



The Medical Home Portal

ri.medicalhomeportal.org

Background

The Medical Home Portal (MHP) was developed to help professionals and families who care for Children and Youth with Special Healthcare Needs (CYSHCN) find reliable information and access valuable local professional and community resources to improve their care, health, and outcomes. The Medical Home Portal is funded by the Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) – the designated Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Title V agency for the State of Rhode Island. The Rhode Island Department of Health will ensure the integrity of the MHP through the establishment of a Medical Home Portal Advisory Committee that is comprised of families, partner state agencies, community stakeholders, health professionals, and advocates.

Sections of the MHP

Diagnoses and Conditions

Children and Youth with Special Healthcare Needs can have complex and chronic conditions that may require primary care physicians and their teams to access information about treating, managing, and supporting these patients and their families. The Medical Home Portal's Diagnoses and Conditions section provides in-depth diagnosis modules for 51 chronic conditions in children/youth and includes clinical guidelines, expert insights, and recommendations. Within the modules, the *Services for Patients and Families* and *Resources* sections, compile experts' recommendations for specialists, services, and supports that a patient and their family may need.

For Physicians and Professionals

Under *Building a Medical Home*, the background on the medical home model of care is provided including [care coordination](#) – one of the key components of a medical home – as well as coding for related services. Information is also posted about services available within schools, feeding and nutrition issues, how to manage medical technologies, screening for and preventing of chronic conditions, and issues related to transitions for CYSHCN. In the *Health Supervision Guidelines* section, links are provided to published guidelines for a number of chronic conditions of children.

Parents and Families Section

This is the Medical Home Portal's largest section. It was developed with input from family members and contains resources for parents to be better informed and knowledgeable about their child/youth with special needs. There are also helpful advice about topics like *How to find good information*, *Before/after diagnoses*, *Frequently Asked Questions* about each condition listed in the diagnose module, and *How to Make a Care Notebook*.

Services Directory

The Medical Home Portal's *Services Directory* contains information on community and professional services for children, youth, and families in Rhode Island. Information on individual healthcare professionals has been included in collaboration with the Rhode Island Quality Institute's (RIQI) Provider Directory.

Users can see a list of all available services by clicking on a category name. The Services Directory's search tool gives users a listing of relevant service providers.

Get Customized Lists of Local Service Providers

As a registered Portal user, you can create your own customized lists of local service providers using the Portal's database. Once a list(s) is created, you can:

- Email, print, or save list(s)
- Modify existing lists
- Share list(s) with families, via email, to assist them with current needs and care plan updates
- Maintain list(s) of other providers to whom your practice frequently refers patients
- Add the information to a patient's medical record

Existing lists are updated with any new information whenever the list is accessed. Registering for an MHP account is easy:

1. Click on the Sign-in link.
2. Enter an email address. You will receive an email with a link to confirm your registration.

You only need an MHP account if you want to create a customized list.

Other Resources

In addition to the clinical information provided in the MHP, users can also access links to other helpful resources, including:

- Links to more than 4,200 informational and support resources, with a brief annotation to help determine the potential value of clicking on the link. Most of the links direct users to websites; however, some downloadable files and other types of resources are available.
- More than 200 patient education documents
- Nearly 400 tools for the practice, like questionnaires, algorithms, or growth charts
- Links to registries and clinical studies that are related to specific conditions (most are from clinicaltrials.gov)
- All references that are cited in MHP content (The *Information and Support and Bibliography* search fields require key words or terms. Narrow the results for *Patient Education and Tools for the Practice* by selecting a related diagnosis.)

Medical Home Portal Assistance

The Rhode Island Parent Information Network (RIPIN) Call Center can assist users in navigating through the MHP. Call 1-855-747-3224.