**Hot Topics**

- Health Groups Urge MLB to Make Baseball Tobacco-Free

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- Maternal Smoking in Pregnancy Tied to Changes in Fetal DNA
- Integrating Tobacco Control and Obesity Prevention Initiatives at Retail Outlets
- Full implementation of India’s Larger Graphic Warning Label Law in Doubt

**Resources and Events**

- Webinar: Communicating Challenging Tobacco Control Policies with Executive Leadership
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- Webinar: Faith United Against Tobacco
- Webcast: The Triangulum: Tobacco, Marijuana, and E-Cigarettes
- On-line Tool Includes Adult Smoking Behavior Statistics

**People in the News**

- Brian Jenssen, MD, FAAP

**Upcoming Events**

- **April 25**
  - 3- 4:15 pm ET
  - Webinar: Communicating Challenging Tobacco Control Policies with Executive Leadership

- **April 26**
  - 2- 3:00 pm ET
  - Webinar: Opportunities for Interventions: Tobacco Use Among Populations Experiencing Homelessness

- **April 27**
  - 3:00 pm ET
  - Webinar: Faith United Against Tobacco

- **April 30 - May 3**
  - Pediatric Academic Societies Annual Meeting
    - Baltimore, MD

- **May 13 - 18**
  - American Thoracic Society International Conference
    - San Francisco, CA

- **May 26**
  - 12- 3:00 pm ET
  - Webcast: The Triangulum: Tobacco, Marijuana, and E-Cigarettes

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**Health Groups Urge MLB to Make Baseball Tobacco-Free**

With the start of the 2016 Major League Baseball season this month, 34 leading public health and medical groups – including the American Academy of Pediatrics – urged MLB and its players to set the right example for kids and end smokeless tobacco use at all major league ballparks once and for all. The letter also discussed the impact MLB players have on their young fans, stating “Smokeless tobacco use by MLB players endangers the health of impressionable youth who follow their lead, as well as the players themselves. It sets a terrible example for the millions of young people who watch baseball and see their favorite players and managers using tobacco.”

Smokeless tobacco contains at least 28 known carcinogens and causes oral, pancreatic and esophageal cancer. The product also causes nicotine addiction and other serious health problems like gum disease, tooth decay and mouth lesions. Adding to the challenge, smokeless tobacco manufacturers spent more than $500 million on marketing in 2013, driving home their message that teen boys cannot be real men unless they chew. The AAP has partnered with the Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids’ in their efforts to end smokeless tobacco use in baseball. [Click here to learn more](#) about the Knock Tobacco Out of the Park campaign.
From the AAP Richmond Center
Richmond Center Presentations and Program Highlights at Pediatric Academic Societies (PAS) Annual Meeting
Going to the PAS meeting in Baltimore? See the below abstract and presentation listings to join us at the meeting!
Baltimore Convention Center, April 30-May 3, 2016; www.pas-meeting.org

PAS Program Highlights:
Don’t miss the Academic Pediatric Association Pediatric Tobacco Issues Special Interest Group (cigSIG) at the 2016 Pediatric Academic Societies’ Meeting! The Pediatric Tobacco Issues SIG brings together child healthcare professionals and researchers dedicated to eliminating the dangerous consequences of tobacco use and secondhand smoke in children, adolescents, and their families. Please join our interactive sessions at PAS 2016 and explore opportunities to network with colleagues from around the nation!

