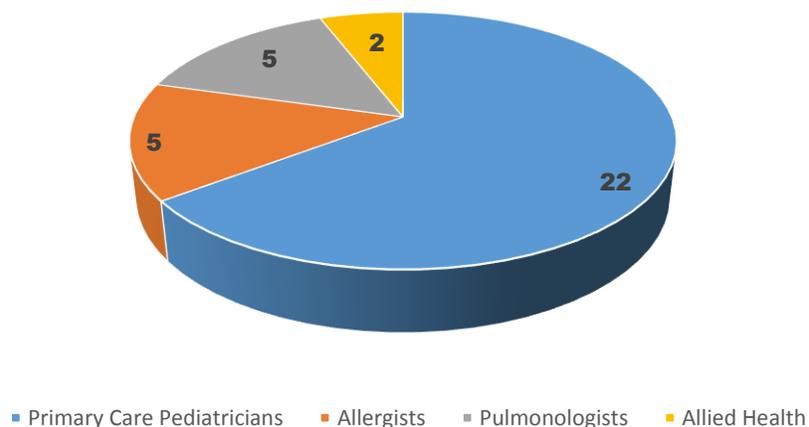


Medical Home Chapter Champions Program on Asthma, Allergy and Anaphylaxis (MHCCPAAA) 2015 Educational and Networking Conference Summary

In the fall of 2015, the Medical Home Chapter Champions Program on Asthma, Allergy and Anaphylaxis (MHCCPAAA) held an Educational and Networking Conference for pediatric chapter champions and chapter representatives passionate about improving asthma, allergy and anaphylaxis care in the context of the medical home. The MHCCPAAA is a program of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and was launched in 2010, focusing only on asthma. The [program](#) has since expanded to include allergy and anaphylaxis as focus areas. The conference took place on October 9 & 10, at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, Rosemont, IL.

There were 49 total conference attendees, with 34 chapters represented by champions (23) or proxies (11). Attendees included 22 primary care pediatricians, five allergists, five pulmonologists, and two allied health professionals. There were three faculty in addition to eight MHCCPAAA Project Advisory Committee (PAC) members, some of who also served as faculty. Two PAC members also serve as chapter champions – Washington and New York 3. Six staff members from the AAP also attended.

Chapters Represented by Medical Specialty



Compared to previous conferences, the composition of attendees was more diverse in terms of: mix of general pediatricians and subspecialists, race/ethnicity of attendees, and age/length of time in practice.

In addition to a focus on the program's goal of improving asthma, allergy and anaphylaxis care in the medical home, the conference served to highlight the chapter champions' network as well as provide attendees an opportunity to exchange ideas for advancing medical home implementation with other attendees from all around the United States. Conference attendees also learned strategies from leaders in pediatric primary care, allergy, and pulmonology, to improve outcomes for children with asthma, allergy, and anaphylaxis via the provision of

comprehensive team-based, family-centered care, and effective co-management between primary and subspecialty care settings.

Educational sessions included a mix of general plenary and breakouts, and focused on medical home, asthma, food allergy, culturally effective care, telehealth and quality improvement topics.

Plenary sessions included:

- *Medical Home: A Primer for Pediatrics and Chapter Champions* (Adriana Matiz)
- *Food Allergy and Anaphylaxis: Myths, Facts, and Addressing Misperceptions in the Primary Care Setting* (Michael Pistiner)
- *Food Allergy and Anaphylaxis: What's on Primary Care's Plate?* (Ruchi S. Gupta)
- *Critical Partnerships: Schools, Child Care, and Families* (Michael Pistiner and David Stukus)
- *Culturally Effective Care = Effective Care* (Rhonique Shields Harris)
- *Asthma Care: Advice from a Subspecialist* (Julie Katkin)
- *Children and Teens with Asthma: Raising the Floor in Pediatrics* (James Stout), and
- *Bringing It All Together: What's Your Action Plan?* (Chuck Norlin).

Breakout sessions included:

- *What's Hot in Food Allergy – What Will We Need to Know Tomorrow?* (David Stukus)
- *Approaches to Remote Monitoring and Telehealth* (James Stout - Moderator, Jay M. Portnoy, Mark Ruthman, David Stukus, and Tonya Winders)
- *Quality Improvement Meets Asthma, Allergy and Anaphylaxis* (David Stukus), and
- *Breaking Down the Barriers to Adherence* (Julie Katkin).

An electronic syllabus of all the conference presentations can be accessed online. Click [HERE](#) to download the syllabus.

The intention of the conference planning group was that through participation at the conference, attendees would be better equipped to:

- Provide guidance and support to health care professionals to advance the implementation of medical homes for children with asthma, allergy, and/or anaphylaxis.
- Apply and promote team-based, family-centered care and effective co-management between primary and subspecialty care settings to improve outcomes for children with asthma, allergy, and/or anaphylaxis.
- Evaluate the most up-to-date evidence and practice guidelines to distinguish myths vs. facts, and apply these in daily practice.
- Identify strategies for overcoming cultural barriers and educating patients and families to support and improve treatment adherence.
- Serve their local area as a Medical Home Chapter Champion, and leverage collaborative relationships, available resources, and networking opportunities to develop and implement a clear, measurable action plan for the next year.

At the end of the conference, all participants were asked to complete and submit a Commitment to Change Action Plan, in which they identified two changes they planned to make in their practice and chapter work, as a result of what they learned from the conference sessions and/or from interactions with conference attendees.

Some of the commitments recorded include:

- Communicating information learned on food allergy recommendations/guidelines
- Implement an electronic asthma action plan
- Integrate the use of asthma apps for patients and practice providers
- Reach out to AAP leaders
- Introduce common Spanish medical phrases into [EMR system]
- Work closely with school staff regarding asthma and allergy education, and
- Improve communication with primary care pediatricians

Throughout every session of the conference, the attendees were engaged and participated in lively, thoughtful discussion regarding the topic/issue at hand. From the conference evaluations, attendees were very satisfied with the conference content and organization overall, and noted that the conference exceeded expectations. They especially valued the breakout sessions and the opportunities provided to interact and engage with other attendees. Several champions commented that attending the conference really helped to reinvigorate them and help them feel more connected to the program and other chapter champions. A few quotes from the evaluations are shared below.

“Nothing substitutes face-to-face meetings”

“Great meeting. As a subspecialist, these interactions with pediatricians are crucial”

“Food allergy [information was] excellent”

“This was one of the best conferences I have ever attended”

The conference was made possible through generous funding support from the AAP Friends of Children Fund with some support from the overall MHCCPAAA funder, Allergy and Asthma Network.