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South Carolina Chapter

American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®



SCAAP Newsletter

March 2023

Friends,

Happy spring (if that's what this degree of pollen indicates)! We've been keeping busy...

- We appreciate your **nominations for our annual awards (child advocate award and career achievement award)** and the **member-at-large position.**
- We submitted the **annual chapter report** and applied for several **chapter awards...** we have a new respect for past executive committees!
- We will soon be releasing the registration link for the **annual summer chapter meeting at Grove Park!** Stay tuned for some cool new opportunities.
- We testified in the K-12 subcommittee on [H.3309](#) (seizure-safe schools) about the role of pediatricians and pediatric subspecialists in managing **children with epilepsy**. We requested the chair allow us to convene with stakeholders and bring back a better bill. We led a group of stakeholders in a series of meetings to develop a bill that was more palatable to most groups (though mandatory training was not agreed upon by all groups). We also provided a glossary of terms agreed upon by all stakeholders to the subcommittee members around terms such as 504 plans, IEP, IHP, EAP, and Child Find.
- Led by Dr. Ramkumar Jayagopalan and colleagues with BeSMART, we are working towards applying for the **AAP's Gun Safety, Injury, and Violence Prevention grant** this month.
- We submitted a letter to the senate education subcommittee in support of the **sunscreen bill [S.256](#)** at the recommendation of our pediatric dermatology colleagues.
- We submitted a letter in opposition to [S.505](#), which would allow pharmacists and **pharmacy techs to test and provide treatment for certain diagnoses** and which

least ten states so far in 2023, regarding pharmacy-based childhood immunizations and efforts to expand the authority of pharmacists and/or pharmacy technicians to administer vaccinations have generated considerable discussion at the state level. These actions, while influenced by the policy dynamics of the current stage of the COVID-19 response and vaccination campaign, precede the pandemic. Attempts to continuously lower the ages at which children can receive pharmacy-based immunizations, or the type of immunizations received there, were being considered in state legislative sessions prior to the beginning of the current public health emergency, prompting a lengthy cycle of renegotiation over those terms. The AAP [opposed the PREP Act amendments](#) permitting pharmacy-based childhood immunizations at ages 3-18 due to the pandemic. Ensuring that children and adolescents receive the full spectrum of care in the pediatric medical home is more important than ever. Making the provisions of the PREP Act permanent under state law will add additional competitive pressures to already struggling pediatric clinics and may imperil overall access to the pediatric medical home in the future. While a [recent article in Health Affairs](#) makes the case for expanded participation by pharmacies in the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program, given the 1% [drop in overall childhood immunization rates](#) at kindergarten entry rates last year due to the pandemic, it remains an open question as to whether the availability of pharmacy-based routine childhood immunizations under the PREP Act provisions had an impact on population-wide routine childhood immunization rates.” We will be testifying 3/7/23 in the 3M subcommittee hearing against the house version of bill [H.3988](#).

- We submitted nominations for the **State Child Fatality Advisory Committee** as state law (SC 63-11-1930 (A) (15)) requires one position be filled by a child abuse pediatrician nominated by SCAAP.
- Our **SCAAP state house day** is 3/9/23...stay tuned for pics/coverage! We have been planning an exciting, impactful day!
- Several chapter members joined the [SC Coalition for Safer Schools](#) **state house day on 2/7/23!** We distributed leave-behinds or spoke with all 170 members of the general assembly. Here's a quick recap of coverage of the press conference: [WIS](#), [ABC Columbia](#), [WACH Fox](#).
- We applied for an **AAP payor advocacy grant** focused on oral health...stay tuned!
- Regarding struggles with **prior auths for ADHD meds in the context of the med shortages**, we reached out to the amazing Dr. Wessinger in his role at SC DHHS, and he shared that in response to our concerns, he heard back from Absolute Total Care: “I can reiterate our contact information here for you to pass along: For ATC, please guide providers to 1-866-399-0928 opt 1, then 5. Additionally, I will instruct

providers enough time to get through the shortage and get many kids into their "drug holiday" for summer vacation." Members should feel free to *raise these issues* with the [AAP SOAPM hassle factor form](#) so that the AAP can advocate as well.