APA Pediatric Tobacco Issues Special Interest Group (Main Session)
Monday, May 2, 8:30-11:30, Session 3188
Agenda:

- Welcome & Introduction: Jyothi Marbin, MD, FAAP & Susan Walley, MD, CTTS, FAAP, Co-Chairs
- Electronic Cigarettes and Vaping: What You and Your Patients Don’t Know CAN Hurt Them: Susanne Tanski, MD, MPH, FAAP
- The Inside Story of Electronic Cigarettes/Marketing: Raymond S. Niaura, PhD
- Tobacco Hot Topics Potpourri (includes Tobacco 21: Raising the Sales Age to 21 years; Child-Resistant Packaging for ENDS; and FDA Deeming Regulations on Tobacco Products): Judith Groner, MD, FAAP

PAS Hot Topic: Electronic Cigarettes and Vaping
Tuesday, May 3, 9:45-11:45, Session 4405
Agenda:

- Overview of Session and Introduction of Faculty
- Tobacco in the 21st Century: Electronic Cigarettes and Vaping: Susan Walley, MD, CTTS, FAAP
- Electronic Cigarettes: What are the Dangers for Youth?: Susanne Tanski, MD, MPH, FAAP
- Panel Discussion: Addressing Electronic Cigarette Use in Practice: Real Life Scenarios: Judith Groner, MD, FAAP, Karen M. Wilson, MD, MPH, FAAP, Rachel Boykan, MD, and Jyothi Marbin, MD, FAAP

Selected Original Science Presentations from AAP Richmond Center Investigators
Saturday, April 30


Sunday, May 1


Monday, May 2


Tuesday, May 3


Abstract Highlight: American Thoracic Society International Conference Program

Going to the ATS conference at the Moscone Center in San Francisco, CA, May 13-18, 2016? One of the Richmond Center's New Investigator awardees, Dr Benjamin Kopp, has co-authored an abstract which was chosen to be highlighted in their final program: “The Influence of Secondhand Smoke Exposure on Arachidonic Acid Metabolism and Outcomes in Infants and Young Children with Cystic Fibrosis.” Look for it!

CATCH Grant Applications Being Accepted May 2 to July 29, 2016

Grants of up to $10,000 for pediatricians and fellowship trainees and $2,000 for pediatric residents are available from the Community Access to Child Health (CATCH) program for innovative initiatives that ensure all children, especially underserved children, have medical homes and access to health services not otherwise available in their communities. Tobacco-focused CATCH applications will be considered as well. Applications will be accepted for Planning, Implementation, and Resident Grants from May 2 to July 29, 2016.

In the News
Levels of Smoking in Youth-Rated Films Remain Substantial
A recent report funded by the Truth Initiative analyzed data from the top-grossing films in the US from 2002 to 2015. It rated which films featured tobacco imagery, how many tobacco incidents were included, how much exposure moviegoers received, and whether some movie companies performed differently than others. The research found that the number of PG-13 films with smoking incidents has been unstable in recent history: smoking incidents declined by half between 2002 and 2010, rebounded to high levels in 2012 and 2014 and fell back to historically low levels in 2015. The authors also analyzed whether proposing R ratings to 2012-2015 films would have made a difference and concluded that it would have. They argue that updating the existing rating system to R-rate tobacco imagery is the only evidence-based method to protect young people and film producers and distributors from toxic tobacco exposure on screen. View more information about smoking in the movies.

Maternal Smoking in Pregnancy Tied to Changes in Fetal DNA
A new study published in last month’s American Journal of Human Genetics and reported by Reuters showed a link between women smoking during pregnancy and their babies having slight alternations in their DNA later in life. The study shows the possibility that modifications at the DNA level of unborn children as a result of their mother’s smoking may impact cell function, and the health of the individual later on in life. Researchers analyzed the DNA of newborn infants (from umbilical cord blood) from more than 6,600 mothers around the world. Most of the women did not smoke, however, 13% were daily smokers and 25% said that they occasionally smoked while pregnant. Researchers analyzed the children’s DNA for patterns for methylation, a process where cellular machinery ‘mark’ certain parts of the DNA code. The researchers combined their methylation observations with observations of the children across age groups. They found that at least some of the smoking related methylation differences in children with mothers who smoked while pregnant continued after the children were born. While the study does not prove how maternal smoking affects the DNA of their unborn child or their health later in life, the study suggests that DNA methylation may be involved in the changes of cellular function. View more information.

