

New AAP Federal Affairs Web site



The Academy has made it easier for members to monitor and advocate for issues important to pediatricians through a newly designed, one-stop AAP Department of Federal Affairs Web site at www.aap.org (click on Members Only Channel and Federal Affairs).

The site helps users track the status of key issues and legislation, identify and monitor their elected officials and government, write messages to officials or the media and stay informed through e-mail updates. Members can even register to vote through the site.

Tabs link users to Elected Officials, Issues & Legislation, Elections & Candidates and Guide to the Media. Throughout the Web site, users enter their ZIP code or a state name for instant access to details on elected officials; candidates for office; legislative districts; election races by state; and the names, titles and addresses of state and local media.

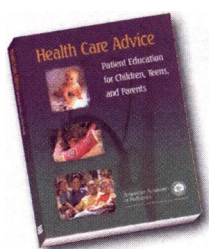
The Issues & Legislation tab connects users to details on key bills in Congress and offers a congressional search engine. Other AAP legislative issues also are outlined.

Action Alerts, on the opening page, provide summaries of several of the most pressing issues. With a few clicks of the mouse, members then can send a prewritten or original e-mail, fax or letter to a member of Congress.

Visitors to the site also are invited to join the Federal Advocacy Action Network, a group of AAP members who help support federal legislative and regulatory activities.

For more information on federal affairs or the tools offered on the new Web site, contact the AAP Washington Office at (800) 336-5475.

AAP patient education book



The Academy has published *Health Care Advice*, a compilation of more than 150 current and reproducible AAP patient education brochures, immunization statements and safety fact sheets. The 400-page softcover resource is available in both

English and Spanish for \$99.95 (members) or \$119.95 (nonmembers).

For ordering information, call (888) 227-1770, or visit the AAP Web site, www.aap.org.

Poliovirus survey of biomedical labs



The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in partnership with other agencies will conduct a nationwide poliovirus survey of more than 15,000 biomedical laboratories beginning in October. A pilot survey is under way in about 500 institutions.

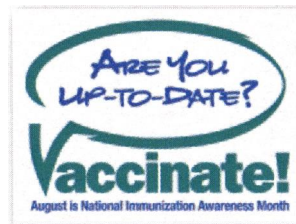
The purpose of the survey is to alert laboratories to the impending eradication of polio, encourage the disposition of all unneeded wild poliovirus infectious and potentially infectious materials, and establish a national inventory of sites retaining such materials.

Polio eradication is anticipated within the next few years, and the survey is the first step toward labora-

tory containment of the polioviruses. The United States joins 122 other polio-free countries that have initiated similar surveys over the past two years in collaboration with the World Health Organization.

For additional information on polio eradication and containment, visit the National Vaccine Program Office at www.cdc.gov/od/nvpo/polio, or contact (800) 221-0916.

Immunization Awareness Month



August is National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM), and the theme, "Are You Up to Date? Vaccinate!" reminds patients that they need immunizations throughout their lives for protection from vaccine-preventable diseases.

Because stocks of some vaccines were in short supply in 2001 and early 2002, NIAM is "an opportune time" to bring patients who have deferred immunizations back to the office or clinic to get up to date, according to David A. Neumann, director of the National Partnership for Immunization (NPI).

A promotional kit can be downloaded and printed free of charge from the NPI Web site, www.partnersforimmunization.org. The kit also is available by e-mailing npi@nfiid.org.

NIAM, endorsed by the Academy and others, is sponsored by NPI, a joint program of National Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition and the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases. The Academy is a member of the NPI National Immunization Council.

Conferences

- The Seventh International Conference on Family Violence: Working Together to End Abuse will be held Sept. 24-28 in San Diego, cohosted by the Family Violence & Sexual Assault Institute, Children's Institute International, and the California School of Professional Psychology at Alliant International University; and cosponsored by the Academy. For information, visit www.fvsai.org or contact Lisa Conradi at (858) 623-2777, ext. 427, or fvconf@alliant.edu. Continuing medical education (CME) credit is available.
- Juvenile services and mental health issues are among the topics that will be addressed at the National Conference on Correctional Health Care, Oct. 19-23 in Nashville and sponsored by the National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC) and the Academy of Correctional Health Professionals. The NCCHC is supported by the Academy and other organizations. For information, contact Deborah Ross at (773) 880-1460, ext. 286, or www.ncchc.org. CME credit is available.

Pediatrician volunteers needed

The National Certification Board of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners and Nurses (NCBPNP/N) is recruiting pediatricians for its national test committees.

The NCBPNP/N was chartered by the Academy and other national organizations in 1975. Members of the national exam committees for pediatric nurse practitioners (PNPs) include pediatricians, PNPs and experts in pediatric pharmacology.

Qualifications include board certification in pediatrics and current clinical practice including experience working with PNPs. Tasks include writing 10 to 15 multiple-choice questions on pediatric primary care topics, with two references for each item, and attending an annual two-day meeting in Washington, D.C., to review all items. Travel and hotel expenses are paid for by NCBPNP/N.

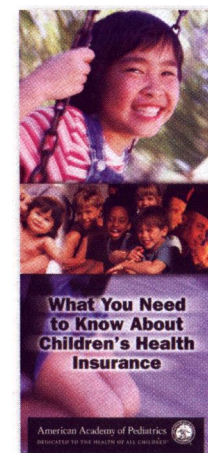
For information, contact Jan Wyatt, Ph.D., CRNP, executive director, at (888) 641-2767, or jwyatt@pnp-cert.org.

KySS campaign

The Keep your children/yourself Safe and Secure (KySS) campaign of the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (NAPNAP) has received a \$90,000 grant from the Maternal and Child Health Bureau of the Health Resources and Services Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, for the campaign's Improving Mental Health and Safety of Children and Teens program.

The grant is a collaborative effort among NAPNAP, the Academy, the Center for High-Risk Children and Youth at the University of Rochester (UR) School of Nursing, the Leadership Education in Adolescent Training Program at UR and the Monroe County (N.Y.) Health Department. KySS is supported or endorsed by 19 organizations including the Academy.

Children's health insurance brochure



The Academy has published a consumer-oriented brochure that discusses the importance of health insurance coverage for children.

Limited supplies of *What You Need to Know About Children's Health Insurance* are free to AAP members. The full-color brochure suggests questions parents can ask about their child's health insurance policy (such as what is not covered), the negative impact uninsured families have on the health care system, and why all children need to be covered.

There are tips on how to contact members of Congress to express the importance of children's insurance coverage.

To obtain the brochures, contact the AAP Department of Federal Affairs in Washington, D.C., at (800) 336-5475, ext. 3004; or download the brochure from the AAP Web site: www.aap.org, click on Advocacy.

Newborn hearing survey

Members are invited to participate in an online survey on newborn hearing screening at www.discoverwhy.com/surveypages/nhss.

The survey, which takes about 25 minutes to complete, is sponsored by Boys Town National Research Hospital with support by the Academy, the National Center for Hearing Assessment and Management, and the National Institutes of Health.

Physicians who complete the survey before Oct. 15 will be entered into a drawing for free Palm Pilots. In addition, respondents will receive complimentary electronic copies of materials developed based on survey results.