

# Pennsylvania Chapter

American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®



## COVID-19 Update and Resources 9/19 - 10/2

### PA & Federal Updates

PA saw 12,601 new cases since September 18th, bringing the total case count to 161,284 (includes confirmed and probable cases) in all 67 PA counties. View a breakdown of cases by region, county, gender, ethnicity, etc. [here](#).

Pa. released its weekly COVID-19 Early Warning Monitoring System Dashboard update. Find information such as community transmission data and changes to the state's travel recommendations [here](#).

Pa. DOH launches COVID Alert PA, the official mobile app by the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH) that uses the [Exposure Notification System \(ENS\)](#) provided by Apple and Google. [Learn more and download here](#)

Pa. Secretary of Health Rachel Levine, MD, held a press conference to provide COVID-19 updates. She stressed the need to continue mitigation measures and emphasized that many individuals diagnosed with COVID-19 experience long term symptoms. This [CDC study released](#) in July showed that, in a multistate telephone survey of symptomatic adults, 35% had not returned to their usual state of health when interviewed 2-3 weeks after testing.

A new CPT code has been created for additional expenses (such as PPE) related to the public health emergency. CMS has not yet confirmed whether it will cover the use of the code. [Learn more](#)

CMS released data on service use among Medicaid and CHIP beneficiaries age 18 and under during COVID-19. Data shows that rates for vaccinations, primary, and preventive services among children in Medicaid and CHIP have declined significantly compared to the same time period last year. [Learn more](#)

The Wolf Administration released a new COVID-19 testing prioritization plan. Testing will be prioritized based on four tiers. [Learn more](#)

The U.S. House passed a short-term government funding bill that includes a provision extending the deadline for providers to repay Medicare advance payment loans until after the public health emergency expires. The bill is now being considered by the Senate. [Learn more](#)

### PA DOH

#### **Considerations for Evaluating Patients for SARS-CoV-2**

October 1, 2020

- Patients infected with SARS-CoV-2 may present with a variety of symptoms.

- In order to protect public health, it is important to consider COVID-19 in patients presenting with mild symptoms.
- This consideration is especially important in children and young adults.
- If a patient has been exposed to a case of COVID-19, it is recommended that they be tested 2-3 days after exposure, regardless of the presence of symptoms.

[View full document here](#)

## **Testing and Management Guidance for Patients After Exposure to SARS-CoV-2**

September 21, 2020

- Individuals who have been in close contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case should be tested for SARS-CoV-2, regardless of the presence of symptoms.
- SARS-CoV-2 testing may also be advised for individuals who were in a substantial transmission zone and attended a gathering of more than 10 people without universal mask wearing and physical distancing.
- Persons who test positive for SARS-CoV-2 do not need to repeat a test for at least 3 months.

[View full guidance here](#)

## **Updates from AAP**

Visit the COVID-19 [web page on AAP.org](#) to find updated resources such as clinical guidance, practice management resources, including telehealth and coding, educational resources for clinicians and families, data reports, a discussion board, and details on AAP advocacy efforts. For questions or comments related to the pandemic, email [COVID-19@aap.org](mailto:COVID-19@aap.org).

**The American Academy of Pediatrics and Children's Hospital Association Weekly Report**- state-by-state data on COVID-19 cases in children. On September 24, the age distribution of reported COVID-19 cases was provided on the health department websites of 49 states, New York City, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and Guam. While children represented only 10.5% of all cases in states reporting cases by age, over 624,000 children have tested positive for COVID-19 since the onset of the pandemic. [Learn more](#)

- **AAP Resources**
  - **PPE and COVID-19 Supplies through Amazon Business** - The AAP partnered with Amazon to offer a special business account to AAP members. This account offers access to Amazon's wide product selection, competitive prices, and free shipping on orders over \$25. AAP members can use the link below to set up an Amazon Business account. Then follow the welcome email instructions to complete the registration process.
    - [Click here to open an AAP Amazon Business Account](#)
- **AAP Updated Clinical Guidance**
  - **[COVID-19 Testing Guidance](#)**: Guidance developed to help pediatric practices determine when to test for severe acute respiratory syndrome-coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) infection in their patient population. (9/30/2020)
  - **[Guidance on the Use of Personal Protective Equipment \(PPE\) for Pediatric Care in Ambulatory Care Settings During the SARS-CoV-2 Pandemic](#)**: Guidance for mitigating the risk of infection for all who work or receive care in pediatric ambulatory settings, including the appropriate use of personal protective equipment (PPE) along with consistent and effective infection prevention and control practices. (9/30/2020)
- **AAP News**
  - **[American Academy of Pediatrics Calls for Inclusion of Children in Research on Potential COVID-19 Vaccines](#)**- In a letter to federal

health officials this week, the American Academy of Pediatrics urged transparency, scientific rigor, and the inclusion of children in trials for a safe and effective vaccine against the COVID-19 virus. 10/1/20

