

**New York - Mid-Atlantic Consortium
for Genetic and Newborn Screening Services (NYMAC)
Call for Abstracts**

The New York – Mid-Atlantic Consortium For Genetic & Newborn Screening Services is seeking abstracts for posters and oral presentations for its summit and conference, *Improving Quality and Coordination of Care and Services for Children with Special Health Care Needs and their Families*, to be held in Baltimore, Maryland, on May 18 - 19, 2011. This summit is intended to showcase recent accomplishments of the regional collaborative and to highlight programs and initiatives from within our eight-state region (Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia).

NYMAC recognizes that health is a result of personal behavior, genetics, and environmental and economic factors that can be improved with comprehensive and coordinated medical care. To further our understanding of the interplay between these factors, the theme of this year's conference – *Improving Quality and Coordination of Care and Services for Children with Special Health Care Needs and their Families* - is one key for ensuring that individuals with heritable disorders and their families have access to quality care and appropriate genetic expertise and information in the context of a medical home. The program agenda will include a diverse selection of clinical, public health and advocacy topics, to help advance the personal and professional expertise of all participants.

This conference will attract a broad range of professionals in the medical, newborn screening, public health, education and insurance arenas as well as people whose lives are impacted by genetic and congenital disease including patients, families and advocates. .

Submissions addressing the following topics are encouraged:

- The role of consumers and consumer organizations in improvements in screening, services and coverage;
- Navigating the system from the parent's and patient's perspectives including recognizing and accessing needed services, advocating for people with special health care needs, finding the funds to provide for a child with special health care needs; concerns faced by families,
- Disparity issues including cultural, racial, educational, geographic and economic barriers;
- Transition to adult care;
- Developments in the newborn screening laboratory including expansion of the newborn screening panel, new technology, improving positive predictive value, molecular diagnosis, standardization across state lines and other topics;
- Developments in newborn screening follow-up, short-term and long-term including registries, integration of public health databases to improve health, partnerships among newborn screening follow-up, specialty care and primary care, and other topics;
- The science of genetic disease detection, treatment, variability of expression.
- Additional topics will be considered as well.

The deadline for submission of abstracts is **February 18, 2011**. Please limit the description of the poster or presentation to 250 words. Be sure to include complete contact information for the primary author/presenter, including name, institutional affiliation (if applicable) address, telephone and fax numbers and e-mail address. Include interesting and significant findings, and how your project advances the NYMAC goal of Improving Quality and Coordination of Care and Services for Children with Special Health Care Needs and their Families in the NYMAC Region. Indicate if you would prefer to present your information orally or as a poster. Posters should be no larger than 36 x 48 inches. The poster presenters will be required to attend to their posters at designated times throughout the conference in order to allow discussion with conference participants. Presentations are expected to be 15-20 minutes long and will be organized by topic.

Send abstracts electronically to Kate Tullis, Ph.D., at ktullis@nemours.org. All applicants will be notified of decisions by April 1, 2011.