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Dear Colleague:

As a pediatric endocrinologist, it's long been my belief that patients need a more seamless, comprehensive transition from pediatric to adult health care. Acting on this belief, I've developed the Transition Toolkit—a set of materials that represents an organized approach to the continuum of transition.

Having used the Transition Toolkit in my own practice, I believe it leads to several outcomes. In particular, the Toolkit helps patients gain a greater awareness of their health history and health needs and prepares them to accept their adult responsibility of self-management. In addition, it streamlines the transfer of relevant health information to patients' adult healthcare providers. I've also found that use of the Toolkit educates patients, their families, and even us (the healthcare providers) about the evolving impact of chronic conditions throughout patients' adolescent years and into adulthood.

Development of the Transition Toolkit could not have been possible without the energy and enthusiasm of the pediatric endocrine community. I'd like to thank all of you who reviewed earlier drafts of the Toolkit and provided valuable feedback and recommendations. I'd also like to acknowledge Genentech, Inc., for supporting the production and distribution of the Toolkit.

I hope you find this Transition Toolkit useful, and I wish you the best of luck in your continued practice!

Sincerely,



Karen Rubin, MD