

Pennsylvania Chapter



COVID-19 Update and Resources 9/18- 10/1

Follow the PA AAP on social media to receive real-time updates on developments in school health and COVID-19 transmission, testing, and vaccinations in the Commonwealth.







PA & Federal Updates

- There were 65,045 new cases in Pennsylvania since our last update on 9/17, bringing the total case count to 1,435,292 (includes confirmed and probable cases) in all 67 counties in PA. Statewide percent positivity for the week Sept. 17- 23 stood at 8.9%--a decrease from 9.1%, recorded Sept. 3 9. View a breakdown of cases by region, county, gender, ethnicity, etc. here.
- Questions around vaccine booster shots persist; the CDC approves and recommends the
 Pfizer booster shot for individuals over 65 and immuno-compromised adults, who're six
 months out from receiving the Pfizer vaccine, while <u>J&J recipients await word</u>. See a
 breakdown from the CDC on booster shot eligibility <u>here</u>.
- Experts ponder the mixing and matching of COVID-19 vaccines for booster shots. Read more here.
- This week, the CDC issued a specific <u>Health Advisory</u> recommending urgent action to increase COVID-19 vaccination for pregnant people. Read more <u>here</u>. <u>Click here</u> to view the PA Health Alert on this topic.
- <u>Estimates</u> suggest that the COVID-19 vaccine will be available for children aged 5-11 in the coming weeks; hospitals fear staffing shortages, which would <u>impact care coordination</u> <u>across departments</u>. Learn more <u>here</u>.
- Data confirm: masks are a critical strategy in mitigating the spread of COVID-19 in schools. Read more from the CDC here.
- Many <u>parents are eager</u> to vaccinate their children against COVID-19; however, a <u>recent</u> <u>poll</u> suggests that Black parents are most hesitant to have the COVID-19 administered to their children.
- For more from the Wolf Administration on the state's strategy to protect in-person instruction in schools, click here.

- Insurers are returning to pre-COVID coverage practices, leaving patients with large bills.
 Read more here.
- The COVID-19 death toll has surpassed that of the 1918 flu. For more, click here.
- See the following health updates from the PA Department of Health:
 - Quarantine Recommendations After SARS-CoV-2 Antibody Test
 - Response to an Outbreak and Residents with Exposure to COVID- 19 for Longterm Care Facilities and Core Infection Prevention and Control Measures for Longterm Care Facilities
 - Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Healthcare Settings during the COVID-19 Pandemic

Updates from AAP and Other Guidance

- Visit the COVID-19 web page on AAP.org to find updated resources that address clinical
 guidance, practice management resources, including tele-health and coding, educational
 resources for clinicians and families, data reports, a discussion board, details on AAP
 advocacy efforts, and more. For questions or comments related to the pandemic, email
 COVID-19@aap.org.
- As of September 23, more than 5.7 million children have tested positive for COVID-19 since the onset of the pandemic, representing 16% of all cases in states reporting cases by age. Last week, over 200,000 new child COVID-19 cases were reported, accounting for 26.7% of reported weekly cases. Read the latest report. Also, find the AAP's latest report on Children and COVID-19 Vaccination Trends.
- Recently Updated from AAP:
 - Caring for Patients in Inpatient and Outpatient Settings During Episodes of Surge
 - Outpatient COVID-19 Management Strategies in Children and Adolescents
 - Providing Acute Care in the Ambulatory Setting During the COVID-19 Pandemic
 - Return to Sports
- Updated guidance on HealthyChildren.org for your patients/families:
 - Youth Sports and COVID-19: Understanding the Risks
 - When Can Children Get the COVID-19 Vaccine?
 - Clinical Trials: One Family's Experience During COVID-19

AAP Interactive Town Hall Series on COVID-19: The AAP hosts a <u>bi-weekly series of virtual town halls</u> linking members with leading experts to discuss emerging issues related to caring for patients and families during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Click here to past sessions.

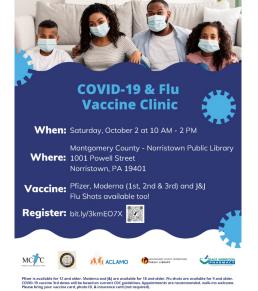


Webinars & Learning Opportunities

Coming up...

In case you missed it...

• Let's Talk: "Review of the 2020 Focus



Updates to the Asthma Management Guidelines." View the recording here.

- From the Duke Margolis Center for Health Policy: "School-Located Vaccination Strategies to Increase Child and Adolescent Immunization Rates During the COVID-19 Pandemic." View the recording here.
- From the Center for Health Care
 Strategies: "Transforming Child Health
 Care Through Anti-Racist, Family Driven Approaches." View the recording here.

You can listen to other recorded webinarshere.

Please visit our website at www.paaap.org for more resources and information on COVID-19 for Pennsylvania pediatric providers. We are doing our best to maintain up-to-date information as it becomes available.

PA AAP (COVID-19)

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