



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Secretary

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Colleagues,

The Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (ODPHP) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is pleased to partner with the American Academy of Family Physicians to encourage patients to get the recommended clinical preventive services they need to stay healthy.

As a family physician and AAFP member, I am proud of the leadership the AAFP provides in promoting clinical preventive services, which save millions of lives that might otherwise be cut short to undetected cardiovascular diseases, cancer, stroke, type 2 diabetes, and other diseases and conditions. We know that limited health literacy is one of the barriers to using these life-saving services. Patients don't get preventive services in part because they don't understand them. Family physicians are key to helping patients understand what they need to do to stay healthy, but with limited time during appointments, we need innovative patient education solutions.

ODPHP has developed an easy-to-use digital tool, [myhealthfinder](#), to help patients and their caregivers learn about the recommended preventive services they need. myhealthfinder is an interactive, personalized tool on healthfinder.gov that provides information about preventive services based on a patient's age, sex and pregnancy status, in English and Spanish.

myhealthfinder can be added to any website through content syndication and widgets, and we are so pleased that the AAFP has incorporated myhealthfinder on your [familydoctor.org](#) patient education website. You might be interested to know that CVSHealth uses the myhealthfinder tool to educate their Minute Clinic customers, and in a recent comparison study, they found that the rates of certain preventive services increased among Minute Clinic customers who used myhealthfinder. What works in retail clinics should work in primary care clinics, too.

In addition to including this on familydoctor.org, we encourage all AAFP members to use myhealthfinder with patients as a quick and easy way to help them learn about the preventive services they need each year. We look forward to exploring ways AAFP and ODPHP can encourage patients and caregivers to use myhealthfinder.

Sincerely,

Don Wright, MD, MPH
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health
(Disease Prevention and Health Promotion)