Inside this issue:

NOVEMBER EPILEPSY MONTH 1
1 IN 26 VIDEO SERIES 2
SECTION ON NEUROLOGY AND EPILEPSY INITIATIVES 3
PROVIDING SPECIALTY EPILEPSY CARE 4
AAP ANNOUNCES ROLE AS PEDIATRIC ECHO SUPERHUB 5
2015 NATIONAL CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION SUMMARY 6-7
PEDIATRIC MEDICAL HOME AND PRACTICE TRANSFORMATION 8
EMPOWERING MOTHERS INITIATIVE 8
DIGITAL NAVIGATOR 8
NEW TELEHEALTH PROJECT 9
PROTECT CHILDREN AT HIGH RISK FOR INFLUENZA COMPLICATIONS 10

NOVEMBER NATIONAL EPILEPSY AWARENESS MONTH

HOW THE AAP IS CONTRIBUTING TO INCREASING AWARENESS:

- Published two new articles on www.healthychildren.org
  - Seizure Safety: Tips for Parents
  - Children with Epilepsy at School

- Center Medical Director, Sucheta Joshi, MD, MS, FAAP, was highlighted in the Ask the Pediatrician spotlight of the November 2015 HealthyChildren.org November Newsletter

Facebook Messaging:

Twitter Messaging:

Updated the Center website
1 IN 26 VIDEO SERIES

1 in 26: Video Series

Featuring children living with epilepsy and their families, this video introduces the statistic that 1 in 26 Americans can expect to develop epilepsy in their lifetime (Institute of Medicine, 2012).

1 in 26: Epilepsy in Our Own Words

This video describes epilepsy and seizures from the point of view of children and youth living with epilepsy and their families.

1 in 26: Everyone should know

This video is a short conclusion to the program that highlights what children living with epilepsy and their families wish that everyone knew about epilepsy.

To learn more about the Epilepsy Foundation of Western/Central Pennsylvania, EFWCP, please visit www.efwp.org or call 800-361-5885. If you would like to request a copy of this video, please contact Peggy Beem-Jelley, President & CEO, pbeem@efwp.org. This video and education program were developed under a grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, #H98MC26261.
SECTION ON NEUROLOGY EPILEPSY INITIATIVES

The AAP Section on Neurology (SONu) and the Council on School Health have co-authored a clinical report titled, Rescue Medications for Epilepsy in Education Settings and will be published in the January issue of Pediatrics (available on December 28, 2015). This clinical report will highlight issues that providers may consider when prescribing seizure rescue medications and creating school medical orders and/or action plans for students with epilepsy including collaboration among prescribing providers, families, and schools in developing plans for the use of seizure rescue medications.

The Visiting Professor for Pediatric Epilepsy program brings an expert in Pediatric Epilepsy to Pediatric residency programs to enhance education about epilepsy in children and adolescents. Interested institutions that have a pediatric residency program, particularly those with minimal resources in epilepsy or without access to an epilepsy expert, are encouraged to apply. It is anticipated that the visiting professor would spend 2 days at the host institution conducting lectures, seminars, or rounds with pediatric residents, medical students, and faculty.

In collaboration between with the Coordinating Center on Epilepsy and the SONu, the inaugural Visiting Professor for Pediatric Epilepsy was awarded in 2015 Dr Paul Fisher of Stanford University Medical Center served as the Visiting Professor at the University of Las Vegas on August 13-14, 2015. He presented on epilepsy basics (first and second seizure), non-seizure events that mimic seizures, status epilepticus, and when seizure surgery, vagal nerve stimulator, and ketogenic diet have roles. Dr Fisher stated that one major goal was to make sure the pediatricians were comfortable starting a drug for seizures, particularly when they are in an underserved area.

Visit the SONu website or contact Section Manager, Lynn Colegrove, with your questions related to SONu business or activities.

The applications for the 2016 event are due on February 12, 2016.
PROVIDING SPECIALTY EPILEPSY CARE TO PATIENTS IN NEED THROUGH PROJECT ECHO

In New Mexico, there are 10,000 children with epilepsy and only four Pediatric Neurologists and one Pediatric Epileptologist, all located in Albuquerque. New Mexico is the 5th largest state in the US, over twice the size of New York, making travel to Albuquerque extremely difficult and costly.

