



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



## Georgia AAP Weekly Update

*\*November 18, 2020\**

### Announcements

**Families Should Be Counseled to Celebrate Thanksgiving Safely** - As Thanksgiving Day approaches, the Georgia Chapter recommends discussing with families how to celebrate in a safe manner. Our Communications Committee has developed a press release on this topic that is being sent to all major media outlets in the state today. To view the press release, click [here](#).

**DPH Seeks Covid-19 Vaccine Providers** - Yesterday, all physicians were sent a letter from DPH Commissioner Dr. Kathleen Toomey asking that physicians partner with DPH to distribute COVID-19 vaccines as they become available. In our discussions with DPH, pediatricians are encouraged to sign up now even though it is not yet clear if children will be able to receive the first wave of vaccines. There are at least two steps: filling out the expression of interest survey and later completing the Vaccine Enrollment Packet. To view the letter, please click [here](#).

**Important Georgia U.S. Senate Run-off Election Dates** - On Jan 5, Georgia will have two important Senate run-off races: Kelley Loeffler (R) vs. John Ossoff (D); and Raphael Warnock (D) vs. David Perdue (R).

Here are some important dates for families to be aware of:

Nov. 18: Absentee ballots begin going out

Dec. 7: Deadline to register

Dec. 14: Early In-Person voting begins

Jan. 1 Deadline to request an absentee ballot

Jan. 5: Election Day. Absentee ballots must be returned by 7 p.m. on Jan. 5.

\*An adolescent who is 17 years old may register to vote if they turn 18 years old by January 5, 2021.

**CATCH Program Call for Proposals is Open!** The (CATCH) Community Access to Child Health program is a national AAP initiative that supports pediatricians to collaborate within their communities to plan and/or implement projects that advance the health of all children. The Call for Proposals is open through Jan. 27. Pediatricians and residents with innovative ideas to plan or implement initiatives that address critical child health issues may apply for grants of \$10,000 and \$2,000, respectively. For information, pediatricians click [here](#), and for residents click [here](#). For questions, reach out to Chapter CATCH facilitators: Lillianne Lewis Debnam, MD, MPH [llewis@msm.edu](mailto:llewis@msm.edu) and Katherine Duncan, MD [drkatduncan@gmail.com](mailto:drkatduncan@gmail.com). Chapter Resident facilitators: Chelsey Webb, MD [cwebb@msm.edu](mailto:cwebb@msm.edu) and Nadine Najjar, MD, MPH [nnajjar@emory.edu](mailto:nnajjar@emory.edu). To learn more about CATCH visit [aap.org/CATCH](http://aap.org/CATCH).

### Resources for Pediatricians

**Georgia AAP Launches 2 NEW Immunization Quality Improvement (QI) Projects** - Enrollment open now through Jan.1, 2021. Spaces are limited to a total of 15 practices! To register, click [here](#).

**AAP announces launch of QI initiative on Safe Sleep** - Safe Sleep and Naps Using Guidelines to Lead and Educate (SSNUGLE) is a 6 month learning collaborative on improving delivery of safe infant sleep recommendations and anticipatory guidance for families of infants ages birth through 6 months. They are seeking up to 12 primary care pediatric practices to join from Jan.-Jun.2021. [Applications](#) will be accepted through Dec.18. For more information, click [here](#).

**AAP Releases Proposals for New Administration** - As a new presidential administration takes over in January, the AAP has released Transition Plan: Advancing Child Health in the Biden-Harris Administration. This guideline provides specific policy proposals that would invest in our children and their future prosperity. Click [here](#).

### Family Resources

**DFCS Resource: How Can You Help Everyone Belong?** The Ga. DFCS Office of Prevention and Community Support offers guidance on considering how our actions influence a sense of community belonging. The unique and safe actions you take can nurture a community where everyone can thrive. Click [here](#) for details.

**How to Practice Gratitude and Improve Your Family's Mental Health** - As Thanksgiving approaches and the COVID-19 pandemic continues, Datta Munshi, MD a pediatrician from Atlanta, explains for [healthychildren.org](http://healthychildren.org) the positive mental health effects of practicing gratitude for the things that enrich us. Click [here](#) to read the article.

### Education

**Childbirth Safety Webinar** - *Childbirth Safety: Birthing Injuries, Health Equity & Birthing Justice*, Dec. 9, 12-1 pm. Host: Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies, Georgia OB-GYN Society, & Dept. of Pediatrics at Morehouse SOM. Click [here](#) to register. 1 hour CE credit available.

**EPIC® Immunization Webinar Tomorrow!** *Current Topics in Adult Immunizations*, Nov.19,12:30-1:30pm ET, Register [here](#).

**EPIC® Breastfeeding Series** - Tuesday, Dec. 8, 12:30-1:30 pm ET, *Supplementation in the First Week of Life: Balancing Safety & Supply*; Patricia Lantis, MD, Hospitalist, Marche Smith, MD, Pediatrician & Tarayn Fairlie, MD, MPH, Pediatrician. Register [here](#). For details on our monthly series, visit [www.GaEPIC.org](http://www.GaEPIC.org).

**Hugo Scornik, MD, FAAP**  
*President*

Questions? Contact Kyla Crane, RDN, LD at [kcrane@gaaap.org](mailto:kcrane@gaaap.org). This Update also posted on our pediatric nurses & practice managers listserv. Thank you!

**Stay Connected to the Georgia AAP!**

Use our media platforms -- Twitter, Facebook, YouTube -- and our blog [www.gapedb.blogspot.com](http://www.gapedb.blogspot.com) to stay in the know and get the information you need.



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