

# Pennsylvania Chapter

American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®



## COVID-19 Update and Resources 9/5 - 9/18

### PA Updates

PA saw 11,021 new cases since September 4th, bringing the total case count to 148,683 (includes confirmed and probable cases) in all 67 PA counties. View a breakdown of cases by region, county, gender, ethnicity, etc. [here](#).

Pennsylvania released its weekly COVID-19 Early Warning Monitoring Dashboard update. It includes information such as data on cases among 5- to 18-year-olds and updated travel recommendations. [Learn more](#)

The Pa. Department of Health shared its weekly report on COVID-19 contact tracing. [Learn more](#)

Gov. Wolf to Legislature: Provide Support to Front-line Workers in Life-Sustaining Industries. [Learn more](#)

Wolf Administration Signs Orders That Restaurants May Increase Indoor Occupancy to 50 Percent. [Learn more](#)

### PA AAP in the News

#### Navigating Sports in a Pandemic

September 9, 2020

Medical Daily reports on how to navigate sports in a pandemic. PA AAP Advocacy Committee co-chair, Will Keough, MD, weighs in with some considerations.

[View full article here](#)

### PA AAP COVID-19 Updates

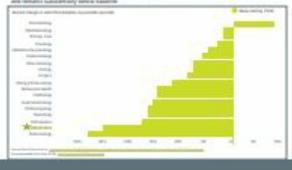
#### Effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Pediatric Visits and Childhood Immunizations in Pennsylvania

September 2020

Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children and the PA Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics have teamed up to educate the public and policymakers about the importance of keeping kids connected to care during COVID-19.

Decline in Pediatric Visits During COVID-19

As the COVID-19 pandemic began in March 2020, children in Pennsylvania were impacted. Pennsylvania's health care and child care systems, striving to reduce the spread of the novel coronavirus, were closed and child care centers, schools, and non-emergency health care services were closed. The aim was to protect Pennsylvania's population from the virus and significantly reduce the number of deaths by limiting children's contact with others. The greatest decline was in other specialties and immunizations, which were most vulnerable to the pandemic's effects.



#### Effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Pediatric Visits and Childhood Immunizations in Pennsylvania

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[View Full Document Here](#)

## PA DOH Health Alert "Guidance for Patients Under Quarantine After Exposure to SARS-CoV-2"

9/14/20

- If PA DOH or the local health department identifies that someone is a close contact to a person with COVID, the close contact must quarantine for 14 days from last contact, even if the person remains asymptomatic.
- A negative test result obtained while a close contact is under quarantine does not release the person from quarantine.
- Because infection can develop up to 14 days after exposure, persons with negative test results must still quarantine for the full 14 days.
- Patients being tested for SARS-CoV-2 infection must be instructed to isolate at home until results are received

[View full alert here](#)

## PA DOH Update "Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Patients with Known or Patients Under Investigation for 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) in a Healthcare Setting"

9/10/20

The HAN Update provides comprehensive information regarding infection prevention and control for COVID-19 in healthcare settings. The changes in this updated version of PA HAN 520 reflect an emphasis on the utility of universal eye protection for healthcare worker safety and exposure reduction.

Additions and edits in this version (compared to HAN 520) are written in red and include:

- Healthcare personnel (HCP) should adhere to using universal eye protection, in addition to a facemask, for all patient care encounters.
- Updated language regarding the use of respirators for suspected or confirmed COVID-19 cases in accordance with the Secretary's Orders

[View full update here](#)

## Updates from AAP

Visit the COVID-19 [web page on AAP.org](#) to find 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 the Children's Hospital Association provides a weekly report that compiles state-by-state data on COVID-19 cases in children. More than 500,000 children in the United States have been diagnosed with COVID-19, the American Academy of Pediatrics reported Tuesday, and the rate of new cases among kids continues to rise. From Aug. 20 to Sept. 3, there were 70,630 cases reported among children — an increase of 16 percent — bringing the national total to 513,415. The largest increases were reported in six states: Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri, Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota. [Learn more](#)

- **AAP Updated Clinical Guidance**
  - [Return to Sports](#): A positive cardiac screen or other concerning findings should prompt an electrocardiogram (EKG) and potential referral to a pediatric cardiologist, according to AAP recommendations.
  - [Guidance for Children and Families Involved with the Child Welfare System During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#): guidance for pediatricians and others who care for children in the child welfare system that affirms that a stable home and caregiver are important to nurturing a child's development and preventing trauma that can affect a child across the lifespan. (9/11/2020)
  - [Family Presence Policies for Pediatric Inpatient Settings During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#): Guidance on family presence policies

developed to support family-centered care for all children and particularly for children with special health care needs, including those with disabilities, medical complexity, and serious illness. (9/9/2020)

