

# Children With Special Health Care Needs

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## Definition of Children with Special Health Care Needs:

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***Children with special health care needs*** are those who have or are at increased risk for a chronic physical, developmental, behavioral, or emotional condition and who also require health and related services of a type or amount beyond that required by children generally (AAP, *Pediatrics* 102:1, July 1998).



## Medical Home

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***A medical home*** is an approach to providing health-care services in a high-quality and cost-effective manner. Primary care providers, families, and allied health care professionals act as partners in a medical home to identify and access all of the medical and non-medical services needed to help children and their families achieve their maximum potential.



## Tasks of the Medical Home for CSHCN:

- Provide “regular” pediatric care (check-ups, vaccines, etc.)
- Be knowledgeable
- Organize the team of providers (case management)
- Be available



## Family-Centered Care

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- The family is the constant.
- A family is a culture unto itself.
- Family issues affect the child.
- The child's problems affect the family.



## Family-Professional Collaboration

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- Facilitates open communication.
- Creates an atmosphere of trust.
- Respects cultural values.
- Recognizes that negotiation is essential.



## Community Resources

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- Types of supports for family and child:
  - Natural (grandparents, friends, etc.)
  - Informal (support groups, respite, camps, etc.)
  - Formal (school, SSI, etc.)



## Special Needs Ambulatory Block Curriculum

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- Chart review and Quality Assurance for one of the resident's patients who has SHCN.
- NY Foundling Hospital: Accompany OT, PT, and Pediatric Physiatrist on evaluation and treatment sessions for hospitalized children with SHCN.
- Clinic session with GI nurse clinician who treats SHCN children.
- Project DOCC home visit and parent interview