

## Educational vs. Medical Model

There are three primary ways a child can receive therapeutic related services once a need has been identified:

- A hospital or an outpatient clinic; served by medical model
- Home based services; served by medical model
- School based services; served by educational model only when physical

Some children will receive services through both the educational and medical models. For some children, the frequency or intensity of services they receive at school through the educational model will not meet all of the child's medical needs. There may be goals that are not addressed by school-based services and would require home or community based services from the medical model. In each setting, the child should be assessed individually to determine the best way to meet his or her needs. The chart below will further explain each model.

Question?	Educational	Medical
<b>WHO DECIDES?</b>	Educational team, including parents, student (if appropriate), educators, administrators, and school based therapists determine the student's educational needs and what support is required by related services.	Medical team determines the focus, frequency, and duration of services. Insurance may be a determining factor.
<b>WHAT?</b>	Focuses on adaptation and intervention to allow student to participate, access their special education and school government.	Addresses medical conditions; works to get full potential realized.
<b>WHERE?</b>	At school grounds, bus halls, playground, classroom, lunch room, etc.	In the clinic, hospital, or home.

<b>HOW?</b>	The student's educational needs are met individually. Services may include one-on-one learning, program development, collaboration with staff, integrated and inclusive collaboration with peers, or by request for the student's daily program.	Direct one-one-one treatment to accomplish set goals.
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	Educational need as determined by IEP team.	Medical need as determined by medical professionals.
<b>COST</b>	No cost to student or family.	Fee for service payment by family, insurance, or government assistance.
<b>DOCUMENTATION</b>	Related to IEP with accessible, readable language guided by the setting and best practice.	Dictated by insurance requirements and guidelines of the setting. Emphasis on medical terminology

If your medical provider or therapist makes recommendations for the school setting, the educational team must consider that information. If the educational team denies a recommendation or has a different opinion, they must provide a written explanation. Should the team not come to an agreement on appropriate services in the educational setting, conflict resolution options are available.