Happy Holidays from the AAP Julius B. Richmond Center staff!

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Hot Topics

New Report from Surgeon General on E-cigarettes
The new Surgeon General report, "E-Cigarette Use Among Youth and Young Adults: A Report of the Surgeon General," provides the federal government’s first complete review of the health effects of e-cigarettes on youth. The report clearly warns that e-cigarettes are a public health risk to young people, and that actions must be taken to protect them. View the report and related materials here.

To help clinicians incorporate the guidelines of the Surgeon General report, the AAP Julius B. Richmond Center of Excellence is excited to share a new resource for pediatricians and other child health providers: "Understanding the..."
From the AAP Richmond Center
American Thoracic Society Report Recommends Tobacco 21 Regulations
The American Thoracic Society Tobacco Action Committee released "Tobacco 21: An Important Public Policy to Protect Our Youth". The report recommends the adoption of regulations to prohibit tobacco product sale to individuals under 21 years of age. It summarizes the problem - 90% of current smokers in the U.S. started smoking before the age of 18, and 99% before the age 26 – and provides evidence that claims increasing the minimum age to purchase tobacco products is shown to reduce tobacco product use among youth. See the corresponding Tobacco 21 patient resource from ATS. One of the authors of the report is Harold J. Farber, M.D., MSPH, FAAP, FCCP, who was also the Policy Chair with the AAP Section on Tobacco Control Executive Committee from July 2012-November 2016.

In the News
HUD Publishes Final Rule Prohibiting Smoking in Public Housing Facilities
On November 30, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced a final rule that will require all public housing agencies to implement smokefree policies in its federally owned public housing facilities over the next 18 months. The rule will also require a smoke-free perimeter of 25 feet around these facilities. The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), the American Lung Association (ALA), and other public stakeholders have spent over a decade advocating that all housing owned or subsidized by the federal government be smoke-free. The AAP and ALA released a joint statement applauding the ruling, but expressed disappointment over the exclusion of e-cigarettes and other federally subsidized housing, including privately owned buildings, in the ban. A full description of the HUD rule and AAP's statement of support can be found here.

Please visit the AAP Julius B. Richmond Center of Excellence website for information about smokefree housing, as well as advocacy tools to promote smokefree housing and other topics.

New Study Confirms: No Safe Level of Smoking Tobacco
Research at the National Cancer Institute (NCI) recently published data that show people who consistently smoked an average of >1 cigarette per day over their lifetime had a 64% higher risk of earlier death than never smokers, and those who smoked between 1-10 cigarettes a day had an 87% higher risk of earlier death than never smokers. Participants were asked about their smoking behaviors during nine periods across their lives, beginning with before they reached their 15th birthday until after they reached the age of 70. Among current smokers, 159 reported smoking less than one cigarette per day consistently throughout the years that they smoked; nearly 1,500 reported smoking between one and 10 cigarettes per day.

Numerous studies have detailed the negative impact that heavy smoking has on health, yet less have studied the health effects of consistent low-intensity smoking. Read the full news release here.

Resources and Events
FDA Infographic: How a Cigarette is Engineered
The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recently launched a new infographic, "How a Cigarette is Engineered". It shows what exactly a cigarette smoker is inhaling from each part of the cigarette, pointing out some of the reasons quitting smoking can be difficult. The FDA states that cigarettes are not only addictive because of nicotine—which keeps people smoking even when they don't want to be—but also because the design and content of cigarettes continue to make them addictive and attractive to consumers.

UCSF Seeks Applicants for Postdoctoral Fellowships in Tobacco Control Research
The Center for Tobacco Control Research and Education at the University of California San Francisco is seeking applications for Postdoctoral Fellowships in Tobacco Control Research. The fellowship program supports two years of postdoctoral training in all aspects of tobacco control research; prior tobacco research experience is relevant but not necessary for acceptance. Applications will be accepted through January 25th for fellowships beginning July 1, 2017. For full information, please visit www.tobacco.ucsf.edu.

Register for the 2017 National Conference on Tobacco or Health
March 22-24, 2017
Austin, Texas
The National Conference on Tobacco or Health is dedicated to improving and sustaining the effectiveness and reach of tobacco control programs and activities in the United States by providing a forum for sharing and discussing best practices and policies to reduce tobacco use. Visit the conference registration site at www.nctoh.org.

Call for Abstracts: Pediatric Academic Societies
Abstracts are due January 4, 2017 for the 2017 meeting of the Pediatric Academic Societies (PAS) in San Francisco, CA. The conference will be held May 6-9, 2017. The PAS annual meeting offers programs with the latest science, from basic to translational, and clinical and health services research from across academic pediatric specialties. View the PAS website for abstract guidelines and submission information.

RCE Tobacco Cessation Clinical Practice Training Applications Due December 16
The AAP Richmond Center is accepting applications for a training that will educate pediatric clinicians about messages, tools, and counseling protocols to screen and counsel patients and families about tobacco cessation and secondhand smoke exposure during clinical encounters. This “Asking the Right Questions” training will last two days on February 10-11, 2017, and it will be held at AAP Headquarters in Elk Grove Village, IL. Most expenses will be covered, and CME credit is offered. Applicants are encouraged to attend the training in pairs of a pediatrician and another member of the practice team. More information, including the link to the application, can be found on the Richmond Center website. To be considered, applications must be received by 4:00pm CST on December 16th, 2016. Please email questions to richmondcenter@aap.org.

People In the News
Dr. Colleen Kraft elected to be AAP President for 2018
The Richmond Center congratulates Colleen A. Kraft, M.D., FAAP, who was recently elected as the American Academy of Pediatrics’ new president-elect. Her term as president starts January 1, 2018, following Fernando Stein, M.D., FAAP, who will serve as 2017 president. Dr. Kraft has a long history of involvement with the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), as the Chair of the Richmond Center Advisory Committee, Chair of the Head Start National Center on Health Advisory Committee, president of the Virginia Chapter, and member of many Councils and Sections, including the Section on Tobacco Control. Dr. Kraft is an Associate Professor of Pediatrics at the University of
Cincinnati School of Medicine, and Medical Director for the Health Network by Cincinnati Children’s.

Dr. Kraft has been an active advocate for pediatric tobacco control issues through the AAP Richmond Center. She gives her time as a faculty and planning group member for the Center’s “Asking the Right Questions” clinical practice trainings. These two-day trainings educate clinicians on ways to effectively screen and counsel their patients and families about tobacco cessation and secondhand smoke exposure and implement health systems changes to address tobacco control in practice.

Please feel free to pass this message along to interested parties. To subscribe, unsubscribe, or submit a news item for consideration in this monthly digest, please send an email request to richmondcenter@aap.org.

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