EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**PS#84 – Pediatricians' Practices Surrounding the Delivery of Immunizations - Vaccine Information Dissemination and Vaccine-Related Resources/Equipment**

PS#84 explored three areas addressing immunization practices: 1) vaccine information dissemination and vaccine-related resources/equipment; 2) use of the influenza, HPV and other recommended vaccines/combined vaccines (reported separately); and 3) vaccine delays/refusals and risk-benefit information (reported separately). The survey was supported by the Childhood Immunization Support Program (CISP) project advisory committee and partially funded by the AAP/CISP Cooperative Agreement. Selected questions on this survey were replicated or adapted from the Periodic Survey #66, 2006.

PS#84 was an eight-page questionnaire mailed to 1,622 nonretired U.S. members of the AAP from October 2012 to March 2013; response = 53% (854 pediatricians, including residents). PS#66 was mailed to 1,620 nonretired U.S. members of the AAP from July to November 2006; response = 53% (852 pediatricians, including residents).

For both surveys, analysis is limited to pediatricians who provide patient care and offer age-appropriate immunizations to all or some patients in their practice: 627 in 2013 and 629 in 2006.

**Vaccine Information Dissemination and Vaccine-Related Resources/Equipment**

**AAP Dissemination of Vaccine Information:**

- In 2013, most pediatricians think the AAP does a “very good” job of informing its members about new developments/information on routinely recommended vaccines (74%), influenza vaccine for health care workers (71%), and Tdap/Influenza vaccine for parents of newborns (65%).

- In both 2006 and 2013, most pediatricians agree that immunization information from the AAP provides them with the information needed to address parents’ concerns regarding vaccine safety, long term effects, side effects and risks/benefits (87% in 2006 and 88% in 2013).

- Pediatricians currently receive immunization information from the AAP in a variety of ways: AAP News (82%), Pediatrics (77%), Redbook print edition (66%); e-mail (62%) and the AAP web site – members only page (57%).

- However, the most frequently named preferred method of receiving such information from the AAP are via e-mail (41% of pediatricians), AAP News (16%) and AAP web site-members only page (11%).

**Vaccine-Related Resources/Equipment:**

- Only 24% of pediatric generalists think the new vaccine administration codes recognizing the components in combination vaccines improve payment in their practice; 71% have no opinion.

- About 80% of pediatric generalists report their office has a system for daily tracking the temperatures of refrigerators/freezers that store vaccines, 74% say they have a calibrated thermometer with a current Certificate of Traceability and Calibration in each refrigerator/freezer, and 69% say they have an emergency plan in the event of a power failure. Fewer than half report having a monitored alarm in case of power failure or temperature deviations (40%) or a backup generator for vaccine refrigerators/freezers (38%).

Kgo: 12/2013

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