



Patient-Centered Care Checklist

This is an extra resource to go along with the original article:

[Healthcare & the patient-centered medical home](#)

Whether or not your practice seeks to become registered and recognized as a Patient-Centered Medical Home, there are fundamental steps to take toward becoming a patient-centric healthcare source. In addition to prioritizing the patient's needs, your practice should strive continuously to check off everything on the list below:

1. Focus on the whole patient

Health doesn't just apply to our physical state, but our mental and emotional wellness as well! Make sure to check in on how a patient might be feeling, and be prepared to give referrals to additional resources when needed.

2. Educate, educate, educate

This applies to both your staff and your patients. Ensure that your team members are well-versed in what it means to be patient-centric, and also be sure to give the patient as much applicable information as possible to help them make informed decisions about their care.

3. Spotlight on prevention

It's not just about getting a patient treated for an issue, but also about preventing issues from happening in the first place. Talk with your patients about best practices when it comes to their healthcare, plus the importance of early detection for many conditions and ailments

4. Increase accessibility

In order to serve patients in a timely matter, it's important to offer flexibility when it comes to scheduling. From things like extended office hours to a 24/7 phone service, providing patients with help whenever they need it is a big plus. It's also important to reduce appointment wait times (having patients fill out intake forms prior to their visit can help immensely with this!).

5. Invest in the proper technology

Electronic health records, an integrated communications platform, and electronic intake forms are imperative when it comes to sharing patient information quickly, accurately, and safely.