



# Pennsylvania Chapter

American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®



## COVID-19 Update and Resources 7/10- 7/23

Join us on **Wednesday, July 28 at 8:00pm ET** for our next Let's Talk webinar on "AAP COVID-19 Guidance for Schools."

School will be starting before we know it! With our common goal of keeping students safe and physically present in school, we hope you will join us for this important discussion

Presenter, **Dr. Sara Bode**, will join moderators and Co-Chairs of the Chapter's School Health Committee, **Dr. Christina Master** and **Dr. Justin Schreiber**, to review the AAP's recently updated [COVID-19 Guidance for Schools](#).

For updates to our summer Let's Talk schedule, follow us on social.

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## PA & Federal Updates

- There were 5,432 new cases in Pennsylvania since our last update on 7/9, bringing the total case count to 1,218,975 (includes confirmed and probable cases) in all 67 counties in PA. Statewide percent positivity for the week of July 9 - 15 rose to 1.7% from 1.1% for June 25 - July 1. View a breakdown of cases by region, county, gender, ethnicity, etc. [here](#).
- US Secretary of Health & Human Services Xavier Becerra renewed the federal public health emergency determination. This is the sixth renewal following the initial designation on January 27, 2020. Read more [here](#).
- The 'hyper-transmissible' Delta variant now accounts for 83% of new COVID-19 cases. Learn more [here](#).
- With [cases rising](#) in nearly every state, more officials are advising vaccinated people to wear masks indoors--a departure from [CDC guidance](#). Read more [here](#).
- *JAMA Pediatrics* retracted a controversial study suggesting that "masks may harm children by exposing them to high carbon dioxide levels." Read more [here](#).
- Following [calls from medical professionals](#) to fully authorize the COVID-19 vaccines--as opposed to the vaccines' current "emergency use authorization" status--the Biden

administration anticipates final approval within months, if not weeks. Learn more [here](#).

- The FDA has issued an emergency use authorization (EUA) for Tocilizumab, a COVID-19 monoclonal antibody product to treat the disease. For more, click [here](#).
- See [here](#) the CDC's guidance for families with vaccinated and unvaccinated members.
- Guillain-Barre Syndrome may be linked to Johnson & Johnson's COVID-19 vaccine. Read more [here](#).
- The PA DOH released recommendations related to use of flexible bronchoscopes in treatment of COVID-19. Learn more [here](#).
- When will the youngest kids be able to get a COVID-19 shot? *MedPage* weighs in [here](#).

## Updates from AAP and Other Guidance

- The American Academy of Pediatrics [released its recommended guidance](#) on a safe return to school amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The AAP's policy recommendations, which include special considerations for school and mental health, extend from the goal of "keeping students safe and physically present in school." The guidance hinges on two policies:
  1. **All eligible individuals should receive the COVID-19 vaccine.**
  2. **All students older than 2 years and all school staff should wear face masks at school (unless medical or developmental conditions prohibit use).**
- 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 July 15, more than 4.09 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. Last week, over 23,500 new child COVID-19 cases were reported, accounting for 15.9% of reported weekly cases. [Read the latest report](#).
- Updated guidance from AAP on:
  - [Coding During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency \(PHE\)](#)
- Updated guidance on HealthyChildren.org for your patients/families:
  - [Safe Schools During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
  - [What to Look for in a Summer camp During COVID-19](#)
  - [Should my Children Take Swim Lessons If They Are Too Young to Get the COVID-19 Vaccine Yet?](#)
  - [Does the COVID-19 Vaccine Cause Myocarditis?](#)
  - [Getting Your Child Ready for the COVID-19 Vaccine](#)
  - [Long-Haul COVID-19 in Children and Teens](#)

**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.



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## In case you missed it:

- "What Should I Know about COVID-19 Vaccine and Myocarditis?" Paul Offit, MD, FAAP; [listen to the recording](#).
- "Let's Talk: Infection Prevention Control and CYSHCN: Minimizing Risk While Meeting Ongoing Needs," Renee M. Turchi, MD, MPH, FAAP with [Project Firstline](#) and the Chapter's [Medical Home Program](#); [listen to the recording](#).
- "Let's Talk: "Impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the Developmental-Behavioral Care of Children," Sandhya Iyengar, MD, MPH, FAAP; Kate Wallis, MD, MPH, FAAP; [listen to the recording](#).

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## Coming up:

- Let's Talk "AAP COVID-19 Guidance for Safe Schools," register [here](#) for the webinar, scheduled for Wednesday, July 28, 8:00pm ET. See above for more info.

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You can listen to other recorded webinars [here](#).

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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)

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