be added upon receipt of dues payment.

### **More information can be found on our Web site: [www.medicalhomeinfo.org](http://www.medicalhomeinfo.org) .**

Click on the COCWD logo on the left side of the page.

Please contact me with any questions.  
Thank you,  
Stephanie Skipper

Manager, Council on Children with  
Disabilities

## Relationship-Based Intervention

### *Why and How to Make the Social Connection that Builds Growth and Development in Young Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders*

This three-hour training program by Rebecca Klaw with accompanying CD-ROM of printable information and handouts is designed to help the professional and/or parent work with young children with autism using a time-honored and highly successful developmental approach. The information presented is an eclectic blending of personal philosophy based on a long history of working with individuals with ASD, Dr. Stanley Greenspan's work (Floortime), Dr. Richard Solomon's work (The PLAY Project), and Susan Sonders' work (Giggletime). The information is supplemented by current and informative research. Rebecca Klaw adds pertinent anecdotes from over 20 years of experience working in the field of developmental disabilities and illustrates clinical techniques with interesting and informative video clips.

Part 1: Why building relationships is so important in working with young children with Autism Spectrum Disorders

Part 2: Basic strategies for building relationships with young children with Autism Spectrum Disorders

Part 3: Combining the basic strategies to create effective and therapeutic social routines for young children with Autism Spectrum Disorders

### CD-ROM

Contains downloadable slides and eight supplementary handouts including "Thought Provoking Research", "Self-Stimulatory Behavior" (as seen through the eyes of a developmentalist), "Engaging the Hard-to-Engage Child" and more.

Published by Autism Services by Klaw -- 2006

\$95 plus \$5 shipping and handling

For more information and to purchase using a credit card, go to [www.rebeccaklaw.com](http://www.rebeccaklaw.com)

To pay by check, go to the website above for instructions or fill in the attached order form and send with check or purchase order.

Autism Services by Klaw  
1010 LaClair Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15218

412/247-0599 (daytime)

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