



# American Academy of Pediatrics Council on Injury, Violence, and Poison Prevention



## From the Chairperson

Summer greetings!

I want to start by thanking you for your continued support and engagement of COIVPP activities. We know these last few months have been challenging as the environment for child injury prevention programming, advocacy, and research has substantially changed. There have been significant staff and funding cuts to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), and other federal agencies. This is directly impacting the national COIVPP partnerships as well as our individual members. National programs, including programs like those focused on safe infant sleep, have essentially been eliminated. These cuts are also impacting resources and programs at the local and state level. So, it is unclear what the future holds for continuing injury prevention work and research. The AAP federal affairs team has been working hard advocating on multiple levels for these organizations and programs, and their work is ongoing. Thanks to Ami Gadhia, Nathaniel Lim, Ella Matthews, and Katie Matlin for all their injury prevention advocacy work. Thanks also to AAP President Sue Kressley and all the other members of the AAP federal and state affairs teams for their broader advocacy work. Now, more than ever, it is essential for the pediatric injury prevention community to stay committed and continue our important work for programming, research, and advocacy. We must continue to focus on the work and advocacy we can do in these times while supporting each other for the benefit of our patients and families



Lois Lee, MD, MPH, FAAP

### Trainee NCE Travel Fund

We had a successful first year with the Trainee NCE Travel Fund. We were able to provide stipends to two trainees who presented their abstracts at the NCE last year. This is a great way to support our trainees and encourage new researchers in the field of pediatric injury prevention. Even a donation of \$25 will go a long way if we all chip in, so please consider contributing to this fund.

[Support Trainees Interested in Injury Prevention to Attend the AAP NCE!](#)

### Firearm Injury Prevention SIG

The AAP's Firearm Injury Prevention Special Interest Group (SIG) has continued to organize wonderful content to engage members across the organization in initiatives focused on firearm

*(Continued on page 2)*

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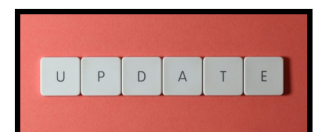


Photo by [Miguel A. Padriñán](#): Pexels

## From the Chairperson *continued*

(Continued from page 1)

injury prevention. We are grateful for the continued leadership of Dr Kiesha Fraser Doh and Dr Eric Sigel, co-chairs of the SIG, and Allison Hanes, AAP staff, for organizing the SIG activities. And we look forward to new leadership starting later this year. If you haven't already joined—please see the QR code below to join. The SIG is open (and free to join) for all AAP members.



If you have any questions about the SIG, please contact Allison Hanes: [ahanes@aap.org](mailto:ahanes@aap.org). Please look out for future activities and an in-person event at the AAP NCE this fall in Denver, CO.

### AAP NCE COIVPP Programming

#### **NEW—the Firearm Injury Prevention Innovation Forum on Friday, September 27!**

For the first time, COIVPP and the Firearm Injury Prevention SIG will be hosting a Firearm Injury Prevention Innovation Forum on Friday, September 27 from 8:00AM – 12:00PM. This half-day program will focus on innovative and effective practices and programs aimed at preventing firearm injuries. This session is being organized by Dr Maya Haasz (COIVPP) and Dr Bindi Naik-Mathuria (Section on Surgery).

- Empowering Through Education: Developing Curricula for Firearm Injury Prevention and Safe Storage  
*Cornelia Griggs, MD*
- How Pediatricians Can Prevent Youth Suicide through Lethal Means Safety Counseling  
*Jennifer Hoffmann, MD*
- Safe Communities, Strong Kids: Partnerships for Gun Violence Prevention  
*Regan Williams, MD*

- Leading Insights: Top Articles on Firearm Injury Prevention

*Kristyn Jeffries, MD, MPH*

For this fall's COIVPP AAP NCE H-Program we are excited to sponsor "Harm Reduction for Pediatric Opioid Injury" on **Saturday, September 28 from 8:00AM – 12:00PM**. Speakers include Dr Kevin Osterhoudt, Dr Sukhie Sandhu, and Suyash Shresthat, from the community organization, Rise Above Teen Action Council. This will be followed by our oral abstract presentations and Fellow Achievement Award. We also welcome Dr Kellie Snooks as our new presenter for the Top Injury Prevention Articles of the Past Year. After the H-Program please join us for the poster session from 12:00-1:00pm for additional injury prevention research. Thanks to Dr Holly Hanson and Dr Mike Levas for organizing the abstract review process and selection. And thanks to all the abstract reviewers!

