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Advocating for Kids



In this episode of the special series, “Pathways to Pediatrics,” hosts David Hill, MD, FAAP, and Joanna Parga-Belinkie, MD, FAAP, interview new AAP President Ben Hoffman, MD, FAAP. Dr. Hoffman talks about the discrimination he faced as a child, his work with the Navajo Nation and how he inadvertently became “the car seat guy.” Listen to the podcast [here](#), or on your favorite podcast platform.

We are looking for an Equity, Diversity and Inclusion advocate to serve on our executive committee. This person would help our chapter to inspire change through implemented initiatives, programs or activities to support equity, diversity and inclusion among ICAAP membership, and would promote equitable health outcomes for children. If you are interested or have a recommendation, please contact Sherry Iverson (sherrydeeiverson@gmail.com).

The AAP as of January 1 is having the Board of Directors and key advisory boards members all use their own personal email accounts. Employer email servers belong to that organization and they can have access to your email accounts. The AAP is suggesting leaders and members might want to change to using their own email for Chapter advocacy work. If you do change your email. Please notify us at idahoap@gmail.com to ensure communication.

Spotlight on an AAP Member

Many of our members know Dr Peter Nieman, a pediatrician from Calgary, Canada, and part of our District VIII AAP family. Peter and his family lost their son to suicide at the age of 16 and Peter wrote this book, *Sustained - a Life Rewritten* after a sudden misfortune. To honor Ben. “Losing a teenager to suicide is about life as a parent adjusting to one of the biggest mental emotional and spiritual challenges anyone can ever place”. This book takes a look by others as we are sustained by others, an important resource for pediatricians, your staff and parents in your practice who have lost a child.

Upcoming Educational Opportunities/Meetings

7th Annual Idaho Breastfeeding Summit

Information from the Idaho Breastfeeding Coalition:

The 7th Annual Idaho Breastfeeding Summit is scheduled for June 20-21 in Twin Falls, Idaho at the The Herrett Center for Arts & Science on the CSI campus. <https://herrett.csi.edu/>. We have not confirmed virtual options yet. The cost will likely be \$150 for the 2-day conference. We will be applying for Lactation, Nursing and Dietetic continuing education. Registration usually opens in April. Follow us on social media for updates.

Now Recruiting: AAP Health Care Transition from Pediatric to Adult Care for Youth with Spina Bifida ECHO: Cohort 3

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) is recruiting pediatric and adult clinicians who care for youth and young adults with spina bifida to join a 4-month **Health Care Transition from Pediatric to Adult Care for Youth with Spina Bifida ECHO**. The AAP Spina Bifida Transition ECHO program serves as an interactive forum for pediatricians, pediatric specialists, nurses, social workers and others that provide medical care to youth and young adults with spina bifida to increase their knowledge, skills and self-efficacy regarding effective strategies and best practices in promoting successful transition from pediatric to adult-centered care. Each session will be 1 hour long, combining both a brief lecture presentation and de-identified, provider cases. We encourage practices that serve the Latino community to participate in this ECHO.

We are pleased to offer CME, CEU and CEs to physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, nurses, and most recently **social workers** as well. This program is Approved by the National Association of Social Workers (Approval #886367139-9944) for 9 continuing education contact hours. We encourage your multi-disciplinary team to participate.

The ECHO sessions will be held on Thursdays for 1 hour at 11am MT on the following dates:

February 1, 15 and 29

March 14 and 28

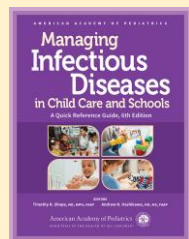
April 11 and 25

May 9 and 23

The ECHO will launch on February 1 at 11 am. [Register Here](#)

For questions, please contact Lisa Brock, LCSW, Program Mgr., AAP ECHO Initiatives, 630-626-6213 lbrock@aap.org.

Book Corner



Completely revised and updated, the new sixth edition of this award-winning quick reference guide provides the information you need to know about the prevention and management of infectious diseases in early childhood education settings, such as child care centers and schools. This edition includes pediatrician approved guidance on best practices with regard to COVID-19.

