



Facts about Florida Family Medicine

- There are nearly 70,000 practicing family physicians in the United States, comprising 12 percent of all physicians in direct patient care.
- The Florida Academy of Family Physicians (FAFP) is the only professional association in Florida that solely represents the family physician.
- The FAFP has more than 4,000 members, including practicing family physicians, family medicine residents and medical students from across the state.
- The mission of the FAFP is to promote excellence in health care for Florida citizens, by advancing the specialty of family practice, and to serve the unique needs of its members.
- The FAFP is the Florida chapter of the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), the national association of family doctors that represents more than 94,000 practicing family physicians, residents, and medical students across the country.
- The FAFP's core purpose is to promote excellence in health care by advancing the specialty of family medicine. Through its association with the AAFP, the FAFP strives to achieve these goals:
 - To promote and maintain high quality standards for Florida's family physicians.
 - To provide advocacy, representation, continuing education, and leadership opportunities for Florida's family physicians.
 - FAFP will enable every person in Florida to recognize that having a family physician is vital to his or her health.
 - To preserve and promote quality, cost-effective health care for all Floridians through responsible advocacy and education.
- The FAFP understands that continuing education is vital to the effectiveness of every physician. Consequently, every member is required to complete 150 hours of Continuing Medical Education (CME) every three years.

- Because the specialty of family medicine requires comprehensive training, in-depth medical knowledge, a wealth of clinical skills, and an understanding of psychological influences, the continuum of care provided by family physicians exists no where else.
- Family physicians diagnose and treat 90 percent of all patient problems, including biological and mental health concerns. Nearly one in four of all office visits are made to general and family physicians annually. In 2001, office visits to general and family physicians numbered more than 210 million—76 million more than to any other specialty.

FAFP – Institute of Learning - Center of Office Practice Excellence (COPE)

- ✓ **AAFP Future of Family Medicine** – Implementing change that will show case the value of family medicine in the US health care delivery system in the 21st Century.
- ✓ **Every Floridian Deserves to have a *Medical Home*** –

Principles

Personal physician - each patient has an ongoing relationship with a personal physician trained to provide first contact, continuous and comprehensive care.

Physician directed medical practice – the personal physician leads a team of individuals at the practice level who collectively take responsibility for the ongoing care of patients.

Whole person orientation – the personal physician is responsible for providing for all the patient’s health care needs or taking responsibility for appropriately arranging care with other qualified professionals. This includes care for all stages of life; acute care; chronic care; preventive services; and end of life care.

Care is coordinated and/or integrated across all elements of the complex health care system (e.g., subspecialty care, hospitals, home health agencies, nursing homes) and the patient’s community (e.g., family, public and private community-based services). Care is facilitated by registries, information technology, health information exchange and other means to assure that patients get the indicated care when and where they need and want it in a culturally and linguistically appropriate manner.

Quality and safety are hallmarks of the medical home:

- Practices advocate for their patients to support the attainment of optimal, patient-centered outcomes that are defined by a care planning process driven by a

compassionate, robust partnership between physicians, patients, and the patient's family.

- Evidence-based medicine and clinical decision-support tools guide decision making
- Physicians in the practice accept accountability for continuous quality improvement through voluntary engagement in performance measurement and improvement.
- Patients actively participate in decision-making and feedback is sought to ensure patients' expectations are being met
- Information technology is utilized appropriately to support optimal patient care, performance measurement, patient education, and enhanced communication
- Practices go through a voluntary recognition process by an appropriate non-governmental entity to demonstrate that they have the capabilities to provide patient centered services consistent with the medical home model.
- Patients and families participate in quality improvement activities at the practice level.

Enhanced access to care is available through systems such as open scheduling, expanded hours and new options for communication between patients, their personal physician, and practice staff.

Background of the Medical Home Concept

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) introduced the medical home concept in 1967, initially referring to a central location for archiving a child's medical record. In its 2002 policy statement, the AAP expanded the medical home concept to include these operational characteristics: accessible, continuous, comprehensive, family-centered, coordinated, compassionate, and culturally sensitive care.

The Florida Academy of Family Physicians joins its parent national American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) and the American College of Physicians (ACP) in developing models for improving patient care called the "medical home."

FAFP Programs

- ✓ **Electronic Medical Records** – *EHR Now!* Training 74 practices along with the Florida Quality Improvement Organization, FMQAI, to adopt EHR technology for their practices.
- ✓ **Chronic Disease Management** – Through the FAFP Centers of Office Practice Excellence is training Florida Family Physicians to better address the health needs of patients with chronic diseases such as diabetes, obesity, COPD and osteoporosis.

- ✓ **Quality Improvement** – Is developing quality improvement programs for doctors to manager the data measuring the care of their patients through Disease Registries and Patient/Provider Report Cards. Training for these programs is embedded in the Chronic Disease Master Clinician Training Programs.
- ✓ **Practice Design** – FAFP is developing programs to make family physicians offices more efficient with both access and management of patient work flow within the office setting.
- ✓ **Group Visit Training** – All Center of Office Practice Excellence (COPE) programs utilize Group Visit training so that physicians and the medical team can work with patients with like chronic conditions to further educate them on the self-management of their disease.
- ✓ **EHR Workshops, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007** – FAFP continues to offer entry level training programs on why family physicians need to utilize EHR technology.
- ✓ **HIT Regional Exchange Centers** – Because of the FAFP's unique experience in working with family physicians promoting adoption of EHR systems, FAFP is engaged with all Office of National Coordinator of Health Information Technology (ONC) REC awardees. FAFP will be working with the RECs as they develop their implementation plans assisting primary care practices with EHR adoption and meaningful use.
- ✓ **Anti Tobacco Programs** – FAFP Foundation programs such as *Tar Wars* utilize family doctors and family medicine residents to educate fifth and sixth graders about the health risks associated with the use of tobacco products. In addition, the FAFP Foundation formed the Stop Nicotine Addiction Program (SNAP), the *mission* of which is to: *“Provide the framework for a statewide smoking cessation program to be utilized by physicians for their patients who smoke. The program promotes education and awareness of nicotine addiction and treatment opportunities to improve the health of Floridians by helping them quit smoking.”* Along with the American Lung Association of Florida and the Florida Osteopathic Medical Association, the FAFP Foundation is a founder of the Florida Partnership for Smoking Cessation. The Partnership is a new statewide coalition dedicated to reducing smoking rates in Florida by improving coverage, knowledge, and techniques to assist patients with quitting.
- ✓ **Medicaid Healthier Florida** - FAFP serves as an active advisor to this statewide Medicaid chronic disease management program for patients with diabetes.