The GP role in coordinating care for disabled children and young people

76% of parents reported they find it difficult to take their disabled child to visit the GP, and often end up in A&E instead.

Once diagnosed, many disabled children are discharged by child development teams, leaving them unsupported on commonly presenting issues, such as speech/communication, dental care, toilet training, feeding/eating, learning, sleep, behaviour etc.

Could GP practices provide families with information and refer them for support on these issues?

‘Contact A Family’
http://www.cafamily.org.uk/

This is a UK charity that provides vital support and information to families with disabled children, whatever the condition or disability.

‘Contact A Family’ can help GP practices by providing:

- **Information for GP practices** to assist them in coordinating care for disabled children and young people;

- **Information to give to families** on topics such as developmental delay, toilet training, feeding/eating, sleep and behaviour;

- **Reliable medical information** on over 400 conditions available online, and an in-house database with information on over 2500 conditions, a useful resource for GPs wanting information on a rare conditions.

**Further information:**
‘Contact A Family’ would welcome opportunities to attend regional meetings with GPs to either present about its work or engage by having a stall at an event.

Please contact Sheila.Davies@cafamily.org.uk for further information.

**November 2013**