- **[FAQs: Management of Infants Born to Mothers with Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19](#)**: Includes precautions for birth attendants, rooming-in, breastfeeding, testing, neonatal intensive care, visitation and hospital discharge. (Updated 9/9/2020)
- **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".
  - [CDC Guidance for Planning Vaccination Clinics Held at Satellite, Temporary, or Off-Site Locations](#) – This webpage includes guidance for holding a vaccination clinic during the COVID-19 pandemic.
  - [Resources for Hosting a Vaccination Clinic](#) – This webpage includes links to resources from the National Adult and Influenza Immunization Summit including the following:
    - [Ten Principles for Holding Safe Vaccination Clinics at Satellite, Temporary, or Off-Site Locations](#)
    - [Checklist of Best Practices for Vaccination Clinics Held at Satellite, Temporary, or Off-Site Locations](#)
  - Consider contacting your local [Vaccines for Children Program](#) and/or vaccine manufacturers for mobile vaccination clinic resources.
  - Please contact the AAP at [COVID-19@aap.org](mailto:COVID-19@aap.org) with your COVID-19-related questions.
- **New Resources for Families on Healthychildren.org**
  - [Return to School During COVID-19](#)
  - [Can children get COVID-19?](#)
  - [Cloth Face Coverings for Children During COVID-19](#)

### **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 #2: Connecting with the Experts on SARS-CoV-2 Testing**
  - **September 24, 2020 at 7:00 pm CT-** During this event, we will focus on SARS-CoV-2 testing. 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. [Register here.](#)

## **2020-2021 Flu Season Information**

**The following communication has been shared with our VFC providers.**

Providers cannot borrow state-supplied seasonal influenza vaccine for privately insured patients. Providers may use private stock seasonal influenza vaccine to vaccinate VFC eligible children if VFC seasonal influenza stock is not yet available. Those private stock doses used on VFC eligible children can later be replaced as VFC stock becomes available. Replacement must be made within 90 days unless clinic can justify delay.

**No VFC eligible child should be turned away due to lack of VFC vaccine. These children should receive private vaccine until VFC vaccine is available.**

**\*\*Note:** Providers are **not** permitted to replace privately purchased influenza vaccine administered on VFC eligible children with VFC vaccine (when VFC influenza

vaccine is unavailable) if they bill Medical Assistance (MA) for the vaccine cost. This **one-direction borrowing** exception is unique to seasonal influenza vaccine and is a requirement of the CDC.

**The following must be documented for every borrowed vaccine a patient receives:**

- Vaccine name
- Private dose(s) borrowed
- Reason vaccine was borrowed
- Patient's name
- Patient's date of birth
- Date vaccine was administered
- Date vaccine was paid back
- Provider signature verifying accuracy and compliance with VFC requirements

**To properly manage inventory and track influenza dose borrowing, VFC providers MUST:**

- Maintain an inventory for VFC eligible children and a separate inventory for privately insured children;
- Manage private stock inventory correctly in order to replace any borrowed vaccine. Providers need to be certain any vaccine given is accounted for accurately;
- Be sure not to borrow more private stock vaccine than was pre-booked through your VFC influenza order;
- Replace stock with the same product when borrowing from private stock. List of VFC supplied influenza vaccines is available on the PA Division of Immunizations website; and
- Replace borrowed vaccine dose for dose.

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.

[View mass vaccination resources here.](#)

## Webinars



**UPCOMING: September 23, 2020 | 8 PM - 9 PM ET**  
**"COVID-19 Update: Ask the Infectious Disease Experts"**

**Presenters:**

**Swathi Gowtham, MD-** Infectious Disease Pediatrician,  
Geisinger Medical Center

**Susan Coffin, MD, MPH, FAAP-** Attending Physician,  
Division of Infectious Diseases, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia; Faculty Member,  
Center for Pediatric Clinical Effectiveness, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia;  
Professor of Pediatrics, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania

**Session Learning Objectives:**

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

- Discuss the current status of COVID-19 in Pennsylvania; Whats new?
- Discuss the impact of COVID-19 on return to school/sports/childcare/extracurricular activities for children and those with special needs
- Describe newest recommendations to control the spread of COVID-19 for the general pediatrician, including testing, contact tracing and infection control

REGISTER HERE

**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