Presented in an easy-to-use format, this must-have guide provides

Content from the premier American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) sources of information on infectious diseases, Red Book® and Caring for Our Children

Quick Reference Sheets on more than 55 common infectious diseases and symptoms that occur in children in educational settings, including COVID-19

Clear-cut explanations on how infectious diseases spread

Strategies for limiting the spread of infection

When exclusion is and is not indicated

New information on pandemic preparedness

Ready-to-use sample letters and forms for parents or referrals

And much more!

Resources (cont.)

AAP Congenital Heart Defect Toolkit

Take Advantage of Timely Resources on Congenital Heart Defects

It is essential for people with birth defects to receive lifelong specialty care. It is especially common for people with congenital heart defects (CHD) to fall out of cardiac care as they become adults. In recognition of the National Birth Defects Awareness Month, check out the following resources on the importance of access to lifelong care for patients with CHD. View the [entire toolkit](#), or click on these individual resources:

[Video curriculum](#): Awareness of CHD Among Healthcare Clinicians (offers CME credit)

Multidisciplinary [PediaLink webinar](#) (offers CME credit)

Lifelong Care for Patients with CHD [webinar](#)

Case-based [mini trainings](#)

CDC Data Show Most Firearms in Unintentional Child Deaths are Left Loaded, Unlocked

[Healio](#) (12/15) reported, "Most firearms used in unintentional firearm deaths among children in the United States are stored loaded and unlocked, and deaths most often occur when a shooter is playing with or showing a firearm to someone else, CDC data show." Published in the MMWR, data [show](#) "unintentional firearm injuries to children are inflicted by others 53% of the time."

AAP News: [Study: Most guns in unintentional child deaths were loaded, unlocked](#)

Encourage New Parents to Sign Up for our Ages & Stages Messaging Programs

Healthy Children is offering a new program for parents. You may wish to provide this information to your new parents. For additional information, go to [Ages & Stages - HealthyChildren.org](#)
Below is a sign-up link provided by Healthy Children



Our Ages & Stages text messaging program has just launched! If you're expecting a baby—or have kids up to the age of five—be sure to sign up below to receive important, age-based text messages for your family from the American Academy of Pediatrics!

[Ages & Stages Messaging Program - HealthyChildren.org](#)

Idaho Immunization Coalition invites you to join them for their Annual Health and Wellness Event scheduled for March 23. For more information, go to [2024 Health Fair \(idahoimmunizationcoalition.org\)](#).

New Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health PediaLink Course Available

Learn and apply a relational health framework to promote healthy infant and early childhood mental development. Discover principles that foster stable and nurturing relationships with the new PediaLink course, "[Infant Early Childhood Mental Health: Lifelong Health and Well-being](#)." Access the course for free using the code SAVE5.

Pediatric Environmental Health Toolkit

The free [Pediatric Environmental Health: e-Toolkit for Prevention](#) from the Western States Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit (PEHSU) provides trusted information to health care providers on environmental health threats. The toolkit can help educate caregivers and families about common exposures and prevention strategies. The toolkit provides examples of how and where people live, eat, sleep, work, and play can affect health. Find information in English and Spanish.

Three or More Maternal Doses of Covid-19 Vaccine Enhance Antibody Concentrations in Preterm Infants Compared to Two or Fewer Doses

[Healio](#) (1/19) reported, "Three or more doses of maternal COVID-19 vaccine significantly enhance antibody concentrations in preterm infants compared with two or fewer doses, according to study results published in JAMA Network Open." According to the [research](#), "cord anti-S antibody geometric mean concentration was 1,000 (95% CI, 874-1,144) after two doses and 9,992 (95% CI, 8381-1,1914) after three or more doses."

[MedPage Today](#) (1/19) reported, "Notably, cord anti-S antibody levels were similar in preterm and full-term pregnancies, with geometric mean concentrations of 8,818 and 10,423, respectively (P=0.34)."