Project ECHO® (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) at the University of New Mexico (UNM) Health Science Center, is a global telementoring program that creates specialty support care networks for healthcare providers, regardless of their location. The ECHO team in Albuquerque as well as the UNM Level IV National Association of Epilepsy Centers (NAEC), with grant support from the AAP, who was selected in 2013 as the Coordinating Center on Epilepsy under Health Resources and Services Administration Maternal Child Health Bureau, launched the first Children and Youth Epilepsy (CYE) ECHO in June 2014. Currently this model has been replicated by academic institutions in five other states (Colorado, Illinois, Kansas/Missouri, and New York) with the help of AAP. However, access to care for patients transitioning from pediatric to adult care has not yet been addressed. Therefore, in July 2015, UNM Project ECHO provided additional support to allow the CYE program to expand to meet the needs of all individuals with epilepsy through adulthood. Participating providers throughout the state now include pediatricians, family practice physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, school nurses, clinician pharmacists, epilepsy educators and UNM epilepsy fellows, pediatric neurology residents in a variety of clinic settings, including the Indian Health Service.

For providers interested in joining or establishing an epilepsy ECHO, please visit http://echo.unm.edu/. No cost continuing medical education (CME) credits are provided for participation at each session.

Watch the video on how Project ECHO is Changing the World FAST!
AAP ANNOUNCES ROLE AS PEDIATRIC ECHO SUPERHUB

As part of the Coordinating Center on Epilepsy Cooperative Agreement with the Maternal Child Health Bureau (MCHB), the AAP partnered with the University of New Mexico Project ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) model of health care delivery and education to expand existing capacity to provide best practice care for children and youth with epilepsy (CYE) in rural and underserved areas of New Mexico as well as to monitor outcomes to ensure quality of care.

In August, the ECHO Institute hosted the first superhub training this month with four groups that included the AAP, ECHO India, University of Wyoming/Wyoming Institute for Disabilities, and Northern Ireland Hospice/Health and Social Care Board Northern Ireland.

The mission of the AAP Superhub is to utilize the ECHO model to achieve optimal physical, mental, and social health and well-being of all children by sharing best practices and building capacity among all primary care physicians.

Our purpose is to:

➤ Conduct ECHO immersion trainings for interested individuals and organizations in implementing pediatric focused ECHOs
➤ Build a community of learners by fostering interprofessional collaboration and sharing best practices in pediatric care
➤ Serve as a resource center whereby AAP staff provide technical assistance; leverage AAP resources; assist with curriculum development for various chronic health conditions; and create/expand partnerships.
Children in the United States and across the globe with chronic medical conditions (asthma, diabetes, epilepsy, ADHD, etc.) often lack access to subspecialists. As a result of increased demand for subspecialty care, many families have to travel long distances or endure lengthy wait times for clinic appointments. This leads to costly travel, time away from work/school, and parents feeling intimidated by “big city” navigation.

View the video below as the founder of Project ECHO (extension for community healthcare outcomes) shared how this model of care has increased access to subspecialty care within the medical home and around the globe for several medical conditions.

Dr Joshi presented along with Dr Arora in an additional session titled, Telementoring as a Strategy to Reach Children Globally. Their combined presentation addressed the differences between telemedicine and telementoring, and how to utilize technology to improve access to care with children and youth with epilepsy.
The Division of Innovation, the home of the Coordinating Center on Epilepsy, had its inaugural exhibit booth at the NCE!

We fielded several questions regarding telemedicine, access to epilepsy care, and Project ECHO. Thank you to Sucheta Joshi, MD, MS, FAAP, for helping staff the booth and providing her expertise in the telemedicine realm.

The 2015 NCE attendance was the highest ever allowing our team to help spread the word on how to increase access to care for CYE! A record total number of professionals were in attendance with an outstanding number of 10,053 (last year was 9,060). Additionally, a record number of exhibitors, family, and staff was set which increased that number to 15,111! (last year was 14,163).

We would also like to thank the Founder of Project ECHO, Dr Sanjeev Arora for supporting our efforts and visiting our booth.

