

Nemours Childrens Primary Care Achieves National Certification



Nemours Children's Primary Care has been awarded national certification as a Patient-Centered Medical Home in recognition of the high quality patient-centered and evidence-based care it provides to its patients. A Patient-Centered Medical Home is not a place, but rather a model of health care designed to improve how care is delivered. Within a Patient-Centered Medical Home care is delivered not just by an individual physician, but by a team of health professionals. Care is relationship-based and coordinated to meet each child's physical and mental health needs, with a special focus on prevention and wellness, acute care and chronic care. Families are an important part of the care team and are involved in all decisions about a child's health. The Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC) determined that all 14 of Nemours Children's Primary Care practices in central Florida meet AAAHC's strict standards for being certified as a Patient-Centered Medical Home.

"When we established the Nemours Children's Primary Care network five years ago, we were determined to provide the highest level of care for central Florida children and create an environment in which families are part of all decisions related to the health of their child," said Dr. Thomas Lacy, medical director of Nemours Children's Primary Care. "As part of the only health system in central Florida dedicated exclusively to the care of children, we had ideas about how to better meet the needs of our young patients and their families. Being certified as a Patient-Centered Medical Home is rewarding validation that we are on the right track."

Ambulatory health care organizations seeking certification by AAAHC undergo an extensive assessment and rigorous on-site survey by physicians, nurses, and administrators who are experts in the field of ambulatory health care. While some organizations label themselves a medical home, not all undergo the rigorous on-site survey process and are granted certification.

"Starting Nemours Children's Primary Care allowed us to build a children's health network geared to the needs of today's families. Achieving certification as a Patient-Centered Medical Home confirms we are delivering on our promise to families," noted Dr. Lacy.

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