



# Pennsylvania Chapter

American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®



## COVID-19 Update and Resources 1/7/22

As a part of our work with the PA Dept. of Health, we are assisting in isolating and addressing record inconsistencies within PA SIIS. And so we ask you to (anonymously) share with us what **Electronic Health Record (EHR)** vendor you utilize in your practice. Let us know through [this one-question survey](#).

## Message from PA AAP & PAIC

**Would you like to be highlighted in our statewide immunization media campaign?**

As part of our PA AAP immunization campaign, we would like to incorporate actual PA AAP physicians in the print and video marketing material. The immunization ads will be displayed across the Commonwealth on buses, billboards, posters, flyers, and other digital media ads on social media and streaming services. The Chapter will be planning a photoshoot/video shoot in early January, the official date TBD, in the Philadelphia metro area. If you are interested in participating, please contact Kayla Knock at [kknock@paaap.org](mailto:kknock@paaap.org).

## PA & Federal Updates

- There were 332,744 new cases in Pennsylvania since our last update on 12/17 bringing the total case count to 2,206,899 (includes confirmed and probable cases) in all 67 counties in PA. View a breakdown of cases by region, county, gender, ethnicity, etc. [here](#).
- Children ages 12 and older, who are at least five months out from their primary COVID-19 vaccine series, are now eligible for a Pfizer booster dose. Read more from the CDC [here](#).
- See current health updates from the PA Dept. of Health on the following topics: [COVID-19 Isolation and Quarantine Periods Clarification for the General Population](#), and [Work Restrictions for Healthcare Personnel with Exposure to COVID-19](#). Also, see this FAQ on [COVID-19 vaccines and pregnancy](#).
- According to the guidance above, the PA Dept. of Health does not consider schools as congregate settings. The state has yet to release school-specific guidance, deferring to current CDC recommendations, found [here](#). The CDC's recommendations for schools reflects their recently updated guidance for the general population, shortening the recommended isolation and quarantine period to a minimum of five days (with masking to follow). See the CDC's statement below:
  - "On January 4, CDC updated [COVID-19 isolation and quarantine recommendations](#) with shorter isolation (for asymptomatic and mildly ill people) and quarantine periods of 5 days to focus on the period when a person is most infectious, followed by continued masking for an additional 5 days. These updated recommendations also facilitate individual social and well-being needs, return to

work, and maintenance of critical infrastructure. Preliminary data suggest that the Omicron variant is up to three times more infectious than the Delta variant. With the recommended shorter isolation and quarantine periods, it is critical that people continue to wear [well-fitting masks](#) and take [additional precautions](#) for 5 days after leaving isolation or quarantine. You can end isolation after 5 full days if you are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and your other symptoms have improved."

- The Chapter has shared [CHOP PolicyLab's school guidance](#) with the PA. Dept. of Health as a resource--in hopes that the state adopts similar recommendations.
- The U.S. Department of Education released the following memo on "[2022] Staying in School In-Person." Learn 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](mailto:COVID-19@aap.org).
- As of December 30, more than 7.9 million children have tested positive for COVID-19 since the onset of the pandemic, representing 17.4% of all cases in states reporting cases by age. Last week, over 325,000 new child COVID-19 cases were reported, accounting for 17.7% of reported weekly cases. [Read the latest report](#). Also, find the AAP's latest report on [Children and COVID-19 Vaccination Trends](#).
- New & updated guidance from the AAP for pediatricians:
  - [Guidance on the Use of Face Masks](#)
  - [Management Strategies in Children and Adolescents with Mild to Moderate COVID-19](#)
  - [Guidance on Providing Pediatric Well-Care During COVID-19](#)
  - [Post-COVID-19 Conditions in Children and Adolescents](#)
  - [Guidance on the Necessary Use of Telehealth During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
- Updated guidance on HealthyChildren.org for your patients/families:
  - [Can my child get a COVID vaccine with other immunizations they need?](#)
  - [Does the COVID-19 vaccine protect kids from the omicron and delta variants of the virus?](#)

**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.



## Webinars & Learning Opportunities

### Coming up...

- [Register today](#) to join the PA AAP and PA Medical Home Program on **Wednesday, January 12 at 12:00pm ET** for "ADHD and Other Disruptive Behavior Disorders within Primary Care of the Medical Home" with [Dr. Justin Schreiber](#), DO, MPH, FAAP.

- [Register today](#) to join the PA AAP and PA Immunization Coalition on **Wednesday, January 19 at 8:00pm ET** for an **"Update on the COVID-19 Vaccine for Kids 5-11-Years-Old"** with **Dr. Paul Offit**, MD, FAAP.

In case you missed it...

- Physician General Dr. Denise Johnson joins two medical professions to discuss **COVID-19 treatment options available for Pennsylvanians**. [Listen to the recording.](#)

---

Please visit our website at [www.paaap.org](http://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

