



Georgia Chapter
American Academy of Pediatrics
*Georgia's leading voice for children and the
pediatricians & subspecialists who care for them.*



Blast Communication:

Sent to our Members via Email and Fax

COVID-19 Update #10
April 21, 2020

Dear Georgia AAP Colleagues:

Here are the updates for this week.

NOTE: If you are reading this message as a blast fax, visit us on the web at www.gaaap.org to view the message on-line to enable links. All previous blasts are archived on the website.

Report on Cleaning and Disinfectant Chemical Exposures Associated with COVID-19.

Calls to U.S. poison centers about cleaner and disinfectant exposures increased by 20% (Jan – March 2020). Please click [here](#) for the MMWR.

The Ga AAP recommends reminding families to store hand sanitizer safely as the high alcohol content can be dangerous; these calls have also been increasing. The Chapter also wants to remind your families to save the poison control number in their phones and store cleaning supplies locked up or up and away and out of sight.

How to Prescribe Controlled Substances to Patients During the COVID-19 Public Health

The flow-chart below is a very useful one highlighting prescribing controlled substances in the era of COVID-19, from Colleen Labelle, who is the director of the State OBAT (office-based addiction treatment) program, as well as OBAT and the Training and Technical Assistance program at Boston Medical Center. Please click [here](#) to access the flow chart.

Telehealth in Pediatrics: Getting Started, Getting Paid

Webinar Coming Next Tuesday. The Georgia AAP will present a webinar on “Telehealth in Pediatrics: Getting Started, Getting Paid” next Tuesday, April 28, from 6:00pm to 7:00pm. The faculty will be Mick Connors, MD, president of Anytime Pediatrics. Registration information will follow shortly.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING: Revision to Immunization of School Children Regulation 511-2-2-.02.

The purpose of the proposed rulemaking is to delay the implementation date of the requirement for a booster dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine for eleventh grade students. Due to school closures and social distancing requirements imposed during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Department proposes to change the implementation date from July 1, 2020, to July 1, 2021. The GA AAP will meet with DPH, later this year, to determine if circumstances surrounding COVID-19 change and a December 31, 2020 implementation date may be feasible.

AAP & Georgia Chapter Provide 60 Day Grace Period on Member Dues

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the AAP National and the Georgia Chapter are working together to advocate at every level of government (state and federal) and working closely with the CDC and local public health officials to support you and your practice. We recognize that for some of our colleagues, this pandemic has caused a financial hardship. To support them during this difficult period, AAP National and the Georgia Chapter will be extending a 60-day grace period on member benefits for those who are unable to pay their dues on time. For more information on the grace period, please visit www.aap.org/graceperiod.

Chapter EPIC Programs Now Delivered Virtually

The Chapter's popular EPIC programs, which provide in-office training sessions on Breastfeeding and Immunization topics, are going virtual. In light of the COVID-19 outbreak, we understand practices are limiting foot traffic in and out of their offices in order to prioritize the health of their patients. We are innovating to bring our peer-to-peer education to you in a new way- online! We can customize a program to your office staff availability (they can even log on or call in from home) or you can register for one of our new webinar offerings. Please visit the EPIC website at <http://www.gaepic.org/> to request a program or register for an upcoming webinar. As always, this education is at no cost to your practice through our partnership with the Georgia Department of Public Health and includes a Resource Kit and continuing education for physicians and nurses.

If you have any questions or concerns about this information, please contact Noreen Dahill at ndahill@gaaap.org, or if you have questions regarding Telehealth please contact Fozia Eskew at feskew@gaaap.org. Thanks so much for your time and consideration.

Terri McFadden, MD, FAAP
President

This message is also posted on the Georgia AAP listserv for our pediatrics nurses and practice managers.

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