

## Region 4 Genetics Collaborative Genetic Expertise Workgroup

Here are two of the issues identified at the workgroup's face-to-face meeting on May 1, 2009.

### **Access to genetic services, including how genetic specialists communicate information to other providers and families and how they coordinate care (e.g., use of a medical home).**

The group is currently exploring:

- Examining practice models and scheduling models to maximize use of genetic specialists/counselors' time:  
This process intends to look at how genetic specialists can deliver services more effectively and maximize their time. To do this we are looking at different practice models used by genetic specialists/counselors in our region by identifying genetics clinics in our region then interviewing lead person/coordinating/scheduling person in each clinic about practice models. This applies to pediatric care of genetics patients only.
- Exploring an "ask the geneticist" project (perhaps collaborating with the Southeast region) with primary care providers (not families or patients). This would be a means to expand access to services.  
Some providers do this already in their hospitals informally, but other primary care providers do not have easy access to a genetic specialist to ask questions, etc. This goal attempts to help reach out to more primary care physicians in our region about genetic services/information. This applies to pediatric genetics questions/topics only.