



### **Pendleton Pediatrics Health Care Transition Policy**

Pendleton Pediatrics recognizes the special needs of your child and would like to prepare you for the next steps in your child's life.

Health care transition is the process of changing from a pediatric to an adult model of health care. The goal of transition is to optimize health and assist youth in reaching their full potential while maintaining costs, continuity of care and adherence to care. To achieve this goal requires an organized integration process to support youth in acquiring independent health care skills, preparing for an adult model of care, and transferring to new providers without disruption in care. To encourage independence in their own health care, one-on-one time may be spent with the provider and your teen during a well care visit.

We offer this information regarding transition to adult care when your child reaches 14 years of age. We will continue to see your child through age 18 but, as always, we want to make sure that any transition in care is organized, planned and successful.

Our approach to this process is a yearly evaluation of your child's readiness and maturity. You and your child will be asked to answer age-based questions regarding self-awareness, maturity and medical knowledge base. This information is evaluated and entered into the child's chart. The Care Management Team will discuss your responses and help you:

- Identify gaps in readiness
- Concerns for future care
- Identify resources for planning

At the 16-year visit, you and your child's care team will be given information regarding legal decision-making, guardianship, or self-advocacy. You will also receive insurance information, self-care management resources, emergency care planning and how to obtain legal documents if necessary.

We will assist you and your family with selecting an appropriate health care provider that is proficient in meeting your child's unique health care needs, insurance qualifications, and personal beliefs.

Pendleton Pediatrics will assist with appointment set-up, record transfer, specialist notes and behavioral health needs for the transition.

Once transfer is complete, the Pendleton Care Management Team will follow-up with the new provider and ensure that all records have been received and data is accurate.

Pendleton Pediatrics will continue to be available for collaborative care and consultative support. Pendleton Pediatrics will also reach out to the adult provider for feedback on transfer of care.

Please note: The continuum of care is based on the patient's needs and transition readiness not on age. Care, planning and transition for transfer may continue past the age of 18 for children with ASD or other special needs.