

## Eden Park Pediatric Associates Transition Program

*At Eden Park Pediatrics our number one goal has always been to take care of your child. As your child enters adolescence, we will provide the information needed to help prepare them for the day they will transition to an adult provider. Please take time to read our transition policy below.*

Eden Park Pediatric Associates models its transition policy upon the guidelines provided by the American Academy of Pediatrics joint clinical report on transition and by Bright Futures. We believe that a smooth transition from adolescence to young adulthood includes the explicit transition from a pediatric to an adult health care model, and the eventual transfer of health care to adult providers. The process requires joint planning, preparation, and implementation to begin by age 14. At age 18, most youth in our practice will transition to an adult model of care. Modifications will be completed, as needed, for youth with intellectual disabilities. This will occur even though the actual transfer of care to adult providers may take place later. We honor the preferences of the youth and family regarding the eventual transfer of care to an adult primary care medical home, but we generally expect this to occur at sometime between 18 and 21 years of age.

Our approach to the care of young adults age 18 and older meets HIPPA and state privacy and consent requirements making the young adult the sole decision-maker about care and about the sharing of personal health information. Exceptions to this approach require legal authority through the signed consent of the young adult, legally valid custodial care or power of attorney documentation, or an adjudicated guardianship arrangement.

With the scheduled yearly exam a “transition readiness assessment questionnaire” will need to be completed by the adolescent if able, or by the parent or guardian if needed. There is no right or a wrong answer, the goal is to prepare the teen or young adult to take charge of their health.

We will also provide an age appropriate handout with tips for teens to take charge of their health. Including knowing their medications, what they are for, how to reorder medication, and being responsible to handle the office visit from scheduling the appointment to discussing their symptoms.

There are also resources available for any special needs you may have, including how to obtain an identification card, legal power of attorney, or adult day care services. We will be glad to assist you.

At Eden Park Pediatrics we look forward to continuing to care for your child through this transition period.