The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Disaster Preparedness Advisory Council (DPAC) is pleased to provide you with information on its activities. For more information on the DPAC, including a list of members and liaisons, see the AAP Disaster Preparedness Advisory Council. Also see the AAP DPAC Strategic Plan for Disaster Preparedness 2016-2020.

FYIs

- **School Shooting**
  The AAP offers its deepest condolences to the victims and families who lost loved ones in the shooting that occurred at Santa Fe High School in Texas. Following the shooting, the Academy issued a [statement](#) urging Congress to take action and advance meaningful legislation to keep children safe. Events like this have the potential to cause short- and long-term effects on the psychological functioning, emotional adjustment, health, and developmental trajectory of children. The [AAP Promoting Adjustment and Helping Children Cope](#) Web page offers strategies for clinicians to help children understand what has happened and to promote effective coping strategies.

- **2018 National Health Security Preparedness Index**
  The [National Health Security Preparedness Index](#) is an annual assessment of the nation’s day-to-day community health and preparedness for managing health emergencies. Several of the measures relate to children, including the availability of pediatricians and proximity to pediatric trauma centers; whether states require child care providers to have disaster, evacuation and family-child reunification plans in place; and whether states require hazard response plans for K-12 schools. In addition, the Index tracks state-level rates of both routine childhood vaccinations (age 19-35 months) and seasonal flu vaccinations (age 6 months to 4 years) in its Countermeasure Management domain.

- **Updated AAP Policy: Advocating for Life Support Training of Children, Parents, Caregivers, School Personnel, and the Public**
  The AAP recently released a [policy statement](#) and [technical report](#) titled “Advocating for Life Support Training of Children, Parents, Caregivers, School Personnel, and the Public”. The statement and companion technical report describe how physicians and the public can increase the survival rate of cardiac arrest victims through education around life support strategies. See the [AAP News](#) article for additional information.

- **Webinar Recording Available: Healthcare Response to a No-Notice Incident: Las Vegas**
  The US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) hosted a webinar titled, “Healthcare Response to a No-Notice Incident: Las Vegas”, in March 2018. The webinar included presentations from health care providers who responded to the October 2017 mass shooting incident in Las Vegas. You will need to enter your name and email address prior to accessing the recording.
Zika Updates
To keep AAP members informed of the most recent updates and resources, the AAP maintains Web-based resource pages at [www.aap.org/zikakey](http://www.aap.org/zikakey) and [www.aap.org/zika](http://www.aap.org/zika). As mosquitos become more prevalent in the warmer months, it is important to review the most up to date guidance and resources.

Psychosocial Support Videos
In collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the AAP developed videos and handouts that provide guidance for providers and parents for the psychosocial support that is needed when facing a child born with congenital Zika virus syndrome.

Developmental Surveillance: What, Why and How
A new video from the AAP highlights important developmental surveillance steps that pediatricians should take during each health supervision visit. Pediatrician Shelly Flais, MD, FAAP, discusses recommendations, tips, and resources available to pediatricians, clinicians, and families. Surveillance and screening are essential components to promote the optimal development of children. Children with potential or confirmed Zika virus infection will require ongoing psychosocial assessment and support. As a critical component of patient care and to facilitate early identification of developmental delays, families should be empowered to be active participants in their child’s monitoring and care.

New Zika Care Connect Searchable Member Directory
[Zika Care Connect](http://zikacareconnect.org) is a program designed to connect women, parents, and caregivers of infants, and families affected by Zika to recommended health care services. Zika Care Connect establishes a network of specialty health care providers in 20 high-risk jurisdictions throughout the United States and its territories. A new resource is now available on the Zika Care Connect Web site – a searchable member directory. The directory facilitates communication between the members of the Zika Care Connect Healthcare Professional Network. It is an online searchable tool for Zika Care Connect members to access the phone number, email, and address of other Zika Care Connect members. The information provided in this directory will only be accessible to other professionals with a Zika Care Connect login and NOT to the general public. To find out more about how to be included in the Zika Care Connect Healthcare Professional Network or the member directory, please contact the Program Director, Lindsay Rechtman ([lrechtman@mcking.com](mailto:lrechtman@mcking.com) / 404-683-4394) or the Zika Care Connect HelpLine ([helpline@zikacareconnect.org](mailto:helpline@zikacareconnect.org) / 844-677-0447). See the AAP [Zika Virus Resource for Pediatricians](https://www.aap.org/zika) Web page for additional information on AAP resources.