Integrating Tobacco Control and Obesity Prevention Initiatives at Retail Outlets
Research partially funded by the National Institutes of Health concludes that tobacco retail outlets have the potential to become a major venue for community intervention if there are supported by timely multisectoral efforts and policy options. The research provides information about point-of-sale marketing strategies used by the tobacco industry, current tobacco laws, the CDC’s Community Transformation Grants and Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW) initiatives, and the “Healthy Store” movement in low income neighborhoods. The authors explain the potential for interdisciplinary efforts to transition retailers away from selling and promoting tobacco products and toward creating retail environments that promote healthful eating and active living.

Full implementation of India’s Larger Graphic Warning Label Law in Doubt
The Indian government was set to implement their law to increase the size of graphic health warnings on all tobacco packs on April 1, but the country’s industry-backed parliamentarians have requested a reduction in the label size. The new law in India requires warnings to cover 85 percent of the pack, and research shows that larger, graphic warnings inform users about the true harms of tobacco use, discourage nonsmokers and youth from starting, and motivate current smokers to quit. At least 86 countries require graphic warnings. New laws were recently adopted or implemented in Bangladesh, Costa Rica, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Sri Lanka. In Nepal, Pakistan and Thailand, warnings are required to cover at least 85 percent of the pack.
Resources and Events

Webinar: Communicating Challenging Tobacco Control Policies With Executive Leadership
April 25, 3:00–4:15pm ET
This webinar, hosted by the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) and the Tobacco Control Network, features a dynamic array of speakers who will discuss how they were able to achieve successes in tobacco policy areas with the support of their executive leadership. Topics will include, but will not be limited to, raising the tobacco purchasing age to 21, working to address health equity among LGBT communities, mentholated cigarettes, and the integration of tobacco and marijuana policy.

Webinar: Opportunities for Interventions: Tobacco Use Among Populations Experiencing Homelessness
April 26, 2:00–3:30pm ET
The Smoking Cessation Leadership Center will host “Opportunities for Interventions: Tobacco use among populations experiencing homelessness” on Tuesday, April 26, 2016 from 2:00-3:30pm EDT. Presented by Maya Vijayaraghavan, MD, MAS, the webinar will focus on understanding the epidemiology of tobacco use and opportunities for interventions for populations experiencing homelessness. Register for the webinar now.

Webinar: Faith United Against Tobacco
April 27, 3:00pm ET
Learn more about how faith-based organizations are teaming up with Faith United Against Tobacco and the CDC to leverage CDC's Tips From Former Smokers Campaign to encourage their members to quit smoking. Register now.

Webcast: The Triangulum: Tobacco, Marijuana, and E-Cigarettes
May 26, 2016, 12 pm–3 pm ET.
Experts in the field will present and discuss the state of the science on the intersection of tobacco, marijuana, and e-cigarette use. This live event is sponsored by the Tobacco-Related Disease Research Program (TRDRP), which funds research that enhances understanding of tobacco use, prevention and cessation, the social, economic and policy-related aspects of tobacco use, and tobacco-related diseases in California. Register for this webcast.

On-line Tool Includes Adult Smoking Behavior Statistics
CDC recently updated their Community Health Status Indicators (CHSI) online tool that produces public health profiles for all 3,143 counties in the U.S. Each profile includes key indicators of health outcomes, including health behaviors, social factors, and the physical environment. Adult smoking behaviors are profiled for many counties.

People In the News
Brian Jenssen, MD, FAAP
Brian Jenssen, MD, FAAP is a primary care pediatrician at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP), and a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholar Fellow at University of Pennsylvania. He is an Executive Committee member of the AAP Section on Tobacco Control, and helped the Section write AAP’s recently published policy statement on Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS). He recently published an article about e-cigarettes in Pediatrics, and contributed ENDS content for the Richmond Center Web site. When he served as the Section’s first Resident Liaison, he advocated to provide residency training in smoking cessation, and disseminated training materials to residency programs.