

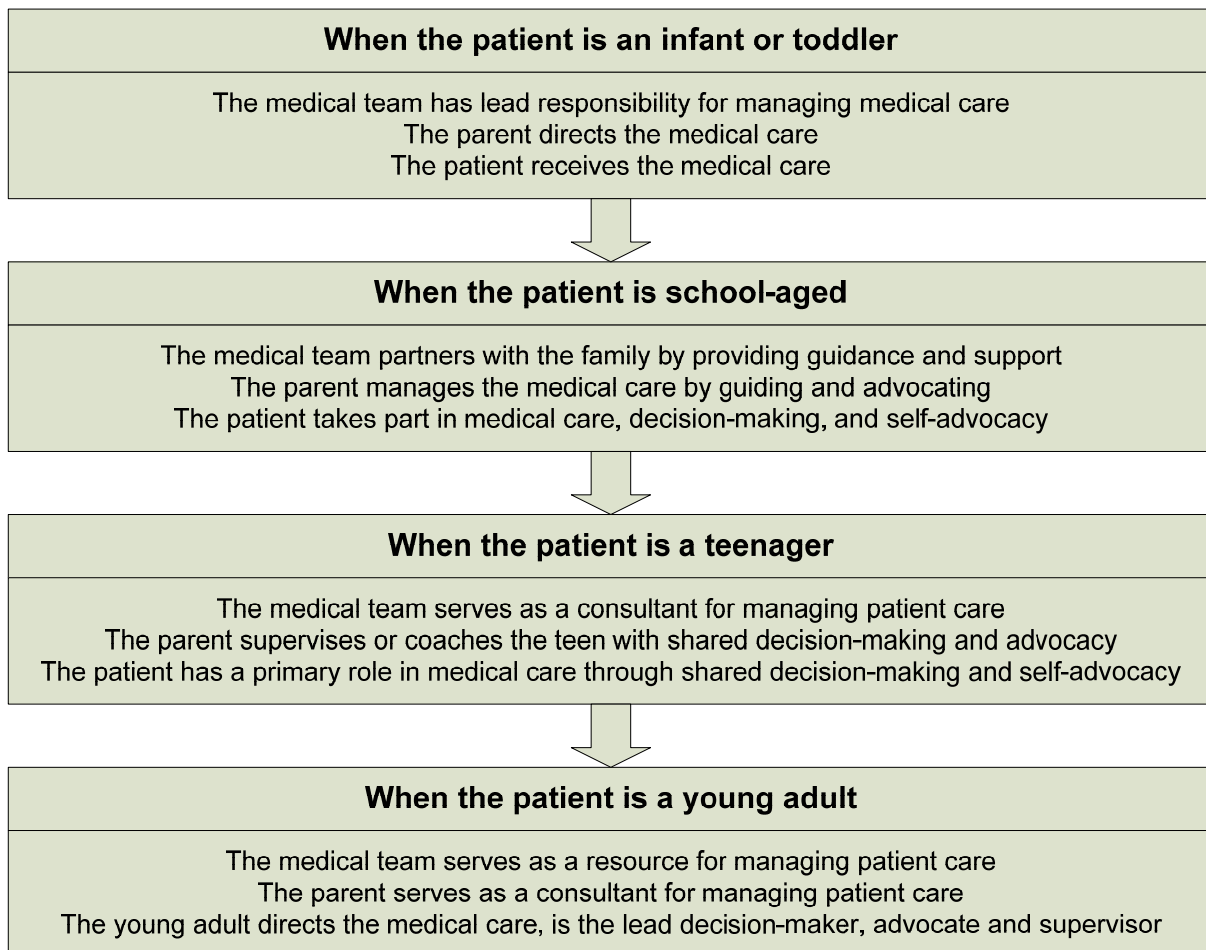


## St. Jude Children's Research Hospital Transition of Care Policy for Patients with Sickle Cell Disease

At St. Jude, we believe a smooth transition to young adulthood includes the move from pediatric to adult health care. Planning and preparing for this change should begin by age 12. **At age 18**, most young adults in our program will transition to adult health care. The figure below shows the transfer of care and the role of each person during the process.

Our approach to the care of young adults age 18 and older is to protect their privacy, regardless of whether they are being cared for by a pediatric or adult medical team. At 18 years old, young adults are legally in charge of making their own health care decisions and will have the right to share their personal health information with others.

### Model for Managing Patient Care from Infant to Young Adult



*Modified from Pediatric Nursing 2000*