COVID-19 Update and Resources 6/12- 6/25

As we approach July Fourth and the Independence Day festivities, we'll keep you updated on expert guidance around safe social practices.

Upcoming Engagement Opportunity

Join us at the "White House Virtual Conversation: Pennsylvania Providers and the Vaccination Rollout," on Monday, June 28, 5:00-5:50pm ET where PA AAP will be represented by Kate Tigue, MD, FAAP, the Chapter's Secretary & Treasury, Chair of the Pediatric Council, and fierce advocate for children and pediatricians.

For more information and registration details, click here.

PA & Federal Updates

- There were 3,424 new cases in Pennsylvania since our last update on 6/11, bringing the total case count to 1,211,299 (includes confirmed and probable cases) in all 67 counties in PA. Statewide percent positivity for the week of June 18 - June 25 has decreased from 2.9% (June 11 - 17) to 1.1%. View a breakdown of cases by region, county, gender, ethnicity, etc. here.

- The PA DOH announces that the statewide order requiring universal face coverings will be lifted at 12:01am on Monday, June 28. Read more here.

- Experts espouse confidence in COVID-19 vaccines' long-term safety--among them is PA AAP member Paul Offit, MD, FAAP. For more, click here.

- For a report on vaccine hesitancy broken down by demographic, click here.

- View this White House report on the Biden administration's COVID-19 strategy, including a pledge to allocate 55 million vaccines globally.

- The uptick in use of hand sanitizers causes concern among FDA officials due to the side effect of nausea and dizziness from the vapor. Read more here.

- Many physicians agree that the "calculus of risk" in COVID-19 cases differs for children. For more, click here.

- Learn how leadership in two states--West Virginia and Georgia--endeavor to develop equitable vaccine
distribution strategies. Listen here.

- As COVID-19 case numbers decline, we're seeing high incidences of cold and common viruses among children. Read more here.

## Updates from AAP and Other Guidance

- Visit the COVID-19 [web page on AAP.org](https://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 June 17, more than 4.02 million children have tested positive for COVID-19 since the onset of the pandemic, representing 14.2% of all cases in states reporting cases by age. Over 15,800 new child COVID-19 cases were reported last week. Read the latest report.

- Updated guidance from AAP on:
  - **Guidance Related to Childcare During COVID-19**
  - **Face Masks**
    - For [clinical-specific guidance](https://aap.org) on mask usage, continue to reference the CDC’s recommendations, found here. Current guidance states, "CDC continues to recommend the use of well-fitting facemasks or respirators by HCP in healthcare settings, regardless of vaccination status." **One notable exception:** when fully vaccinated HCPs convene separate from patients, they needn't wear masks.

- Updated guidance on HealthyChildren.org for your patients/families:
  - **My kids are worried that their sports seasons may be on hold again because of COVID. How can I help them cope?**

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

  - [Click here](https://aap.org) to past sessions.

## Let's Talk Community Forum series

We'll see you next on **Wed., July 7 at 12:00pm ET** for a conversation with our Medical Home Program and Adrian Shanker, Founder & Executive Director of the Bradley-Sullivan LGBT Community Center, on "Addressing Barriers to Care for LGBTQ+ Children and Youth." Registration link below.

**Save the date** for our Let's Talk Community Forum series

In case you missed it:

- "What Should I Know about COVID-19 Vaccine and Myocarditis?" Paul Offit, MD, FAAP; [listen to the recording](https://aap.org).

- "Let's Talk: Update on Tick-Borne Infections," Jennifer Vodzak, MD; [listen to the recording](https://aap.org).
You can listen to other recorded webinars [here](#).

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.