- [\*\*American Academy of Pediatrics and Children's Health Association Find Rapid Rise of Pediatric COVID-19 Cases Over 5-Month Period: Study\*\*](#)- The number of children infected with COVID-19 rose dramatically between April and September 2020, rising from 2.2% to 10% of all cumulative reported COVID-19 cases nationwide, according to research by the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Children's Hospital Association. 9/29/20
- **AAP Flu Guidance & Resources**
  - Flu Season Resources and Townhall Recording- Find the new page on [AAP.org, Preparing for Flu Season](#), that provides information and resources to help practices maximize influenza vaccination rates while keeping patients, families, and practice teams safe during the pandemic. Additionally, find the recording from "Preparing Your Practice for the 2020-21 Influenza Season: A Virtual Townhall".
- **New Resources for Families on Healthychildren.org**
  - [Halloween & COVID-19: Have Fun While Staying Safe](#)
- **Interactive Town Hall Series on COVID-19**- The AAP is launching 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.
  - **Session #3: Connecting with the Experts on Return to School and Sports- October 8, 2020 at 7:00 pm CT** This session will focus on returning to school and sports. Join our experts to better understand the nuances and latest information about this evolving topic. During this event, participants are encouraged to ask their questions to prepare for a variety of scenarios during the pandemic. Experts: Susannah "Suz" Briskin, MD, FAAP; Bonnie Maldonado, MD, FAAP; Sonja O'Leary, MD, FAAP; Christopher Snyder, MD, FAAP. Register [here](#).

## COVID-19 Resources

### Resources for Developing Mass Vaccination Clinics

Mass vaccination clinics involve the administration of vaccine(s) to a large number of people over a relatively short period of time, allowing providers to rapidly and efficiently immunize communities. Due to the unique nature of mass vaccination clinics, they frequently are held in non-traditional or temporary settings, such as in parking lots or large indoor spaces. Patient flow may be managed through a variety of venues, such as walk-through, drive-through, and curbside clinics, or by using mobile medical units.

This listing from the [Immunization Action Coalition](#) offers access to guidance documents, toolkits, and other helpful resources, produced over a span of many years, and to information that can be adapted to meet the needs of your mass vaccination program and planned clinic locations.

### #JuntosStopCovid Campaign

COVID-19 continues to disproportionately impact Latinos, killing over 33,000 and hospitalizing many more of our mothers, fathers, children, and grandparents.

That is why Salud America! at UT Health San Antonio is launching the "**Juntos, We Can Stop COVID-19**" digital communication campaign to inform and urge Latino families to take action to help slow the spread of coronavirus, especially among those with underlying illnesses.

The campaign features culturally relevant fact sheets, infographics, and video role model stories—all united with the hashtag #JuntosStopCovid.

The **#JuntosStopCovid campaign** centers on three main preventive actions:

1. Wear a face mask—and care for it properly.
  2. Avoid public places, or at least get together safely, familia.
  3. Know what to do if you're exposed, or test positive.
- See and share the #JuntosStopCovid campaign!

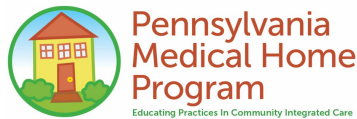
[Share the campaign](#)

## Webinars



### **Next Let's Talk Pediatric Community Forum- October 14, 2020**

PA AAP will resume our bi-weekly Let's Talk Pediatric Community Forum webinar series on Wednesday, October 14th. The National AAP is now offering a bi-weekly townhall webinar and we are attempting to avoid conflicts in scheduling by alternating the week of our webinar offerings. Here is another CME opportunity provided by our Pennsylvania Medical Home Program.



### **Upcoming Webinar from Pennsylvania Medical Home Program**

**October 7th from 12 PM - 1PM ET**

**"Lessons from Recent Disease Outbreaks and How  
They Relate in a Time of SARS COVID2"**

#### **Presenter:**

**Richard Moriarty, MD, FAAP**

#### **Learning Objectives:**

As a result of participation in this activity, participants will be able to:

- Examine roots of vaccine hesitancy in recent VPD outbreaks
- Understand techniques used to stop VPD outbreaks
- Discuss ways of applying these lessons in a time of SARS COVID-2

[Register Here](#)

#### **Recorded 9/23/20**

#### **"COVID-19 Update: Ask the Infectious Disease Experts"**

Swathi Gowtham, MD; Susan Coffin, MD, MPH, FAAP

[View Recording](#)

#### **Recorded 9/9/20**

#### **"Rising to the Challenge: Implementing Effective Flu Vaccine Delivery During the Pandemic"**

Susan J. Kressly, MD, FAAP

[View Recording](#)

#### **Recorded 8/26/20**

#### **"Supporting Intimate Partner Violence Survivors and Their Children During the COVID-19 Pandemic"**

Maya Ragavan, MD, MPH, MS; Elizabeth Miller, MD, PhD; Rebecca Garcia, MS

[View Recording](#)

#### **Recorded 8/12/20**

#### **"Developing a COVID-19 Vaccine at Warp Speed"**

Paul A Offit, MD, FAAP

[View Recording](#)

**Recorded 7/22/20**

**“Considerations for the Reopening of Schools”**

Rachel Levine, MD, FAAP, David Rubin, MD, MSCE

[View Recording](#)

**Recorded 7/15/20**

**“Telehealth & Pediatrics 201: Beyond the Basics”**

Susan J. Kressly, MD, FAAP

[View Recording](#)

You can find the full list of 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)**

Pennsylvania Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics | 484-446-3000

