

# TRANSITIONS POLICY

## YOUNG ADULTS WITH NEUROLOGIC DISORDERS

**Our medical practice is committed to helping our patients make a smooth transition from pediatric to adult health care.**

- We begin at ages 12 to 14 to prepare for the **change from a “pediatric” model of care—where parents make most decisions—to an “adult” model of care—where youth take full responsibility** for decision-making.
- To accomplish this there will be time during visits with the **teen without the parent present**. This assists the youth in more independence in their health care.
- At age 18, the youth legally become adults. **At that time, the young adult’s consent will be required to discuss any personal health information** with family members.
- **If the youth has a condition that prevents health care decision making then the parents/caregivers need to consider legal options required to become responsible for the decision-making. This should be accomplished before the youth becomes age 18.**
- We will work in partnership with youth and families regarding the age for transferring to an adult provider. We do **recommend that this occur before age 22**.
- **We will assist** with this transfer process, including:
  - helping to identify an adult provider;
  - sending medical records; and
  - communicating with the adult provider about the unique needs of each of our patients.
- As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us.