

## PEDIATRICIAN LIFE AND CAREER EXPERIENCE STUDY

### MESSAGE FROM THE AAP PRESIDENT



Dear participants,

Thank you so much for your participation in PLACES. Our strategic planning processes always include information from PLACES.

You have told us that administrative tasks are top on the list to address physician burnout and enhance wellness. To help us better understand administrative tasks you are facing, we asked you more about this in the Fall 2018 PLACES survey. *Check out pages 2-3 for what we learned from you.*

The annual spring survey is now underway – thank you in advance for taking time from your busy schedule to complete the survey!

I am also excited that over 900 young pediatricians have been recruited for a 3<sup>rd</sup> PLACES cohort – bringing into the project recent residency graduates so we continue to hear from those just starting their career as pediatricians.

Thank you for making PLACES a success. I look forward to hearing what we learn from you. It is making a difference. You are making a difference!

Kyle E. Yasuda, MD, FAAP  
President, American Academy of Pediatrics



A program of the American Academy of Pediatrics

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- About PLACES
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  - What we have learned from you
- Recent conference abstracts and publications
- Fall survey and winners of 2018 amazon gift cards

## ABOUT PLACES

PLACES is a longitudinal study that tracks the experiences and opinions of 1,800 pediatricians over time

- There are 2 important cohorts, and we are finishing up recruitment for a 3<sup>rd</sup> cohort:
  - 1) 2002-2004 Residency Graduates Cohort, n=899  
Most graduated in 2002-2004
  - 2) 2009-2011 Residency Graduates Cohort, n=901  
Most graduated in 2009-2011
  - 3) 2016-2018 Residency Graduates Cohort; over 900 have signed up
- Eight in 10 PLACES participants responded to the 7<sup>th</sup> annual survey in 2018.
- The 8<sup>th</sup> annual survey is currently underway.
- Strengths of PLACES:
  - ✓ Longitudinal design
  - ✓ Inclusion of both AAP members and non-members
  - ✓ Range of content (work, satisfaction, personal dimension)
  - ✓ **Commitment of participants, like you!**

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# ADMINISTRATIVE TASKS FOR PHYSICIANS

MAY 2019

## What we heard from you in the spring, 2018

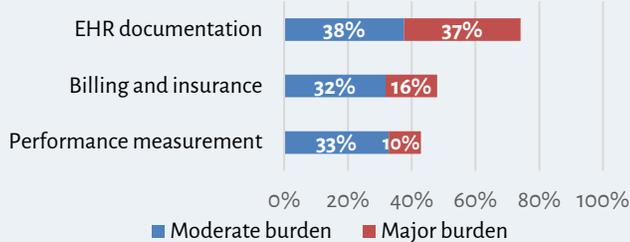
Reducing administrative burdens is a high priority!

## What we learned from you in the fall, 2018

Last fall, we asked you for more detail about administrative tasks.

- We learned that concerns about EHRs were at the top of the list (Figure 1).
- Many were also burdened by billing and insurance and performance measurement.

Figure 1. Percentage of PLACES pediatricians reporting moderate or major burden at their job (n=1,165)



## What we learned about your time and decision-making: clinical care vs administrative tasks

PLACES pediatricians agree they have adequate time and control over decision-making for clinical care but less of both for administrative tasks (Figure 2).

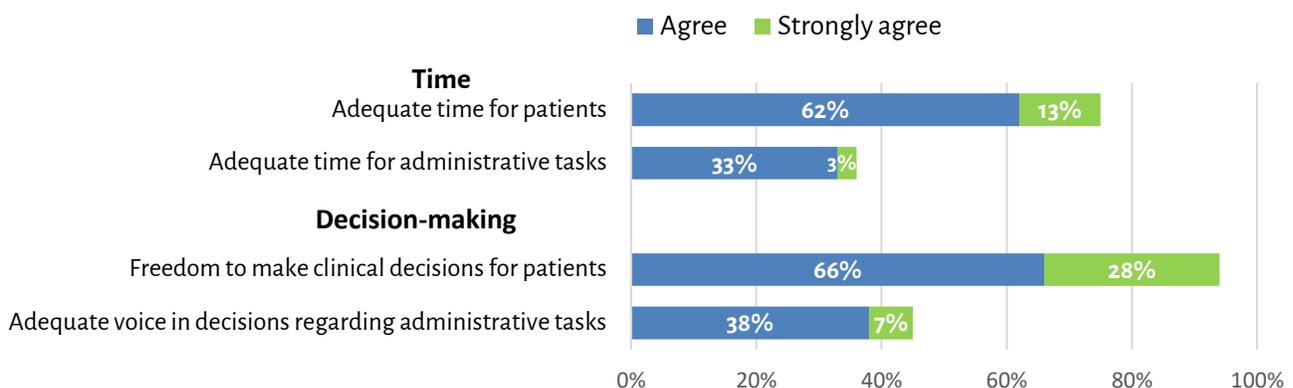
### Time

- Three-fourths agree they have adequate time to spend with their patients during typical visits.
- One-third agree they have adequate time and support to address administrative tasks.

### Decision-making

- Over 90% agree they have freedom to make clinical decisions that meet their patients' needs.
- Less than half agree they have adequate voice in decisions regarding administrative tasks.

Figure 2. Percentage of PLACES pediatricians who agree they have adequate time and decision-making for patients and administrative tasks (n=1,181)



# ADMINISTRATIVE TASKS FOR PHYSICIANS

MAY 2019

## Strategies to reduce administrative tasks for physicians

Nine in 10 PLACES pediatricians strongly agree (46%) or agree (43%) that improving the functionality of the EHR might reduce administrative tasks on physicians at their work place (Figure 3).