- We have made more **website improvements**, including membership options.
- Led by Dr. Kent Jones in partnership with geneticists and other advocates, the chapter supported [S.394](#) and focused on providing more timely care when abnormal results appear on **newborn screens**...Dr. Skinner testified, and the bill passed the Senate with a vote of 42-0 on 2/22/23. The [house version](#) was introduced on 2/16/23 and was referred to 3M.
- Our partners at the Institute for Child Success have put together a [report](#) on the state of **child mental health**, and we have formed a task force of SCAAP members (Drs. Jan Key, Deandra Clark, Beth Morphis, Dane Pierce, along with our executive committee)...the group had their first meeting and plan to work on actionable ideas for each of 4 primary drivers (awareness/education, policy/advocacy, capacity building, prevention/self-care)...look forward to good stuff from this crew!
- We signed onto a letter a [coalition letter](#) requesting a pediatrician be considered for the currently open position of Director of Coronavirus and Other Respiratory Diseases Division of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- Some of you have shared that you're receiving phishing emails from us asking for Venmo transfers, gift cards, etc. Please know that we will never ask you for money (other than membership renewal) and report anything you receive as suspicious. In response to this, we have removed email addresses from the [www.scaap.org](#) website.
- Check out the [legislative update](#) as of 2/20/23 shared by the incredible Maggie Cash.
- Read all about Dr. Jan Key's [wellbeing initiatives](#) in the schools covered by Count on 2 news.

Elizabeth Mack, MD, MS, FAAP

President

Check Out These Resources and Opportunities

Access for All, A **Reproductive Health Summit** presented by New Morning, will be taking place on April 13-14, 2023, at the Columbia Marriott located in Columbia, South Carolina. Register now and take advantage of early bird pricing, which ends on March 6th. To register and see the full conference schedule, please visit their [website](#).

Aspen Global Leadership Network is [accepting registrations](#) for their upcoming **seminar series on adolescent mental health**.

Can we interest you in (FREE) [ASL virtual classes](#)?

SCDHHS wanted to share a list of added **benefits MCOs offer to their beneficiaries** can be found here: [PBE Compare \(scchoices.com\)](#) ...things like swimming lessons and Boys and Girls club memberships that families may really appreciate (see screenshot below) 😊