In addition, we are sponsoring a Joint session with the Council on Children and Disaster (COCD) and the Council on School Health (COSH) called, "Protecting Our Future: Pediatricians' Role in Advocacy, Preparedness, and Response to Mass School Shootings." This session will be on **Saturday, September 27 from 1:00PM – 5:00PM**. There are also other injury prevention sessions during the NCE on topics related to child passenger safety, drowning prevention, bullying and firearm injury prevention. A HUGE thanks to Dr Kim Randell and Dr Katy Flynn O'Brien for helping to organize all the COIVPP content for the NCE!

Wishing you and yours a safe and enjoyable summer!  
Regards,

Lois  
[loiskleemd@gmail.com](mailto:loiskleemd@gmail.com)

## Upcoming Meetings/Conferences/Courses/Events

[Safe States Annual Injury & Violence Prevention Conference](#) | September 9-11, 2025 | Atlanta, GA

★ [AAP National Conference and Exhibition](#) | September 26-30, 2025 | Denver, CO (Hybrid)

[Safe Kids Worldwide Childhood Injury Prev Convention \(PrevCon\)](#) | October 15-18, 2025 | National Harbor, MD

[American Public Health Association Annual Meeting & Expo](#) | November 2-5, 2025 | Washington, DC (Hybrid)

[Pediatric Trauma Society Annual Meeting](#) | November 5-8, 2025 | Austin, TX

[Academy on Violence and Abuse Global Health Summit](#) | November 6-7, 2025 | Salt Lake City, Utah

[American Association of State Highway & Transportation Officials \(AASHTO\) Annual Meeting](#) | November 17-20, 2025 | Salt Lake City, UT

[Institute for Firearm Injury Prevention](#) | November 19-21, 2025 | Tempe, AZ

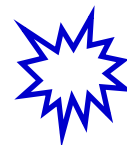
[30<sup>th</sup> Annual Injury Free Coalition for Kids® Conference](#) | December 5-7, 2025 | Ft Lauderdale, FL

[16<sup>th</sup> Annual Traumatic Brain Injury Conference](#) | March 2026 | Washington, DC

[Gun Violence Prevention Forum](#) | March 5, 2026 | New York City, NY (Hybrid)

[Society for Advancement of Violence and Injury Prevention \(SAVIR\)](#) | April 13-15, 2026 | Providence, RI

[Lifesavers](#) | April 19-21, 2026 | Baltimore, MD



## Volunteer & Engagement - AAP Mentorship Program

The [AAP Mentorship Program](#) needs mentors to help medical students and pediatric trainees navigate the unique challenges of individuals in the field of pediatrics. Approximately 1-3 hours/month for about a year for physicians who have completed training, or retirees. Visit the [online mentorship program](#) and complete a mentor profile. Note: Mentor relationships can last as long as needed. Questions? Please reach out to Katy Lerman ([klerman@aap.org](mailto:klerman@aap.org)).

## Highlights from COIVPP and the AAP

Button Battery Safety was the topic of the recent T4CIP Day of Action (see section below), and because of the great information presented, we asked Dr Leah Middelburg to contribute a short piece on recent button battery product changes to keep our membership up to date on this critical topic.

### Button Battery Product Changes

By Leah Middelburg, MD

Though button or coin batteries are not new, they have been used in products for decades, the number of childhood injuries and fatalities due to their ingestion has significantly increased in the last 20-30 years. This dramatic rise seems to be linked to an increase in the diameter of the batteries ( $\geq 20$ mm diameter batteries) and the change to lithium cells (twice the voltage of previous batteries).

