



# Pennsylvania Chapter

American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®



## COVID-19 Update and Resources 8/7- 8/20

Are you currently a 2nd year resident or a mentor to a 2nd year resident? If so, scroll no further before registering for the Chapter's 35th annual Resident Career Day!

REGISTER  
HERE

This event provides residents with the opportunity to hear from and connect with legal and financial experts, health care leaders, and other professionals to address all your questions around post-residency.



## PA & Federal Updates

- There were 25,899 new cases in Pennsylvania since our last update on 8/6, bringing the total case count to 1,259,775 (includes confirmed and probable cases) in all 67 counties in PA. Statewide percent positivity for the week of Aug 6 - 12 rose to 6% from 3.9% for July 23 - 29. View a breakdown of cases by region, county, gender, ethnicity, etc. [here](#).
- Following the CDC's [recommendation](#) of a 3rd COVID-19 vaccine dose, the PA DOH notified vaccine providers that immunocompromised people, who have received the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine, are clear for a booster shot. Learn more [here](#). For more on the federal government's plans re booster shots, click [here](#).
- The PA State Education Association and the PA Chapter of the American Federation of Teachers, PA's leading teachers unions, urge all teachers to wear masks in the classroom during this upcoming school semester. Read more [here](#). Chapter leaders have communicated our position on masking in schools to state leadership, recommending that masking be required for all students and staff 2 years and older. Though the state has not modified its position (leaving it up to individual school boards), we are hopeful that our outreach to PA's 500+ districts will result in their implementing masking mandates.
- A recent CDC report confirms that the vaccines' benefits outweigh its risks. Learn more [here](#).
- For more on asymptomatic SARS-CoV-2 transmission, click [here](#) to view a study from the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.
- The Biden administration anticipates that pediatricians will play a crucial role in vaccinating children against COVID-19, especially following the anticipated spike in infections with the start of school. Read more [here](#).

- Ahead of the return to school, the PA DOH unveiled its free COVID-19 testing program for schools across PA. Read more [here](#).
- The PA DOH released updated guidance on (1) [COVID-19 vaccination during pregnancy](#) and (2) [COVID-19 Post-Exposure Prophylaxis](#).
- Do masks harm children's development? CNN convened experts to weigh in [here](#).
- The US Dept. of Health & Human Services compiled a "Back to School" toolkit for community stakeholders. View the toolkit [here](#).

## 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](mailto:COVID-19@aap.org).
- As of August 12, more than 4.41 million children have tested positive for COVID-19 since the onset of the pandemic, representing 14.4% of all cases in states reporting cases by age. Last week, over 121,000 new child COVID-19 cases were reported (up from 72,000 the previous week), accounting for 18% of reported weekly cases. [Read the latest report](#). Also, find the AAP's latest report on [Children and COVID-19 Vaccination Trends](#).
- News from AAP on:
  - [Preventing COVID-19 Transmission in Education Settings](#)
  - [Mild SARS-CoV-2 Infections and Neutralizing Antibody Titers](#)
- Updated guidance from AAP on:
  - [Treatment of RSV](#)
  - [Post-COVID-19 Conditions in Children and Adolescents](#)
  - [Return to Sports and Physical Activity](#)
- Updated guidance on HealthyChildren.org for your patients/families:
  - [Safe Schools During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

**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.

- View yesterday's session on "COVID-19 Hot Topics" [here](#).
- [Click here](#) to past sessions.



## Webinars & Learning Opportunities

Join us for the next Let's Talk webinar! Scheduled for **Wednesday, September 29 at 8:00pm**, the webinar will be a presentation from Dr. Allyson Larkin on the **updated asthma guidelines**.

Registration details to come!

In case you missed it:

- "Myths and Fears Surrounding the COVID-19 Vaccines" Paul Offit, MD, FAAP; [listen to the recording.](#)
- Nemours: "Keeping Our Kids Safe as They Return to School"; [listen to the recording.](#)
- "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.](#)

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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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