ser/Step3PBECompare.aspx?FromMenu=true

Schedule of Benefits for all Medicaid Members				
Doctor Visits (per year) - Children	* Unlimited visits in health plan (same as regular Medicaid) * \$3.30 co-pay per visit for ages 19-30			
Doctor Visits (per year) - Adults	* Unlimited visits in health plan (Regular Medicaid limits visits to 24 per year) * \$3.30 co-pay per visit			
Pharmacy Medications	* Pharmacy coverage is specific to the health plan * Check with the health plan to see if your specific medications are covered * Unlimited prescriptions * \$3.40 co-pay per medication			
Pharmacy Medications - Smoking Cessation	* No co-pay for smoking cessation medications, and counseling covered from physician or through SC Tobacco Quitline (1-800-QUIT-NOW)			
Hospital Stay - Children	* Check with the health plan for covered hospitals (same as regular Medicaid) * \$3.40 non-emergency outpatient co-pay and \$15 inpatient co-pay for ages 19 and above			
Hospital Stay - Adults	* Same benefit as for children			
Home Health Care - Children	* Unlimited visits (same as regular Medicaid) * \$3.30 co-pay per visit for ages 19-30			
Home Health Care - Adults	* Limit of 30 visits per year (same as regular Medicaid) * \$3.30 co-pay per visit			
Durable Medical Equipment - Children	* \$3.40 co-pay per item (same as regular Medicaid)			
Durable Medical Equipment - Adults	* \$3.40 co-pay per item (same as regular Medicaid)			
Dental - Children	* \$3.40 co-pay per visit for ages 19-30 (same as regular Medicaid)			
Dental - Adults	* \$3.40 co-pay per service (same as regular Medicaid) \$700 max worth of preventive care services each year to include annual cleaning, oral exams, x-rays, pulling of teeth and fillings. Limited coverage for services delivered in preparation for or during the course of treatment for organ transplants, radiation of the head or neck for cancer treatment, chemotherapy for cancer treatment, total joint replacement or heart valve replacement, or treatment of trauma related injuries administered in a hospital or outpatient facility			
Oral Surgery - Children	* Same as regular Medicaid			
Oral Surgery - Adults	* Emergency services only (same as regular Medicaid) \$3.40 co-pay per visit			
Vision - Children	* Same as regular Medicaid - \$3.30 co-pay for ophthalmologist or optometrist services for ages 19-30			
Vision - Adults	* No benefit available			
Additional Services Available for Medicaid				
24-Hour Nurse Advice Line (not available in regular Medicaid)	* Health plan offers unlimited access to a nurse for medical advice *Contact Health Plan Member Number on the back of this page			
Disease Management (not available in regular Medicaid)	* Programs are available for asthma, diabetes and pregnancy *Contact Health Plan Member Number on the back of this page			
Care Coordination (managing care from different doctors or clinics)	* Health plan will coordinate care; prior authorization may be required * Contact Health Plan Member Number on the back of this page			
Absolute Total Care	First Choice by Select Health of South Carolina	Healthy Blue by Blue Choice of SC	Humana Healthy Horizons™ in South Carolina	Molina Healthcare of SC
Details:				
Plan Type Details	MCO	MCO	MCO	MCO
Name of Plan Details	✓	✓	✓	✓
Phone Number Details	✓	✓	✓	✓
Additional Services Details	✓	✓	✓	✓
How is your Health Plan Rated Details	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★
Customer Service Details	✓	✓	✓	✓
For Health Plan contact information Click Here Cancel Go Back				

If you have questions about the health plans, call the [member services office](#) of that health plan.

[Expand all](#)

[What is a health plan?](#)

Child Wellbeing Coalition Virtual Lunch & Learn

Gun safety in the home by Dr. Betsy Oddo, MUSC PHM
3/17/23 at 12:00 pm-1:00 pm

[Register Here](#)

Check out this [flyer](#) about **well checks for children in foster care**

Check out www.scaap.org/advocacy for our latest actionable state issue! We are frequently updating this list of issues and need your help getting the messages to legislators. In case you're curious, in 2022, there were 87 unique users, 1335 messages sent, and 7 action items we utilized through this platform!

Check out the **national AAP advocacy action center** for opportunities to advocate [here!](#)

The AAP just revised its [advocacy guide](#)- feel free to take a dive yourself and to share w trainees!

Check out AFFA's upcoming [LGBTQ virtual summit](#) on March 30-31!

Sign on [here](#) to join other medical providers in supporting our LGBTQ+ youth! And if you're free, join a state house day to support our trans youth!

Check out this free MOC & CME opportunity for members- "**Fighting Racism to Advance Child Equity**"- [link here](#).

[Registration is open](#) for the 2023 American Academy of Pediatrics **Advocacy Conference**, which will take place March 26 – 28 in Washington, DC. For the first time since 2019, the conference is returning to the nation's capital – and we hope you can join us! The conference brings together pediatricians, pediatric subspecialists, and pediatric trainees who share a passion for child health advocacy. During the conference, participants will hear from distinguished guest speakers, attend advocacy skills-building workshops and learn about timely policy issues impacting children, families, and pediatricians. On the final day, participants will attend meetings with their congressional offices and others from their state to discuss a timely child health issue. To learn more and register for the conference, visit aap.org/adcon. The early bird discount ended on 2/15.

Want more advocacy ideas?

