

SANDRA G. HASSINK, MD, FAAP
2015 President
American Academy of Pediatrics

Sandra G. Hassink, MD, FAAP, is the 2015 president of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP). Dr. Hassink took office on January 1, 2015, and will serve as AAP president for a one-year term.

Dr. Hassink has focused her career on preventing and treating obesity in children. She is a pediatrician at Nemours/Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children (AIDHC) in Wilmington, Del., where she founded the weight management program in 1988 and serves as director of the Nemours Pediatric Obesity Initiative. She is co-principal investigator for the Healthy Active Living for Families project, which promotes active healthy living for parents and families of young children.

Dr. Hassink began her career in medicine as one of only 12 women in her graduating class at the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, and then completed her residency at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children in Philadelphia. Dr. Hassink earned her master's degree in pastoral care and counseling from Neumann College in Aston, Pa., in 2000.

Over the past two decades, Dr. Hassink has held several leadership roles with the Academy. She has served as president of the AAP Delaware Chapter and as a member of the AAP Board of Directors. Dr. Hassink also has chaired the AAP Obesity Leadership Workgroup, the AAP Institute for Healthy Childhood Weight Advisory Committee, and the AAP Strategic Planning Committee.

Dr. Hassink is recognized internationally as an expert in child obesity prevention. In addition to numerous articles for pediatricians and parents, she has authored two books: "Pediatric Obesity: Prevention, Intervention, and Treatment Strategies for Primary Care," and "A Clinical Guide to Pediatric Weight Management."

She has been married to her husband, Bill, for 38 years, and they have three grown children.

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The American Academy of Pediatrics is an organization of 62,000 primary care pediatricians, pediatric medical subspecialists and pediatric surgical specialists dedicated to the health, safety and well-being of infants, children, adolescents and young adults. For more information, visit www.aap.org.