



AAP California Chapter 3

San Diego Pediatrician Update – April 2005

EDUCATION and CME

April is highlighted by 4 events.

April 28– evening program “**Infants to Adults: New Opportunities to Vaccinate**”. Visit: <http://www.aapca3.org/local.html> to register.

Saturday April 16 at the Double Tree Hotel, Del Mar is our Obesity ½ day Saturday meeting, “**Taking Charge of Obesity in San Diego County**”. It will focus on obesity and working with parents, communities and schools.

April 23 is a full day program on autism, sponsored by Children’s Hospital and the Autism Tree Project. Dr. Doris Trauner will present “**Initial Evaluation and Diagnosis of Autistic Spectrum Disorders.**” Contact Dayna Hoff at 619-980-8614 for more information.

Finally, **April 28-30** is UCSD’s Conference at the Catamaran Hotel in San Diego, titled “**Essential Topics in Pediatrics: Exploring the Developmental Spectrum**”. Visit: http://cme.ucsd.edu/events.cfm?cat_id=1

Information on these programs can also be found at www.aapca3.org or contact Meredith Kennedy at 858-569-8816.

Web Based CME and Education

Our Chapter, with additional funding from First 5 California, the Childhood Asthma Initiative and the CAPHI, has launched an innovative web-based quality improvement program for clinicians that treat children with asthma.

Education & CME Cont’d

Visit: www.betterasthmacare.org. This **free** program includes instructional videos, resources for asthma education, tools to use the National Asthma Education guidelines, & information on quality improvement in the healthcare setting. **This program has been approved for up to 2.5 hours of CE credits** for doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and respiratory therapists.

Important Vaccine and Infectious Disease Update

The AAP Chapter 3 Infectious Disease Committee, chaired by Mark Sawyer, has announced that **routine administration of Synagis** for RSV is no longer necessarily, based on recent viral report tracking. Our website (www.aapca3.org) has the update information, as well as local lab results.

This week, a book "Evidence of Harm" by David Kirby should be released. This book is another chapter in the **thimerosal-mercury-autism drama**, and has been heavily promoted. The author is a reporter and has apparently made a case that the CDC has covered up issues related to mercury and autism. He also reportedly takes quotes out of context from the Institutes of Medicine report on mercury and autism. We expect a lot of media coverage when the book is released

Talking points to use in discussions with your patients are listed on our website at . Please be aware of this book’s release and the potential communication reaction.

MEMBERSHIP

Update your information at www.aapca3.org.

National Legislative News

A U.S. District court in Oklahoma issued a ruling in a lawsuit filed by the Oklahoma AAP Chapter. The decision enforces the "equal access provision" of Medicaid law. This provision requires reimbursement to be sufficient so that all children receive the care to which they are entitled under federal law. For more information, visit the AAP Member Center (<http://www.aap.org/moc>).

Local Resources

The Postpartum Health Alliance is a state wide non-profit organization with a San Diego Chapter . Visit: www.postpartumhealthalliance.org. They offer education, screening tools, lectures and resources for pediatricians and moms during this critical time. You can also contact them at 858-729-0305.

SD County Needs Peds MD Help

The San Diego County Juvenile Justice Commission is seeking a pediatrician to serve as a Commissioner. It is a chance to help provide oversight for youth in the dependency and delinquency systems. Contact Dean Sidelinger (dsidelinger@ucsd.edu) for more information or if interested.

Sacramento Update: Legislation

Our District continues to lead in advocacy for pediatricians and children in Sacramento. Our staff, headed by Kris Calvin, has cultivated strong and responsive relationships with many on the Governor’s staff. Visit <http://www.aap-ca.com/> or email your district staff at aapcalifornia@aol.com.