



Pennsylvania Chapter

American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®



COVID-19 Update and Resources 10/16- 10/29

With the impending COVID-19 vaccine EUA for children 5-11 y/o, we anticipate that there will be numerous press/media opportunities for PA AAP members to comment on the importance and safety of the vaccine.

We've had a number of PA AAP members engage with the press on behalf of the Chapter, such as Dr. Kate Tighe, MD, FAAP, pictured here, [connecting with WNEP](#). If you're able to and interested in participating in interviews in the coming days, please let us know with an email to info@paaap.org.



Vaccine clinics provide a great opportunity to engage the media; if your practice plans to host a clinic in the coming days/weeks, we ask that you let us know.

Check out PA AAP's press appearances on our social media channels and/or our [newsroom](#).



PA & Federal Updates

- There were 55,335 new cases in Pennsylvania since our last update on 10/15, bringing the total case count to 1,557,459 (includes confirmed and probable cases) in all 67 counties in PA. Statewide percent positivity for the week of Oct. 15 - 21 stood at 9.2%--a decrease from 9.6%, recorded Oct. 1 - 7. View a breakdown of cases by region, county, gender, ethnicity, etc. [here](#).
- If you submitted an pre-order request for the COVID-19 vaccine for children 5-11 y/o, your ancillary kits will include the following supplies and designations according to the AAP:
 - Administration Supplies:
 - All needles are 25 g 1-inch
 - 1-mL syringes
 - Sterile alcohol wipes
 - Record cards
 - Some PPE for HCP
 - Mixing Supplies:
 - 1.5-inch needles
 - 3- or 5-mL syringes
 - Sterile alcohol wipes
 - Diluent
- On Tuesday, November 26, a federal panel recommended the approval of EUA for Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine for 5-11 y/o. The vote was unanimous with one abstention. Read more

[here](#).

- According to immunobridging analysis from the FDA, the immune responses of 5-11 y/o (n=322) was comparable to that of 16-50 y/o (n=253). Learn more [here](#).
 - Also of note: vaccine efficacy rests at 90.7%; 20% of subjects had co-morbid conditions; of the trial participants, 78% were white, 6% were Black or African American, 6% were Asian, and 21% were Hispanic or Latinx.
- PA AAP recently conducted a brief survey of its members, inquiring after their experience with or interest in administering the COVID-19 vaccine. We learned the following from respondents:
 - 50% of respondents indicated that they plan to host a vaccine clinic once the EUA is approved.
 - Some practices are struggling with staff shortages and space to accommodate the post-immunization waiting/oversight period.
 - The 300-dose requisite deterred smaller practices from placing a pre-order request.
 - Many families have sought their vaccinations outside of the medical home, such as in pharmacies.
- PA AAP received data from the PA Dept. of Health indicating that the following 11 counties did not submit a pre-order request for vaccines. If you practice in one of these counties and did not submit a request, please touch base with PA AAP at info@paaap.org; we're eager to gain an insight into your experience with the COVID-19 vaccine.
 - Cameron, Clearfield, Clinton, Forest, Fulton, Greene, Huntingdon, Juniata, Lawrence, McKean, Pike, Snyder, Susquehanna, Venango, Warren, Wayne, Wyoming
- Immunity does not translate to invincibility, confusing individuals and threatening their health. Read more [here](#).
- The PA Dept. of Health has issued the following advisories:
 - Update: [Point of Care Antigen Test Use and Interpretation](#)
 - [Recommendations Regarding COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Dose](#)
 - Update: [Public Health Recommendations Given New Evidence on the SARS-CoV-2 Delta Variant](#)
- The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services released its updated list of billing codes, payment allowances, and effective dates for the COVID-19 vaccine booster. See [here](#).
- The Wolf administration reported that 70% of Pennsylvanians 18 years and older are fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Read more [here](#).

Updates from AAP & 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 October 21, more than 6.3 million children have tested positive for COVID-19 since the onset of the pandemic, representing 16.5% of all cases in states reporting cases by age. Last week, over 118,000 new child COVID-19 cases were reported, accounting for 25.1% of reported weekly cases. [Read the latest report](#). Also, find the AAP's latest report on [Children and COVID-19 Vaccination Trends](#).
- New guidance from the AAP for pediatricians:
 - [Outpatient Management Strategies in Children and Adolescents](#)

- [Caring for Patients in Inpatient and Outpatient Settings During Episodes of Surge](#)
- Updated guidance on HealthyChildren.org for your patients/families:
 - [If my child had COVID already, do they need the vaccine?](#)
 - [When all four of our kids got COVID](#)
 - [Was the COVID-19 vaccine rushed?](#)
 - [My child is about to turn 12. Which COVID-19 vaccine should they get?](#)
 - [Getting your child ready for the COVID-19 vaccine](#)
 - [COVID-19 and kids: How mRNA vaccines work](#)
 - [Understanding mRNA COVID-19 vaccines](#)

AAP Interactive Town Hall Series on COVID-19: The AAP hosts a [bi-weekly series of virtual town halls](#) 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.
- [View the recording](#) from yesterday's Town Hall, where experts discussed the vaccine trial results and the imminent EUA.

Webinars & Learning Opportunities

Coming up...

- The AAP is hosting a webinar with the American Academy of Family Physicians on **Wednesday, Nov. 3, at 8 p.m. ET** featuring White House officials including Assistant Secretary for Health in the Department of Health and Human Services Admiral **Rachel Levine, MD, FAAP**, who will give updates about the vaccine rollout and answer member questions. To join the live stream event, simply go to the [AAP's YouTube channel](#) at 8 p.m. ET next week.
- The next AAP COVID-19 Town Hall will be held at a special time; **Thursday, Nov. 4 at 6:00pm ET**. Register [here](#).

In case you missed it...

- The latest (10/28) AAP COVID-19 Town Hall; [listen to the recording](#).
- **A Conversation Between AAP Chapters: COVID-19 vaccine for children 5-11 y/o & state vaccine roll-out strategy;** [listen to the recording](#).
- From the Office of the Surgeon General: "**Mandates 'Turbocharging' Vaccination Rates: US Surgeon General Vivek Murthy on Vaccine Requirements, Boosters and Vaccinating Kids,**" [view the recording](#).

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)

Pennsylvania Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics | 484-446-3000



