



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



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Georgia AAP Weekly Update

October 28, 2020

Announcements

JUST 3 DAYS AWAY! IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO REGISTER! Pediatrics on the Virtual Parkway: Halloween Edition is This Weekend, Saturday, Oct. 31 and Sunday, Nov. 1. The OnDemand sessions and virtual platform are already available for viewing! Sign up today for two days of virtual learning and connecting with other Georgia pediatricians and exhibitors. Click [here](#) to see the program of live and recorded content. Because this is a virtual event, you must register by Friday, 4:00 pm. Click [here](#) to register. We'll "see" you there!

Election Day is Tuesday November 3rd!! - Please make sure that you have a plan to cast your ballot and encourage others to do the same. Visit [Vote.org](#) for voting information. Visit [AAP.org/VoteKids](#) for more resources from the AAP.

AAP unveils 2020 Blueprint for Children - The Blueprint reflects on the State of Children in 2020 and recommends policies to promote healthy children, support secure families, build strong communities, and reclaim America's role as a leading nation for youth. To read the Blueprint, visit [AAP.org/Blueprint](#).

This is Another Reminder That the "Open Notes Rule" Becomes Effective Nov. 2 - This new federal rule requires patients be provided access to all the health information in their electronic medical records without charge by their healthcare provider beginning Nov. 2, 2020. Because of Covid-19, regulators have announced a three month period of "discretion" after the initial compliance date, which would make the Rule enforceable by Feb,1, 2021. For information, click [here](#).

Resources for Pediatricians

AAP Offers Interim Guidance on Children's Emotional -- Behavioral Health During the Pandemic - This new AAP guidance describes how children and adolescents may behave differently when under the stress caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, and how those signs vary by age and stage. You can read the guidance [here](#).

New CPT Code Approved for Use During Pandemic: Though Implementation is Pending - Last week we told you about this new code, 99072, which can be reported for additional supplies, materials, and preparation time required and provided by the physician over and above those usually included in an office visit, when performed during a nationally declared public health emergency. However, CMS has not issued a Final Rule on this code, and at this point, payers vary widely in how they are treating the code. AAP is advocating for a quick resolution to this issue. Click [here](#) for more information.

New Provider Relief Funding Phase 3: General Distribution - The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced a next phase of provider relief funding. It will distribute \$20 billion to pediatricians and other providers who have experienced lost revenue and increased expenses due to COVID-19. Providers can apply from October 5 to November 6. More information can be found via this [press release](#).

Resources for Parents

CDC guidance on Halloween, Holiday Gatherings & Services - The CDC has provided guidance around Halloween, and pediatric practices are encouraged to share this information with their patients and families. Click [here](#) for the guidance. If you will be attending a celebration that someone else is hosting, follow [CDC Considerations for attending an event or gathering](#). Information on religious holiday gatherings can be found under [Considerations for Communities of Faith](#).

October is Safe Sleep Month - Each year in the U.S., more than 3,700 infants, without a prior known illness or injury, die suddenly and unexpectedly from sleep-related causes such as SIDS and Accidental Suffocation and Strangulation in Bed. As of 2018, Georgia averaged three infant deaths per week due to sleep-related causes, which are mostly preventable.

Now is a great time to make sure that you and your families are up to date on the latest Safe Sleep recommendations. Refer to our [Fall newsletter](#) for an informative article by Dr. Sarah Lazarus, Chapter's Safe Sleep Co-champion. Click [here](#) for information from HealthyChildren.org.

New #FreeYourFeels Resources for Youth - *Free Your Feels* is a mental health awareness campaign encouraging Georgia's young people to explore their real feelings and share them fearlessly. Click [here](#) for more information and for links to social media resources, posters, and flyers.

Education

Webinar: We Have the Immunization Data, Now What? - Offered by the Georgia Chapter in partnership with the American Cancer Society, Thursday, Nov. 19, 11:30 am-12:30 pm ET. Click [here](#) for information.

Childhood Education Health & Wellness Summit - All Chapter members are invited to join Head Start leadership in attending the Georgia Early Childhood Education Health & Wellness Summit to be held virtually on Thursday, Nov. 12, at 12 noon ET. To register, click [here](#). Pediatricians are also invited to share their experiences with early education centers via a short survey that can be accessed [here](#).

Sincerely,

Hugo Scornik, MD, FAAP, President

For questions, contact Noreen Dahill at ndahill@gaaap.org. This message is also posted on the Georgia AAP listserv for our pediatric nurses and practice managers. Thank you!

Stay Connected to the Georgia AAP!

Use our media platforms -- twitter, Facebook, YouTube -- and our blog www.gapedb.blogspot.com to stay in the know and get the information you need.



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