Your AAP donations help children stay safe while being active.

After a long period of being sequestered to homes, we know very well the importance of being active. Now that young people have been and will be coming back to a variety of sports, it is vital that children are properly evaluated to safely return to sports and physical activity. Your gifts helped translate a policy into practice to accomplish that.

To ensure the health and safety of active youth and young athletes, the American Academy of Pediatrics and partnering organizations developed the Preparticipation Physical Evaluation (PPE) Monograph, 5th edition. This is the most influential reference for states, sporting organizations and clinical practices for determining the rules, guidelines, and practices of preparticipation evaluations. Since its creation, the AAP has received many requests for assistance in effective implementation of the physical evaluation.

In response, the AAP developed the “Improving Sports Preparticipation Evaluations for Youth (ISPY)” learning collaborative, which was led by a team of Sports Medicine experts from the Council on Sports Medicine and Fitness (COSMF). This program involved seven large general pediatrics practices to improve the delivery of a comprehensive Preparticipation Physical Evaluation (PPE) in the primary care setting for youth ages 12-18 over a 6-month timeframe. The importance of this program
increased in the past few years as some athletes may have underlying and undetected health conditions following COVID-19 illness or infection.

Your donations to the AAP Friends of Children Fund contributed to a quality improvement project that increased the effectiveness of PPEs in the participating pediatric practices. The results could provide helpful guidance to pediatricians, medical subspecialists, and surgical specialists.

“High impact quality improvement work is challenging. It requires a program that is meaningful for participants, uses outcomes that can be measured, and has efficient delivery. Donor funds were used to hire a QI consultant who did much of the heavy lifting for the gracious volunteer physicians and helped ensure that a quality product was delivered. Our team could never have developed such an outstanding program without the generous support of our donors,” shares Andy Peterson, MD, MSPH, FAAP, Course Director.

You built this gateway for adolescents to be properly evaluated for safe participation in sports and physical activities with your kind contributions. With that, you improve health for young athletes.

I look forward to sharing another story of your AAP donations making a big difference for kids, their families, and pediatric professionals.

Warm regards,

Moira A. Szilagyi, MD, PhD, FAAP
President

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