



Pennsylvania Chapter

American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®



COVID-19 Statement & Resources

Dear Members and Partners of the PA Chapter, AAP,

Without question, the health and well-being of every individual in the PA AAP community is our top priority. This commitment applies to the current situation with COVID-19 as well as in our ongoing mission dedicated to the health and well-being of children and the value of pediatric practice.

As we continue to monitor the COVID-19 outbreak in Pennsylvania we are making adjustments to ensure the safety of our members, partners, staff and community at large. We are committed to following all recommendations from the CDC, state and local public health departments and the national AAP and we are modifying gatherings and workflow as necessary.

We have made the following adjustments to events through May 10th:

- The 2020 Pediatric Conference is rescheduled for March 20 and 21, 2021 at the Gettysburg Hotel.
- Other in-person programs, trainings, etc. will be postponed or converted to virtual meetings through May 10th.
- All national AAP events are cancelled through May 10th, including the Legislative Conference.
- The Chapter office will be closed for the next few weeks, with staff working remotely. We ask for your patience in returning calls and emails.

The postponement of future events remain under scrutiny, and all such determinations will be guided by our Executive Committee, based on the most current recommendations of infectious disease specialists, AAP, Pennsylvania Department of Health and the CDC.

If you have questions or concerns about the **PA AAP** approach to the COVID-19 response or any questions in general, strategies or information you would like to share with us, please let us know by emailing us at info@paaap.org. Below you will find more information and resources.

Thank you for all you do to care for children and families, especially in these uncertain times.

With thanks,

Deborah Moss, MD, MPH, FAAP
President

PA AAP Pediatric Workflow Guidance and Recommendations Based on a Synthesis of CDC, AAP, AND PADOH Guidance

The document provided for download below highlights key strategies for managing COVID-19 in an outpatient pediatric setting. These strategies have been compiled based on current recommendations and feedback from our members. Please follow epidemiologic updates and guidance given by the CDC ([CDC COVID19](#)), the Pennsylvania Department of Health ([Pennsylvania Department of Health COVID19](#)), and the AAP ([AAP COVID19](#)) as the strategies listed here may change at any moment given the constantly evolving nature of this situation.

[Download Document](#)

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 \(COVID-19\)](#)

AAP Clinical Guidance

The AAP recently published [recommendations](#) to provide pediatricians some best practices for how to care for patients under the current challenging conditions. Some key takeaways include:

- **Continue to offer well-child check-ups.** Consider conducting well visits for newborns, and for infants and younger children who require immunizations, and rescheduling well visits for those in middle childhood and older to a later date.
- **Be flexible.** Consider modifying your clinical schedule and physical space to minimize risk. Increase capacity to deliver telehealth when possible.

Additionally, the AAP has established a [new web page on AAP.org](#) where you can find the latest clinical guidance, recommendations from CDC, information for parents and other resources. This page will be updated daily as new information is available.

AAP COVID-19 Webinar Recordings

- [COVID-19 Pandemic – Clinical Guidance for Pediatric Practices](#): Strategies for pediatricians to increase infection control practices in their office to protect patients and health care workers.
 - [Talking to and Supporting Children During a Pandemic](#): Helping clinicians understand how to talk to and support children during the COVID-19 pandemic, including how to help parents talk to their children.
 - Additional topics to come include Disaster and Emergency Planning and Children with Special Health Care Needs
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More Resources

- **AAP News** – [Coronavirus Disease Outbreak](#)
- **Telehealth**
 - [HIPPA-Requirements for Telehealth](#)
 - [DHS-Tips for Telehealth](#)
- **CDC** ([COVID-19](#))
 - **CDC Updates**- [Guidance on PPE for health care personnel; COVID-19 declared a pandemic](#)
 - **CDC**- [Emergency Preparedness and Response](#)
 - **CDC**-[Webinars and Calls](#)
 - **CDC**-[Guidance to Healthcare Providers](#)
 - **CDC**-[Situation Updates](#)
- **PADOH-COVID-19**
- **CHIP/Medicaid**
 - [Updated CHIP & Medicaid COVID-19 FAQ](#)
 - [PA DHS COVID 19 Tips for Healthcare Professionals](#)