American Academy of Pediatrics
Resources to Address the Opioid Epidemic

Policy

- Clinical Report: Pain Assessment and Treatment in Children With Significant Impairment of the Central Nervous System
- Clinical Report: Mind-Body Therapies in Children and Youth
- Policy Statement: Substance Use Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment
- Clinical Report: Substance Use Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment
- Clinical Report: Codeine: Time to Say “No”
- Clinical Report: Testing for Drugs of Abuse in Children and Adolescents
- Policy Statement: Medication-Assisted Treatment of Adolescents with Opioid Use Disorders
- Policy Statement: A Public Health Response to Opioid Use in Pregnancy
- Clinical Report: Neonatal Drug Withdrawal
- Clinical Report: Families Affected by Parental Substance Use

Provider Education

**PediaLink Module – Acute Pain Management: Changes and Challenges**
The main goals of this course are to increase the number of pediatricians who understand how to assess and treat pain as well as how to identify patients at risk for misusing opioid medications. Case studies presented in this course provide the opportunity to apply the pain screening and management techniques to patient and family case situations.

**PediaLink Module – Chronic Pain and the Opioid Crisis**
This course reviews the types of chronic pain pediatricians are likely to see in their patients. The role of opioids in the treatment of chronic pain and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations are discussed. This course is free.

**Online Course**
**Research-Based Clinical Strategies to Prevent and Address Adolescent Substance Use and Prescription Medication Misuse—Being Part of the Solution**
The AAP was part of a coalition of medical professional organizations that developed this free online course. It is offered through two 30-minute sections and encourages prevention strategies for adolescents reporting no substance use and offers guidance for how to address substance use at all levels—from mild, to moderate, to severe. It also discusses safe prescribing practices and evidence-based treatments for teens with a substance use disorder. Brief clinician videos provide insights and tips to incorporate into practice.
Pediatric Waiver Training
Pediatricians must complete 8 hours of training and apply for a waiver to prescribe buprenorphine, a partial opioid agonist, to treat opioid use disorders in general medical settings. There are several options for training:

- **Online 8-Hour Course**
  o AAP members can take the full 8-hour training online at [www.aap.org/mat](http://www.aap.org/mat). Eight hours of CME credit will be awarded upon completion.

- **Live 8-Hour Course**
  o If you are interested in delivering the 8-hour course in a live setting, OR you are interested in having an instructor travel to your location to give a live group training, email your request to [substanceuse@aap.org](mailto:substanceuse@aap.org).

- **Half Online / Half Live Option**
  o The course can be delivered in "halves." If you are interested in delivering this format, or want to request an instructor to deliver this format, email your request to [substanceuse@aap.org](mailto:substanceuse@aap.org).

Webinar Recordings
With funding from the American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry, the AAP held a webinar series on preventing, identifying, and treating opioid dependence. These webinar recordings are available at [www.aap.org/pcsso](http://www.aap.org/pcsso). Take special note of the “Take Home Points” document that accompanies each webinar.

1. Unraveling the Mystery of Acute and Chronic Pain in the Child & Adolescent
2. Putting the Pieces Together: Strategies for Pain Management
3. Co-Occurring Psychiatric Illness and Substance Use in Youth
4. Rational Pain Management in Children With Chronic Medical Conditions
5. Demystifying Buprenorphine Prescribing for Youth With Opioid Use Disorders
6. Understanding Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome for the General Pediatrician

Training Simulations: Behavioral Health Intervention with Adolescents
These training simulations are free to AAP members and provide participants with effective brief intervention techniques for addressing substance use and mental health concerns with adolescents. The virtual simulations, developed by Kognito, strive to increase comfort and improve the quality of care, ultimately leading to positive patient behavioral change.

To access the course, go to [kognito.com/aap](http://kognito.com/aap)
1. Create a new account
2. Follow the onscreen instructions
3. Choose your course
4. Click "LAUNCH"

Other

**State and National Fact Sheets**
Access state-by-state and national fact sheets that examine the intersection of the opioid epidemic, child welfare systems, and child health. These fact sheets also offer policy solutions that can support vulnerable children and families at both the state and federal level.

**Poster on Safe Storage and Disposal of Medications**
Available in both English and Spanish, this poster is meant to be hung in the pediatric office for families to see. It is designed specifically so that local resources can be written into the empty white space. The poster was disseminated at the 2017 National Conference and Exhibition, discussed in an [October 2017 AAP News article](http://news.aap.org), and is available upon request until quantities are depleted. Request copies [here](http://news.aap.org).
**Medicine Abuse Project**

The AAP is a partner in this campaign, which was launched in 2012 by The Partnership at Drugfree.org. The Medicine Abuse Project aims to curb the abuse of medicine. The Web site houses a suite of comprehensive resources tailored to parents, health professionals, educators, and community leaders, to help them learn about and address the problem.

**American Medical Association (AMA) Task Force**

The AAP has been a member and active participant in the AMA’s Task Force to Reduce Opioid Abuse. The AAP is involved in the task force’s efforts to:

- educate physicians about safe opioid prescribing practices;
- educate state policymakers about the importance of effective prescription drug monitoring programs (PDMPs);
- educate physicians about the importance of using PDMPs; and
- encourage widespread community access of naloxone.

The AMA Task Force has produced the following fact sheets:

- [Thinking of Prescribing an Opioid? Did You Check Your State Prescription Drug Monitoring Program?](#)
- [Help Save Lives: Co-Prescribe Naloxone to Patients at Risk of Overdose](#)
- [Promote Safe Storage and Disposal of Opioids and all Medications](#)

**Surgical Challenge to Reduce Narcotic Prescriptions by 50%**

The AAP Section on Surgery Executive Committee sent out a challenge in March 2018 to all pediatric surgeons and division chiefs to join their Some is Not a Number; Soon is Not a Time campaign. The challenge asks surgeons and their staff to:

- Measure narcotic use for a month using discharge prescriptions for 5 CPT codes.
- From that baseline, we challenge you to decrease narcotic usage by 50% over the next 6 months. Start in March and report at the end of September.

**Some is not a number**...drop your baseline by 50% in 5 CPT codes.

**Soon is not a time**...do this in the next 6 months.

The results of this campaign will be announced at the National Conference & Exhibition (NCE) in November 2018.