In 2022, a federal law, Reese's Law, was signed into action, which mandated a federal safety requirement for button, cell, and coin batteries. Subsequently, the CPSC established performance standards around packaging, secured battery compartments, and warning labels on all small battery products. Since that time, manufacturers have pushed to make their products appear safer. **These measures include a bitter coating on the battery to deter children from placing it in their mouths and a color change coating that can dye the mouth blue after contact with saliva. However, it is unclear how effective these newer deterrents are in decreasing ingestion risk.** Some questions around these innovations persist. For example, will caregivers or providers know the discoloration means a battery ingestion, what the dye substance is, and how long it takes to react? The battery-maker Energizer states that the bitter and color-change coating is good for one exposure only, and the dye is a non-toxic, food-grade substance that will react within seconds of the child's saliva interacting with the packet on the negative pole of the battery.

While any attempt at added safety is welcomed, these measures by no means make these products safe to have

within easy access of young children. The American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery position statement calls for more. "Industry must adopt a new safe button or coin cell battery technology that will not cause severe injury inside the body." Until the time batteries are redesigned in a way that they cannot cause injury when ingested, the message to families should remain: **keep button batteries out of the reach of children.**

- CPSC safety information sheet- public-facing information and links for posters to distribute/utilize <https://www.cpsc.gov/Safety-Education/Safety-Education-Centers/Button-Cell-Coin-Battery-Information-Center>
- Explanation of Reese's Law <https://www.cpsc.gov/Newsroom/News-Releases/2023/Making-Families-Safer-from-Button-Cell-or-Coin-Battery-Dangers-Reeses-Law-Leads-to-New-Federal-Mandatory-Safety-Standard>
  - Sharpe SJ, Rochette LM, Smith GA. Pediatric battery-related emergency department visits in the United States, 1990-2009. *Pediatrics*. 2012;129(6):1111-7.
  - Kramer RE, Lerner DG, Lin T, Manfredi M, Shah M, Stephen TC, et al. Management of ingested foreign bodies in children: a clinical report of the NASPGHAN Endoscopy Committee. *Journal of pediatric gastroenterology and nutrition*. 2015;60(4):562-74.
  - Varga Á, Kovács T, Saxena AK. Analysis of Complications After Button Battery Ingestion in Children. *Pediatric emergency care*. 2018;34(6):443-6.
  - Sethia R, Gibbs H, Jacobs IN, Reilly JS, Rhoades K, Jatana KR. Current management of button battery injuries. *Laryngoscope investigative otolaryngology*. 2021;6(3):549-63.
  - Chandler MD, Ilyas K, Jatana KR, Smith GA, McKenzie LB, MacKay JM. Pediatric Battery-Related Emergency Department Visits in the United States: 2010-2019. *Pediatrics*. 2022;150(3).

## COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

### POLICY

Allison Hanes - [ahanes@aap.org](mailto:ahanes@aap.org)

AAP members are encouraged to make liberal use of Clinical Reports, Technical Reports, and Policy Statements in local, state, and national advocacy. If members would like to suggest gaps in AAP injury prevention policy, or if you are interested in potentially becoming an author of a future COIVPP technical report and policy statement, please contact Allison Hanes ([ahanes@aap.org](mailto:ahanes@aap.org)), or any of the Executive Committee.

### EDUCATION

Kim Randell - [randell.k@gmail.com](mailto:randell.k@gmail.com)

Katy Flynn-O'Brien - [kflynnobrien@gmail.com](mailto:kflynnobrien@gmail.com)

Do you know of a great injury prevention education resource that would be helpful to COIVPP members? Please let Education Chairs Kim Randell ([randell.k@gmail.com](mailto:randell.k@gmail.com)) or Katy Flynn-O'Brien ([kflynnobrien@gmail.com](mailto:kflynnobrien@gmail.com)) know about them.

### VIOLENCE PREVENTION

Marlene Melzer-Lange - [mmelzer@mcw.edu](mailto:mmelzer@mcw.edu)

If you have ideas for the Violence Prevention Subcommittee, please send them to me at [mmelzer@mcw.edu](mailto:mmelzer@mcw.edu).

