

## **New Colorado Law Defines 'Medical Home' for Children It is More than Just a Primary Care Doctors Office**

**SECTION 1.** 25.5-1-103, Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended  
BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SUBSECTION to read:

(5.5) "Medical home" means an appropriately qualified medical specialty, developmental, therapeutic, or mental health care practice that verifiably ensures continuous, accessible, and comprehensive access to and coordination of community-based medical care, mental health care, oral health care, and related services for a child. A medical home may also be referred to as a health care home. If a child's medical home is not a primary medical care provider, the child must have a primary medical care provider to ensure that a child's primary medical care needs are appropriately addressed. All medical homes shall ensure, at a minimum, the following:

- (a) Health maintenance and preventative care;
- (b) Anticipatory guidance and health education;
- (c) Acute and chronic illness care;
- (d) Coordination of medications, specialists, and therapies;
- (e) Provider participation in hospital care; and
- (f) Twenty-four-hour telephone care.

(6) "Recipient" means any person who has been determined eligible to receive benefits or services under this title.

(7) "State board" or "board" means the medical services board created pursuant to section 25.5-1-301.

(8) "State department" means the department of health care policy and financing.

(9) "State designated agency" means an agency designated to perform specified functions that would otherwise be performed by the county departments, including the single entry point agencies and medical assistance sites.