Many young people with disabilities have difficulty getting their healthcare needs met during the transition to adulthood.

We know too little about the barriers to getting appropriate care or the factors that help young people navigate the healthcare systems.

To best inform the policies, programs and practices that impact them, MyPATH’s purpose is to learn directly from young people about their experiences with healthcare. The study focuses on the transition between pediatric and adult systems of care and how health and participation in community activities are influenced by their healthcare experiences.

Survey methods
Information will be collected directly from young people through a web-based questionnaire. Telephone or in-person interview options will be made available if participants prefer.

Participants will be asked to complete a survey every six months for a few years. Some of the questions will be repeated each time while others will be different.

Participants will be sent a $25 gift card each time they complete a survey.

Confidentiality
None of the participants’ names will be stored with their survey answers in order to protect their confidentiality.

When results are reported, only summaries of responses to questions will be provided. No results from a specific individual will be reported.

Project Sponsors
The study is funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. It has been planned and implemented by staff in the Division of Academic General Pediatrics in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Minnesota.

Project Support
MyPATH has already received invaluable assistance from the following organizations:

- Fairview Health Clinics
- American Academy of Pediatrics
- Gillette Children’s
- Courage Center
- Muscular Dystrophy Association
- Spina Bifida Association
- University of Wisconsin, Whitewater

... and many others.

Recruitment Help Needed!
As you might expect, finding young people who meet our eligibility criteria is not easy – we are asking assistance from organizations and individuals to find and invite young people to participate in the study. We will gladly cover all costs associated with your participation and support.

Eligibility Requirements

- 16 – 24 years old
- Have mobility limitations:
  - Use a wheelchair or some other assistive mobility device
  - Have any difficulty walking or getting around due to a spinal cord injury, spina bifida, cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy, or similar conditions.

To help us recruit or simply learn more about, contact our Study Coordinator or Liaisons.

Contact
Joe Timmons  Study Liaisons
Study Coordinator  mypath@umn.edu
timm0119@umn.edu  612.625.4169
612.624.3620