Interprofessional Telephone/Internet Consultation CPT Codes
The AAP Committee on Coding and Nomenclature (COCN) and the AAP Section on Infectious Diseases (SOID) have been advocating for the adoption of new Interprofessional Telephone/ Internet Consultation Current Procedural Technology (CPT) codes (99446-99449) since 2010 (See related [AAP News article](https://www.aap.org/news/2010/12/01/aapnews_article_3207222)). These codes were approved by the CPT Editorial Panel and valued by the American Medical Association/Specialty Society Relative Value Scale Update Committee (RUC) in 2012 for implementation during the 2014 CPT/RBRVS cycle. The codes are:

- **99446** - Interprofessional telephone/Internet assessment and management service provided by a consultative physician including a verbal and written report to the patient’s treating/requesting physician or other qualified health care professional; 5-10 minutes of medical consultative discussion and review.
- **99447** - Same as above; 11-20 minutes of medical consultative discussion and review.
- **99448** - Same as above; 21-30 minutes of medical consultative discussion and review.
- **99449** - Same as above; 31 minutes or more of medical consultative discussion and review.

More information can be found in the AAP SOID [Newsletter](https://www.aap.org/newsletter), This type of consultation can help clinicians offer care to patients/families in a disaster, when it might not be feasible for patients to meet a physician in their typical office setting.
Preparing for Hurricane Season

Hurricane season begins on June 1, 2018, and extends through November 30, 2018, with the peak season occurring from mid-August to late October. The AAP Hurricanes, Tornadoes, and Storms Web page includes up to date information and resources. It is never too early to start preparedness conversations with families and encourage families to prepare for disasters. Families can start by creating a Disaster Supply Kit, developing a written disaster plan, and discussing this plan with their children. See www.healthychildren.org (search for “disaster”) for resources to share with families.

Also see the AAP Family Readiness Kit. This kit was developed to help families get disaster-ready and includes general guidelines for readiness that can be used in most situations. Simple steps to help families build a kit, make a plan, be informed, and get involved are referenced. Pediatricians can share copies of this kit during routine office visits as a way to encourage families to plan for emergencies.

Save the Date!

Register for Upcoming AAP Children’s Hospitals and Preparedness Webinar Series Events

The AAP created the Children’s Hospitals and Preparedness Webinar Series to promote a dialogue among clinicians and disaster planners at children’s hospitals and to improve each hospital’s response plan and ability to care for children in an emergency. The AAP has scheduled the next 2 webinars in this series. On Wednesday, June 27, 2018, at 2:00pm ET, the AAP will conduct a webinar titled, “Planning for Hospital Pediatric Surge: Solutions Within Reach”. On Friday, June 29, 2018, at 2:00pm ET, the AAP will conduct a webinar titled, “Family Reunification: Debut of a New AAP Tool”. See the AAP Upcoming Events Web page for additional details about each webinar. Registration is required. Click on the titles of the webinar titles listed above to register.

American Academy of Pediatrics 2018 National Conference and Exhibition

This year, the 2018 AAP National Conference is taking place on November 2-6, 2018, in Orlando, FL. Registration is now open. Register by September 21, 2018, to receive the lowest rates. Hotels are filling up quickly. Make your hotel reservation now. Several sessions and events at the conference will focus on disaster medicine. See the AAP Upcoming Events Web page for additional information.

2019 AAP Legislative Conference

Date: April 7-9, 2019
Location: Washington, DC
Description: Mark your calendars! The 2019 AAP Legislative Conference will take place April 7-9, 2019, in Washington, DC. Each year, this important conference brings together pediatricians from across the country who share a passion for child health advocacy. Participants attend skills-building workshops, hear from guest speakers, learn about policy priorities impacting children and pediatricians and go to Capitol Hill to urge Congress to support strong child health policies. If you are interested in attending the conference, and would like to be notified once registration opens, please email LegislativeConference@aap.org.

For more information on AAP disaster preparedness and response initiatives, e-mail DisasterReady@aap.org.