



where great stories begin™

Medical Consultant Role and Responsibilities

A site's Medical Consultant plays a key role in incorporating Reach Out and Read into the pediatric or family practice setting, and acts as the face and medical voice of the program. While this is not a demanding or time-consuming role, the Medical Consultant provides oversight of the clinical components of the program.

The role of the Reach Out and Read Medical Consultant is to:

- **Ensure medical providers' fidelity to the Reach Out and Read model by reinforcing the practices upon which Reach Out and Read research outcomes are based. These include:**
 - ✓ Beginning the Well-Child Visit by handing the book to the child
 - ✓ Using the book as part of developmental surveillance, streamlining what providers are already doing
 - ✓ Fostering parental engagement by offering anticipatory guidance to parents/caregivers about how best to interact and engage with their children when sharing and reading books together. (For more detailed guidance, please see: [Talking With Parents About Books](#) one-pager and [Milestones of Early Literacy Development](#) chart)
- **Promote completion of the required Reach Out and Read Provider Training online CME course** by at least 75% of the pediatric provider staff *before* the program is implemented (or, in a family practice, by 75% of providers who see children under age 6)
- Orient **new** providers as they join the practice and ensure their timely completion of the Reach Out and Read training course
- Work with the Reach Out and Read Site Coordinator, practice manager, and other staff to determine and implement efficient systems for flow of books to the exam room, book tracking, book ordering, etc.
- Ensure that providers are familiar with specialized Reach Out and Read materials, such as the [Developmental Disabilities Curriculum](#)
- **Support timely and accurate submission of the biannual progress report** via myROR.org by the Coordinator or Medical Consultant
- **Once a year, place Reach Out and Read on the staff meeting agenda (15 min).** Review program implementation, challenges/successes, provider training/refresher needs, and address any general questions/concerns
- **Work with appropriate clinic/department administrator(s) and, where applicable, the local Reach Out and Read Affiliate, to ensure that long-term book funding needs are met**