From left: Doris Santos, Trisha Calabrese, Dr Sanjeev Arora, Dr Kristin Sohl (attendee), Dr Sucheta Joshi, and Amy Shah.
NEW INFOGRAPHICS ON PEDIATRIC MEDICAL HOME AND PRACTICE TRANSFORMATION

A series of three infographics on pediatric medical home and practice transformation is now available from the American Academy of Pediatrics. Targeted towards pediatric health care professionals, each can stand alone or be offered in combination to form a series. Collectively, the infographics raise awareness of how children are unique; rapid changes in pediatric practice taking place at the patient and family, practice, and community levels; and actions pediatricians and other child health professionals can take to advocate for children while responding to changes in practice.

The infographics are available on www.aap.org/medicalhome, and focus on:

*Unique Needs of Children; Pediatrics is Changing; Responding to Change.*

EMPOWERING MOTHERS INITIATIVE

Innovative and Promising Practice in Pediatric Medical Home Implementation

The Empowering Mothers Initiative has been selected by the National Center for Medical Home Implementation (NCMHI) as an innovative and promising practice in pediatric medical home implementation. The project provides financially sustainable care to vulnerable and medically underserved communities in the context of pediatric medical home. Visit the NCMHI Web site to learn about the project’s implementation strategies.

NOW AVAILABLE - THE DIGITAL NAVIGATOR

The AAP Practice Excellence (APEX) program announces the release of Digital Navigator 2014. Designed to guide practices as they transition to a high-performing organization under the patient- and family-centered medical home model of care, the tool is a web-based software application that can help members navigate the practice transformation process. Whether seeking formal recognition with the 2014 NCQA Standards, or simply trying to transform to an effective and efficient organization, the Digital Navigator can help a practice lower costs, improve care, and gain NCQA Medical Home recognition which will result in MOC part 4 credit through the American Board of Pediatrics. For questions contact DNSales@aap.org.
NEW TELEHEALTH PROJECT

Utilizing Telemedicine in the Quality Improvement Innovation Networks (QuIIN) to Increase Access to Care for Children and Youth with Epilepsy (CYE)

The main focus of the project is to recruit 4 pediatric practices interested in implementing telemedicine into practice for increasing access to care for children and youth with epilepsy. These practices will form a community of learners (COL) who will create a change package, based on lessons learned. The Project will utilize a dissemination and implementation framework that emphasizes the need for pre-implementation assessment of (a) readiness of clinicians to adopt guidelines into practice, (b) barriers to change as experienced by clinicians, and (c) the level at which interventions should be targeted. It also will incorporate the need for multifaceted interventions, identify the type of barriers which will be addressed by each strategy, and develop the concept of progression through stages of adoption by clinicians with the use of appropriately targeted support strategies. This approach will enable those involved in the process of dissemination and implementation to direct strategies to target audiences more effectively by using a standardized change package. Finally, this change package will include strategies and tools to enhance the provision of access to quality care using the medical home framework through telemedicine and will be disseminated to pediatricians electronically.

Expert Group Panel:

Sucheta Joshi, MD, MS, FAAP
Kari Gali, DNP, RN, CPNP
Linda Fletcher, MS, CPNP
Lisa Cosgrove, MD, FAAP
Joshua Alexander, MD, FAAP
Trisha Calabrese, MPH
Keri Thiessen, MEd
Doris Santos
PROTECT CHILDREN AT HIGH RISK FOR INFLUENZA COMPLICATIONS

Children with chronic medical conditions, such as asthma, diabetes mellitus, hemodynamically significant cardiac disease, immunosuppression, or neurologic and neurodevelopmental disorders, are at an increased risk of complications from influenza. In the US, more than two-thirds of children younger than 6 years and almost all children 6 years and older spend significant time in child care or school settings outside the home. Exposure to groups of children increases the risk of contracting infectious diseases.

Partnering with child care programs or schools to encourage vaccination of all children, staff, and caregivers is beneficial. The AAP has created influenza-specific resources for early education and child care providers. This includes a free online course, which is a collaborative effort of the AAP and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The course educates staff who work in Head Start and other early education and child care programs about influenza policies and strategies that help keep children healthy. The course was recently updated with the most recent influenza recommendations for the 2015-2016 flu season. The course is also approved for 1.0 contact hour.

Stay up to date on the latest AAP resources and recommendations by reviewing and sharing the monthly “What’s the Latest with the Flu” messaging series with customized messages for clinicians and child care providers. The purpose of these messages is to offer a quick snapshot that addresses the current situation with the flu and offers links back to AAP and/or CDC resources. These messages include critical information regarding children at highest risk. If you have any questions, please e-mail DisasterReady@aap.org.