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What's on my Child's Skin? An Introduction to Pediatric Dermatology for New Parents

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An Introduction to Pediatric Dermatology: *An Informational Module for New Parents*

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Community Mentors: Dr. Maura
Conway and Newtown Mother



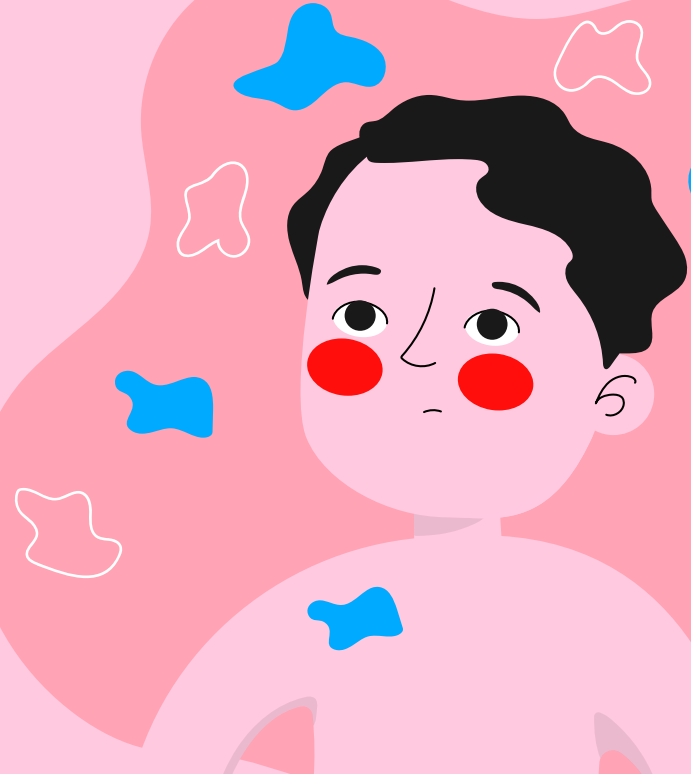
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Problem Identification

Many parents in the greater Danbury area make **multiple primary care appointments** for skin problems **without proper education** about what the skin findings are. There is a lot of **parental anxiety** around skin lesions and **concern** that they are due to a larger problem.

Research shows that proper education of pediatric skin findings are vital when caring for a child with skin lesion(s).

AHEC Focus: Virtual Learning and Telehealth, Medical Practice Transformation



Public Health Considerations

99- 140\$

Average cost of pediatric visit to primary care in CT

93-145\$

Average cost of pediatric dermatology visit in CT:

71 minutes

The average time a of pediatric well visit including checking in, paperwork, etc., **not** including transportation time!

For uninsured patients or patients who have limited access to medical care, education outside of the office can save lots of time and money!

Community Perspectives

when asked about the need about parental education about pediatric skin findings...

*“There is a need around **parental education** of skin findings that many newborns and pediatric patients have”-Dr. Conway, PCP*

*“It would be **easier** to check a **trusted source** (with a variety of photos) then to have to call the pediatrician” - Newtown Mother*

*“**Many parents** come into the office just to have their child’s skin looked at” -Dr. Conway, PCP*

*“I can only think of **one pediatric dermatology clinic** in the Danbury area.” -Newtown Mother*



Community Perspectives

Continued...

Dr. Conway, a primary care physician in Newtown CT, explained that many parents bring their children into the clinic with concerns of skin problems. She stated that there is a need for more education of these common findings that could save the community lots of time and money.

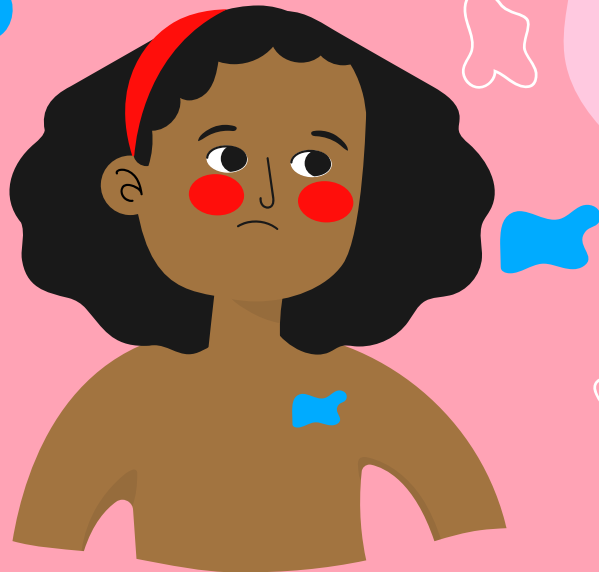
During the second interview, a mother of two children in Newtown CT, states that it would be easier to find information about her child's potential skin lesions/conditions through a trusted source. She states that although her pediatrician's office is helpful, it can be a time-consuming process.



So... what can we do?

Intervention: Creating an interactive skin module for parents with photos of various skin colors to help identify some common skin findings and OTC treatments that they can implement from their home!

This module would be created with evidence based medicine, and may be implemented in doctor's offices, as well as through CIFIC (Conneticut Institute for Communities) to increase education.



The background is a light pink color with several larger, darker pink abstract shapes scattered across it. One shape is at the top left, another at the top right, and a larger one at the bottom right.

Module attached here

[peds derm overview.pptx](#)

Methodology

**Assessment of
community needs
based on most
frequent PCP
office visits**



**Creating an
interactive module
with Evidence
Based Medicine**



1

2

3

4



**Interviewing
community
members
about their
perspective on
the issue**



**Assessing PCP
perspectives
and CIFC
administration
implementation
of the module**

Results



PCP offices

Dr. Conway, a trusted physician at Newtown Primary Care, acknowledged the benefit that the module may have when implemented into primary care offices. She explained the benefit of having it broadcast a wide array of skin colors.



CIFC

The module is currently being assessed at CIFC for ways to incorporate it into their Americore curriculum. A coordinator at CIFC has stated that the module has use for parents who do not have easy access to resources to learn about skin lesions.

Effectiveness & Limitations

Proposed Effectiveness

It may be useful to implement (not possible based on time limitations) surveys about how this has changed parental knowledge/anxiety around common skin findings, and if this would motivate parents to limit office visits. This would ideally ***decrease unnecessary visits, allow for decreased parental anxiety, and better communication*** between the parent and provider. This module has the ability to decrease costs for the parents and save time, especially if they do not have access to quality care!

Limitations

This module can only be implemented to those who have access to a computer and basic medical literacy. It is currently only in one language. Additionally, if the skin finding is something that requires OTC treatment, it means there needs to be consideration of medication costs as well, as that may not be accessible for everyone. There are many more common skin findings than the ones listed in the module, and any emergencies need to be properly evaluated by a medical provider.

Recommendations

Future Directions

- The module can be expanded to a paper version for those who are not using technology often
- Broaden the module to include more skin findings, such as Rosacea, acne, psoriasis, etc.
 - Assess more PCPs/dermatologists perspectives to decide which skin lesions should be included
- Implementation of the module into PCP offices, dermatology offices, and any other community health centers (such as CIFC) to educate parents.
 - Upon check in, when leaving the office, as a QR code hanging in the office, etc.
- Create a tool such as a survey to assess parental anxiety/education and how it have been affected by the module
- Analyze the results of these surveys in a retrospective study

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