



AAP California Chapter 3

San Diego Pediatrician Update – July 2005

EDUCATION and CME

Save the Dates:

Our 8th Annual School Health Leadership Conference is scheduled for Saturday, October 15th at Naval Medical Center San Diego. As the event approaches, please see www.aapca3.org. This low-cost CME has some interesting speakers on “School Health Wellness”.

The Annual Las Vegas Meeting, sponsored by the CA AAP District 9, will be at the Venetian Hotel from November 17-20. This meeting is an important source of funds for our District activities in Sacramento and throughout the state. AAP Members receive a discounted fee. Visit the District Website at www.aap-ca.com.

Web Based CME and Education

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

Obesity Programs in Your Area

Our recent Obesity meeting was one of our most successful programs during the past year. We thank those who helped sponsor the meeting and offered insight and expertise on working with school boards and families. This issue will be at forefront of policy and healthcare,

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and we look to help pediatricians in their role in reducing childhood obesity. Contact the chapter at www.aapca3.org or Meredith Kennedy at 858.569.8816.

Important Vaccine and Infectious Disease Update

Most pediatricians are aware of the new Meningococcal and Pertussis vaccines. The Chapter & National leadership are focused on pediatricians' reimbursement concerns for these vaccines. While ACIP, CDC & Redbook Committee recommendations are often a bit different, how the recommendations are interpreted by insurance plans can be problematic. Our Infectious Disease committee, led by Mark Sawyer, MD, our Nat'l Redbook committee member, John Bradley, MD & members of our government affairs committee need to know if IPAs & health plans are “covering” these vaccines and how the financial arrangements are being presented. Contact us at www.aapca3.org, so that this important information will be passed to these representatives.

Membership

Update your information at www.aapca3.org.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Dr. Allen Swartz, member of our Advisory Board and chair of the Coding Committee, for being elected to the National AAP Coding Committee. His presentation at the recent Immunization Forum in La Jolla was excellent. You may contact Allen at babyfxr@aol.com or at our website.

Strategic Planning

Many chapter members participated in our successful strategic planning session. Our facilitator was

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impressed and surprised with our unique set of goals & direction. We have set the course to prioritize 4 equally important topics: Access to Care, Advocacy and Collaboration, Information and Resourcefulness, and Professional Support.

Jaundice & Hyperbilirubinemia: Beyond the Guidelines

Dr. Yvonne Vaucher, chair of our Newborn & Fetus committee, is working on surveying pediatricians around the county about their approach to jaundice and hyperbilirubinemia. An on-line survey will be available soon.

Life After Residency

Our chapter is pleased to sponsor a new “Life after Residency” Program on Sept. 24th for 2nd & 3rd year residents in our local training programs. A diverse & expert panel will be put together to share their experiences & to field questions. Contact us at www.aapca3.org or Meredith Kennedy at 858.569.8816.

New Website Section:

Information Dinner Meetings

Our website will now be listing local information (non CME, non-AAP sponsored) on upcoming dinner meetings. Pharmaceutical companies sponsor most of these programs. Hungry for food? Hungry for knowledge? Check our website at www.aapca3.org for options that might fit your schedule.

Volunteer Opportunity

Interested in helping homeless, at-risk teens & young adults? Consider joining our team of volunteer physicians 2 nights/week -a chance to work with our residents with a minimal commitment of an evening once every 1-2 months. If interested, contact Dean Sidelinger, MD at dsidelinger@ucsd.edu.