### MEMBERSHIP/NEWSLETTER

James Dodington - [james.dodington@yale.edu](mailto:james.dodington@yale.edu)

Maneesha Argawal - [maneesha99@gmail.com](mailto:maneesha99@gmail.com)

At a time when support for life-saving injury prevention efforts faces growing challenges, it is more important than ever for pediatricians to champion and promote injury prevention to their patients and the general public. Through both patient engagement and public advocacy, we must continue to elevate the critical importance of childhood injury prevention. In this third installment of

this COIVPP newsletter series, we highlight high-impact social media accounts that consistently share valuable content related to pediatric injury prevention:

1. **Safe Kids Worldwide. X/Twitter: '@safekids; Instagram: safekidsworldwide** – Safe Kids is a key partner in pediatric injury prevention nationally and partners with many leaders within COIVPP to promote injury prevention messaging. They frequently share content relevant to the season and what is being featured in the media.
2. **Prevent Child Injury. X/Twitter: '@PreventChildInj; Instagram: preventchildinjury** – Led by the team at Nationwide Children's Hospital, Prevent Child Injury provides evidence-based messaging and over 30 comprehensive toolkits covering a wide range of pediatric injury topics. Their social media offers ready-to-share graphics and educational content.
3. **Everytown for Gun Safety. X/Twitter: '@Everytown; Instagram: everytown** – a leading voice in gun violence prevention, Everytown has a robust social media presence. They are also the parent organization for groups such as Moms Demand Action and Students Demand Action. Their content is informative, data-driven, and advocacy-focused.
4. **National Drowning Prevention Alliance. X/Twitter: '@drownalliance; Instagram: drownalliance** – NDPA brings together injury prevention professionals from across the country to promote water safety and prevent drowning. Their channels offer frequent, practical posts ideal for dissemination during peak swim and recreation seasons.

Please encourage trainees and early career members to join COIVPP through their AAP membership! If you have questions about membership, please contact Bonnie Kozial, AAP Manager, COIVPP- [BKozial@aap.org](mailto:BKozial@aap.org).



## AAP Legislative Highlights

Nathaniel Lim - [nlim@aap.org](mailto:nlim@aap.org)

### Product Safety & Injury Prevention

In March, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit upheld federal safety standards regulating high-power magnets and affirming the Consumer Product Safety Commission's (CPSC) authority to regulate small, powerful magnet sets that are dangerous health risks to children if ingested. The AAP's brief was cited in the [court's opinion](#) in footnote 8, where the court stated, "Indeed, medical experts note that such ingestions 'cause life-threatening injuries to children,' and describe magnet ingestion as 'a pediatric healthcare crisis.'" In August 2023, the AAP joined other medical organizations in submitting an [amicus brief](#) to defend these safety standards for magnets and urged the court to uphold CPSC's necessary and evidence-based rule on high-powered magnets in order to prevent serious injuries and save lives.

In May, the AAP signed a [letter](#) to Congress supporting maternal and infant health programs, including the Safe to Sleep Campaign, which has helped reduce infant mortality rates nationwide, and the Sudden Unexpected Infant Death and Sudden Death in the Young Case Registry, which helps researchers and medical professionals prevent infant deaths by gathering, analyzing, and sharing the data needed to develop strategies and interventions.

### Gun Violence Prevention

The AAP continues its work leading the medical, public health, and research community's advocacy for federally funded research to prevent firearm violence through the [Gun Violence Prevention Research Roundtable](#) coalition. The AAP recently sent a letter of over 400 medical, public health, and research organizations [calling on Congress to maintain and increase gun violence prevention research funding](#). The continuing resolution for FY 2025 allows for the continued level funding of \$25 million for firearm violence prevention research, split evenly between the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the

National Institutes of Health (NIH). The AAP is continuing its efforts to make clear the importance of at least maintaining this current funding for FY 2026.

The AAP is also continuing to engage in a strategy to elevate pediatrician stories about gun violence to drive policy change, including a [partnership with StoryCorps](#). The AAP's Firearm Injury Prevention Special Interest Group (SIG) also continues to hold events throughout the year to engage our members on firearm violence prevention efforts.

For more on these and other advocacy updates, please visit the following [link](#).