- Become an AAP spokesperson (contact ssmartin@aap.org).
- [Sign up](#) to receive the Friday Capital Checkup emails to send your members of congress your thoughts on issues that affect kids.
- Submit a blog post to [AAP Voices](#) on the issues affecting your patients.

Student, Resident, and Fellow Membership Fees: Nudge a Trainee Today to [Join!](#)

Residents: \$135 national, \$30 SCAAP (usually sponsored by a program)

Fellowship Trainees: \$145 national, \$30 SCAAP

Visit www.scaap.org and go to membership to join.

QTIP's Spring Oral Health QI Workshop

March 28, 2023 – June 7, 2023.

Non-QTIP practices that are interested, please email Marlo.Thomas-Koger@scdhhs.gov by March 14th. See [flyer](#) for more information.

FREE 5.5-hour CME/CE/MOC Lifestyle Medicine/Nutrition

Dear Members of the SCAAP:

I am a member of the SCAAP and co-chair of our NEW Healthy Lifestyles subcommittee with Dr. Christine San Giovanni. It was great seeing many of you at the recent conference! I have a longstanding professional interest in pediatric obesity. I am also a member of the American College of Lifestyle Medicine and certified with the American Board of Lifestyle Medicine (ACLM). ACLM is a medical association that is taking active steps to improve the health of patients and our system of care using lifestyle interventions to address chronic disease with a clinical goal of health restoration.

In support of the recent White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health, ACLM is now offering a **5.5-hour lifestyle medicine introductory course bundle for FREE – an otherwise \$220 value!** I highly recommend this opportunity. It provides an evidence-based introduction to the field of lifestyle medicine with a focus on nutrition, often the most complex behavior to change, to prevent and treat the root causes of chronic disease.

This course bundle consists of 3 modules and 4 presentations. Below is an outline for the course:

- “Introduction to Lifestyle Medicine” module (1 hr.)
 - “Food as Medicine: Nutrition for Prevention and Longevity” module (3 hrs.)
 - “Food as Medicine: Nutrition for Treatment and Risk Reduction” module (1.5 hrs.)
-

Erin Brackbill, MD, FAAP, dipABLM
Prisma Health Children's Hospital
Center for Pediatric Medicine

Mark your calendars!

SCAAP Activities:

- [SCAAP/ICS State House advocacy day](#): March 9, 2023
- **SCAAP summer meeting 2023**: August 10-13, 2023, at Grove Park Inn

National AAP activities:

- Due 3/10/2023: [Hepatitis C Educational Grants Applications Supported by NASPGHAN](#)
 - On 3/10/23: [Pediatric Tobacco Control Funding Opportunity Q&A Session](#)
 - On 3/11/23: [Pediatric Disaster Preparedness Ambassador Program Grant Applications Due](#)
 - On 3/15/23: [PEPP Steering Committee Membership Applications Due](#)
 - On 3/24-26/2023: [10th International Meeting on Indigenous Child Health \(IMICH\)](#)
 - On 3/26-28/2023: [AAP Advocacy Conference](#)
 - On 3/31/23: [Neonatal Resuscitation Program \(NRP\) Steering Committee Member Applications Due](#)
 - On 4/1/23: [Resolution Deadline for 2023 Leadership Conference](#)
 - On 4/14/23: [2023 National Conference & Exhibition Abstracts Due](#)
 - [Future NCE dates](#)
-

SCAAP Information

SCAAP officers (August 2022 – July 2024):

- Elizabeth Mack, MD, MS, FAAP mackeli@muscc.edu - President
 - Martha Edwards, MD, FAAP mmcedwards@yahoo.com - VP
 - Ramkumar Jayagopalan, MD, FAAP Ramkumarjayagopalan@gmail.com - Secretary/treasurer
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[SCAAP Executive committee, Board, Committees, Liaisons.](#)

Lutine Management Associates: <https://lutinemangement.com/our-team/>

If you would like to contact SCAAP, please email [Ray Saputelli](#).



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