

Care**NOTEBOOK**

A Tool for Organizing Your Child's Health Care Information



Presented By:

Exceptional Children's Assistance Center (ECAC) The NC Family to Family Health Information Center

What is a Care Notebook?

- An organizational tool for parents who have children with special health care needs or disabilities
- Use it to keep track of important information about your child's health care



How can a Care Notebook help me?

- It can help you organize all the information and paperwork that you get from many sources into one central location
- This will make it easier for you to find and share key information with others who are involved in your child's care

How do I use a Care Notebook?

- Track changes in your child's medication or treatment
- List telephone numbers for providers and community organizations
- Prepare for medical appointments
- File information about your child's health history
- Share new information with your child's providers

What are some tips for using the Care Notebook?

- Store the Care Notebook where it is easy to find
- Add new information to the Care Notebook whenever your child's treatment changes
- Take all or parts of the Care Notebook with you to appointments and hospital visits so the information you have will be easy to find and share



Getting started...

- Use all or just part of the pages we've included. Not all of the pages may apply to your family's situation
- Organize the information in a way that works for you
- Use dividers, tabs, plastic sheet protectors and folders to organize your completed pages
- For the technology gifted –save your pages on a flash drive

Step 1:

Gather information you already have

This may include reports from recent doctor's visits, recent hospital stay summaries, this year's school plan, test results, or informational pamphlets

Step 2:

- Look through the pages of the Care Notebook
 - Which of these pages could help you?
 - Choose the pages you like and print them to keep in a notebook or filing system
 - We suggest you print pages 6-22 to take to your child's medical appointments

Step 2: (continued)



- The Care Notebook is available electronically. You can keep it on a file on your computer or on a flash drive. This will allow you to keep the information on your computer and print out the pages you want when you need them.
- Additional pages of interest can be found at: <u>Building Your Care Notebook | National</u> <u>Center for Medical Home Implementation |</u> <u>American Academy of Pediatrics</u>

Step 3:

- Decide what information about your child is most important to keep in the Care Notebook
 - What information do you look up often?
 - What information do people caring for your child need?
 - Consider storing other information in a computer file, a file drawer or box where you can find it if needed.

Step 4:

Put the Care Notebook together

- Everyone has a different method for organizing information
- Make it easy for you to find the information you need
- Suggested supplies:
 - 3 ring binder
 - Large accordion file
 - Tabbed dividers
 - Pocket dividers
 - Plastic pages (color coded?)



What's next?

- Review the table of contents on page 5
 - Frequently used forms
 - Providers and resources
 - Treatment plans and care summaries



Activity

Review of pages

□ Discuss importance

What pages do you need in your child's Care Notebook?

Questions?

NC Family to Family Health Information Center A project of ECAC 907 Barra Row Suites 102-103 Davidson, NC 28036 1-800-962-6817



www.ecac-parentcenter.org