Photo by Ajay Parthasarathy on [Unsplash](#)

**Liaison Report****Canadian Paediatric Society (CPS)**

**Suzanne Beno** - [suzanne.beno@sickkids.ca](mailto:suzanne.beno@sickkids.ca)

The Canadian Paediatric Society Injury Prevention Committee has been engaged in the following activities since the last update:

**Position Statements:**

*Published statement* - posted to CPS website Feb 24, 2025. "Off-road vehicle use by children and adolescents: Strategies to prevent injury" <https://cps.ca/en/documents/position/off-road-vehicle-use> and has been translated for publication in the journal Paediatrics & Child Health. The release of the statement garnered national media interest from CBC Syndicate with radio interviews conducted across the country, as well as national televised news coverage. The CPS has engaged with a number of provincial government Ministries of Transportation to discuss how these recommendations can be actioned. Additionally, the Ontario Coroners Office is collaborating to embed the recommendations within their independent review. The position statement will be highlighted through a presentation at the 2025 CPS Scientific Assembly in Quebec City.

*In development* – there are two statements currently in development. The statement "Reducing Harm, Promoting Health: A Framework for Paediatric Injury Prevention in Canada" will act as a foundational document that can be kept evergreen for referencing and education. This statement is completed and will be submitted for review shortly. The second statement being written is focusing on pediatric burn prevention and will be submitted in the fall of 2025.

**Canadian Paediatric Surveillance Program One-Time Surveys:**

The committee is engaged in 3 separate surveys which have undergone review and have been approved for distribution. These include national one-time research surveys to pediatric healthcare providers across Canada addressing the increasing use of micromobility devices such as e-scooters and e-bicycles, falls from height

resulting in significant injury, and severe trampoline injuries.

**Committee Membership Change:**

The CPS Injury Prevention Committee's current membership resumed in 2019 and has been a force in developing and implementing our IP initiatives and profile at the CPS and across the country. There will however be some switching of membership this June. As Chair, my term is ending and I will be stepping away with Dr Daniel Rosenfield from SickKids taking my place. It's been an incredible pleasure to lead and work with this committee, and an honor to be the CPS liaison for COIVPP through these years. I have learned a great deal from the amazing passion and dedication every member of these committees demonstrates.

Thank you and warmest regards,  
Suzanne Beno

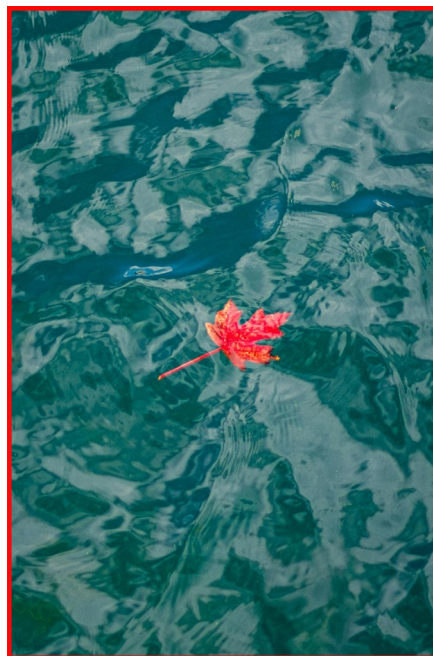


Photo by [Anurag Jamwal](#)

## Prevent Child Injury and Trainees for Child Injury Prevention (T4CIP)

Gary Smith - [gsmith65432@gmail.com](mailto:gsmith65432@gmail.com)

Laura Dattner - [dattner@nationwidechildrens.org](mailto:dattner@nationwidechildrens.org)

Trainees for Child Injury Prevention (T4CIP) is a group of trainees from across the country committed to child injury prevention that develops outreach materials and strategies for one-day national advocacy campaigns. This core group of trainees reaches out to other trainees and training programs asking them to participate in each Day of Action by sharing information during their morning report, noon conference, or continuity clinic, as well as sharing information on social media. T4CIP is sponsored by the Center for Injury Research and Policy in Columbus, Ohio, and the American Academy of Pediatrics Section on Pediatric Trainees and Council on Injury, Violence, and Poison Prevention and is supported, in part, by funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Staff from AAP Media and Outreach are also closely involved.

In January 2025, the fifth year of the program launched with 81 trainees – including 41 medical students, 31 residents, and 9 fellows. Participants come from 53 institutions in 30 states. We also have 11 facilitators and 75 T4CIP trainee alumni who wanted to continue with the program through the alumni committee.