Other top strategies include:

- Provide protected time in physicians' schedules for administrative work.
- Shift administrative work to other team members.
- Obtain physician input on administrative structures and tasks.

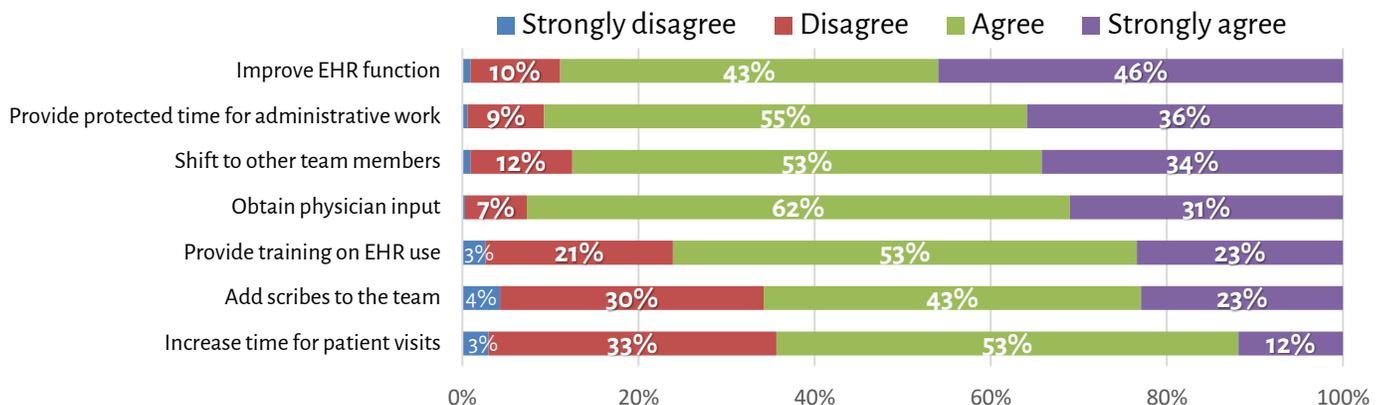
### Most PLACES pediatricians work more hours than scheduled:

- 75% report working more hours than scheduled in a typical week.
- More of these extra hours are spent on administrative than clinical care activities:
  - Administrative: 31%
  - Clinical care: 11%
  - Both administrative and clinical care: 51%

### PLACES pediatricians are most likely to cite EHR tasks as administrative burdens. Some of the thoughtful comments received include:

- *"Too much time is wasted typing, clicking buttons-EHR is not user friendly but what's worse is that we have to put so much useless required content to satisfy insurance companies."*
- *"I am frustrated that much of the "required" documentation in a chart note is for billing purposes but is of zero use to the clinicians taking care of the patient."*
- *"EHR's are not user-friendly or customizable and do not decrease time spent charting, actually the opposite. EHR is a necessity, but doctors should have a lot more autonomy in guiding how they are delivered and modified."*
- *"I have made a lot of work arounds with EHR, (my major administrative task), so have ready-made note templates, etc. The initial time investment was definitely worth it."*
- *"I am an owner of a practice so I chose the EMR we are using and happy with it."*

Figure 3. Percentage of PLACES pediatricians who agree that approach might reduce administrative tasks (n=1,175)



## Thanks to you, we continue to disseminate new information about early and mid-career pediatricians!

- PLACES results are being used by Academy leadership and disseminated widely in the AAP *News* magazine, at conferences, and in peer-reviewed journals.

### Recent presentations

Pediatric Academic Societies (PAS) Annual Meeting, May 2019 (*links work best in Firefox or Internet Explorer*)

- [“Professional and personal changes associated with pediatrician job satisfaction, 2012-2017”](#)
- [“US pediatrician-reported strategies to enhance wellness and reduce burnout”](#)
- [“Different measures and ways to conceptualize burnout”](#)
- [“Experiences during pediatric subspecialty fellowship training”](#)

### Recent journal articles

- Gender discrepancies related to pediatrician work-life balance and household responsibilities. *Pediatrics*. In Press.
- [Work experiences and satisfaction of international medical school graduates. \*Pediatrics\*. 2019;143\(1\):e20181953. doi:10.1542/peds.2018-1953.](#)

For a list of other PLACES publications and presentations, visit [www.aap.org/places](http://www.aap.org/places) or email [places@aap.org](mailto:places@aap.org).

## Fall Survey and Congratulations to Dr Long

Seven in 10 participants completed the 2018 fall survey that focused on administrative tasks – thank you!

Two winners were randomly selected for a \$250 Amazon gift card from the pool of responding participants, including Dr Sahira Long.

- Dr Long is a pediatrician and lactation consultant at Children’s National Health System. She is an Associate Professor of Pediatrics at George Washington University School of Medicine & Health Science. She serves as the medical director for Children’s Health Center - Anacostia in medically underserved Southeast Washington, DC, and for the Children’s National East of the River Lactation Support Center. She lives in Maryland with her husband and their two teenaged sons. Her hobbies include baking, gardening, and crocheting.

## PLACES 2018 WINNER



Sahira Long, MD, FAAP

*A Special Thanks to the PLACES Project Advisory Committee:  
Bobbi Byrne, MD; Gary Freed, MD, MPH;  
Laurel Leslie, MD, MPH; Amy Starmer, MD, MPH*