The ninth Day of Action was on May 21, 2025 and focused on button battery safety. You can search the hashtag #ButtonBatterySafety on X, Instagram, and LinkedIn to see some of the great posts from participants and partners. The May 2025 Day of Action had nearly 815,000 impressions from over 300 posts across social media. Watch this [one-hour webinar](#) that T4CIP co-hosted with Prevent Child Injury, with 270 views and counting, moderated by Dr Gary Smith (Nationwide Children's), with panelists Dr Kris Jatana (Nationwide Children's), Jonathan Midgett, PhD (US CPSC), and Trista Hamsmith (Reese's Purpose). You can view all the #ButtonBatterySafety graphics and outreach materials on [T4CIP's website](#). Social media graphics are available in two sizes, and in English and Spanish.

Trainees also organized and participated in local advocacy and community partnerships, including working with their AAP chapters and Safe Kids coalitions. They gave talks to their colleagues and peers and created and distributed educational materials to families. They wrote features for newsletters, were guests on podcasts, and were interviewed for local news stories.

T4CIP's next Day of Action will be on October 22, 2025, and will focus on medication safe storage. Follow [@T4CIP](#) on X, [@T4CIP](#) on Instagram, and [@T4CIP](#) on LinkedIn for more information about upcoming Days of Action and T4CIP. Please email [Laura.Dattner@NationwideChildrens.org](mailto:Laura.Dattner@NationwideChildrens.org) with questions. Learn more about T4CIP by visiting [www.t4cip.org](http://www.t4cip.org) or searching #T4CIP on Instagram and X. Applications for the 2026 T4CIP trainee cohort will open in late October 2025.



(Continued on page 9)



## Prevent Child Injury and Trainees for Child Injury Prevention (T4CIP) continued

(Continued from page 8)

### T4CIP #ButtonBatterySafety Day of Action May 21, 2025 [www.t4cip.org/button-battery-safety](http://www.t4cip.org/button-battery-safety)



## Welcome New Council on Injury, Violence, and Poison Prevention Members! (November 1, 2024 - May 31, 2025)

Mohammed Alghamdi	Elianna Israel	Ursula Parlin
Chelsea Anderson	Julia Katcher	Taylor Rosenbaum
Laura Bricklin	Baila Khan	Amanda Scully
Lisa Callahan	Narmeen Khan	Katherine Snyder
Nadine Campbell	Emily Kilian	Rachel Tellez
Katherine Cavanaugh	Sarah Kremer	Joshua Timock
Lindsay Clukies	Jessica Maaskant	Daniel Trigg
Christina Cochran	Eileen Matos	Sara Ungerleider
Luke Diasio	Ashlie McGregor	Sameera Vedantam
Mary First	Madison Meder-McCaffrey	Lillian Voke
Darria Gillespie	Perla Alejandra Mellado Urbina	Megan Vu
Lisa Goto	Sarisha Menon	Caroline Walsh
Yezan Hassan	Rebecca Miller	Monet Weldon
Isaac Horowitz	Deborah Moss	Alexandra Wilder
Mary Howard	Dorothy Novick	
Karen Kay Imagawa	Alekya Paripati	





## GETTING INVOLVED WITH YOUR COUNCIL

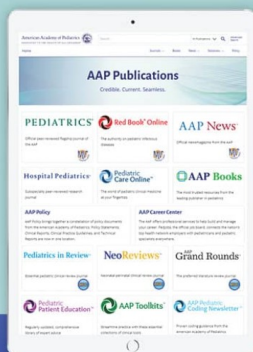
If you have questions about any activities of the council or are interested in participating in public education, policy development, advocacy, or any other injury prevention effort, please reach out to:

- COIVPP Chairperson Lois Lee, MD, MPH, FAAP ([loiskleemd@gmail.com](mailto:loiskleemd@gmail.com))
- COIVPP manager Bonnie Kozial ([BKozial@aap.org](mailto:BKozial@aap.org))
- Or any COIVPP executive committee member



Don't forget: eligible members\* are able to pay their member dues (national, chapter, and section/council) in monthly installments with no additional fee.

*\*The following member types are eligible for installment payments: Fellows, Specialty Fellows, Candidates, Associates, and Senior members.*



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## COIVPP Executive Committee

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