



Business of Pediatrics

Pediatric **Health** Network





AAP Advocacy Priorities

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Pediatric **Health** Network

Disclosure Notice: I have no conflicts to disclose.

G.O.P. Bill Has \$1.1 Trillion in Health Cuts and 11.8 Million Losing Care, C.B.O. Says

A CDC vaccine committee meeting, the first of Kennedy's tenure at HHS, gets postponed

Medical groups sue HHS, RFK Jr. over 'unlawful' vaccine changes

Trump on measles outbreak: 'Not something new'

04/07/2025 10:29 AM EDT

Kennedy Calls for States to Ban Fluoridated Drinking Water

The health secretary's announcement came on the first day of a tour through the Southwest to showcase nutrition legislation and other priorities.

How Trump's bill will supercharge mass deportations by funneling \$170bn to Ice

NIH announces it's slashing funding for indirect research costs

The agency estimates

Thousands of federal workers, including CDC, FDA, and NIH staff, laid off in sweeping cuts

Eyeing SNAP cuts in reconciliation

By GRACE YARROW | 01/13/2025 10:00 AM EST

Families of Colorado transgender children struggle with lost care in wake of Trump order

Hospitals yank services as threat of withheld federal funding looms

Make America Healthy Again Commission Plans To Combat Chronic Disease and Reform Health Policies

February 17, 2025

NATIONAL

Trump fires all 3 Democrats on the Consumer Product Safety Commission

UPDATED MAY 9, 2025 • 5:44 PM ET ©

Trump orders US exit from World Health Organization

CDC webpages go dark as Trump targets public health information

AAP Organizational Imperatives



Children



Members



Institution





Key AAP Advocacy Priorities (not exhaustive!)

- Children's Coverage and Access to Care
- Immunization Confidence and Access
- Resources for Pediatric Practices:
 - Payment and Coding Resources
 - Vaccine Confidence Campaign
 - Immigrant Child Health Resources



Children's Coverage and Access to Care

- Coverage: Medicaid and CHIP policies
- Timely Access: Pediatric workforce, practice and hospital capacity, network participation, payment adequacy
- Necessary Services: Federal recommendations, benefit design

Medicaid Matters for Child Health

HELPING CHILDREN SUCCEED IN SCHOOL AND LIFE

CHILDREN WITH MEDICAID



MISS
LESS SCHOOL



DO BETTER
IN SCHOOL



GRADUATE AND
ATTEND COLLEGE



BECOME
HEALTHIER ADULTS



EARN
HIGHER WAGES



PAY MORE
IN TAXES

ENSURING HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT FROM THE START

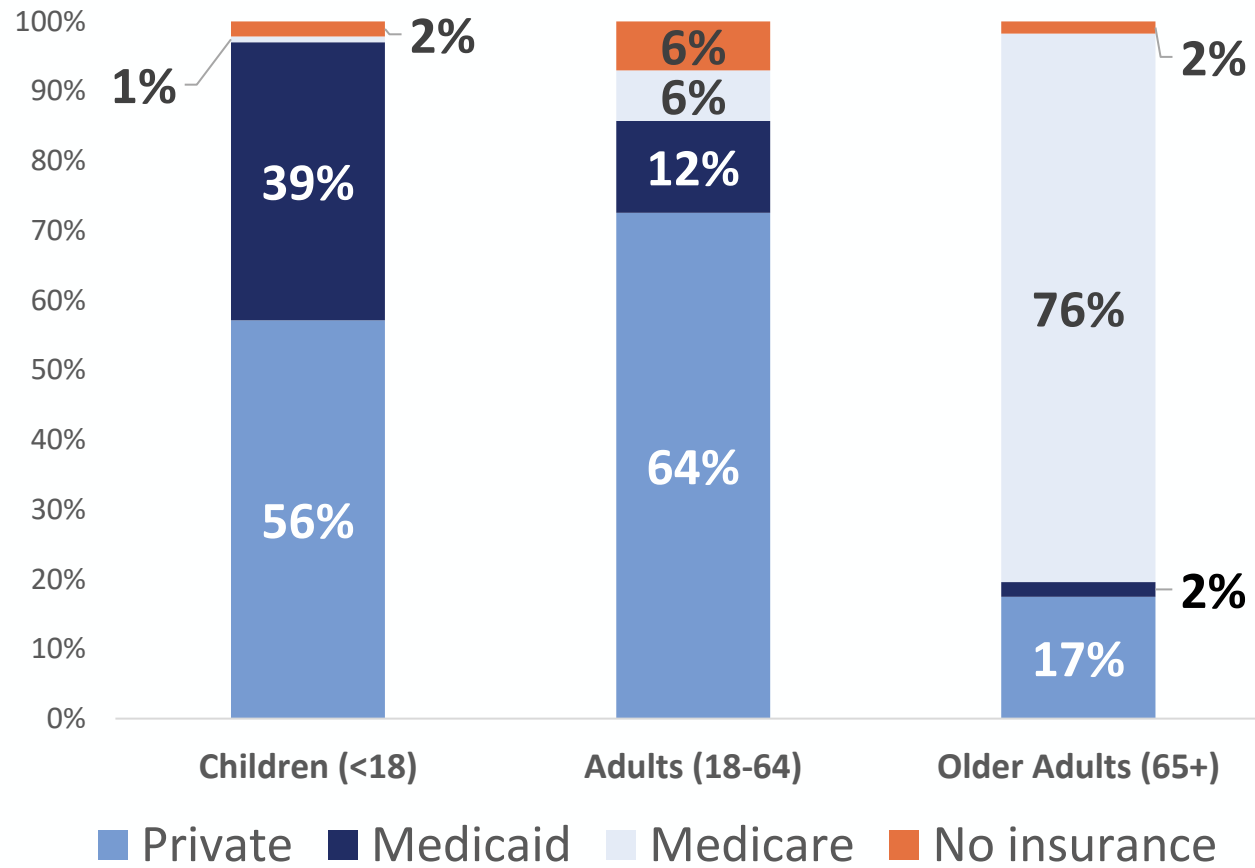
Medicaid guarantees access to care for children through its **Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment** benefit, known as **EPSDT**.

EPSDT is one of the best ways Medicaid helps vulnerable children stay healthy and on track with their peers. It:

- ✓ Identifies problems **early**
- ✓ Checks children's health at **periodic** intervals
- ✓ Provides development, vision, and hearing **screenings** to detect problems
- ✓ Performs **diagnostic** tests to identify risks
- ✓ Provides **treatment** for any problems found

Medicaid Finances Pediatrics

Primary Expected Payer for Office-Based Physician Visits, 2019



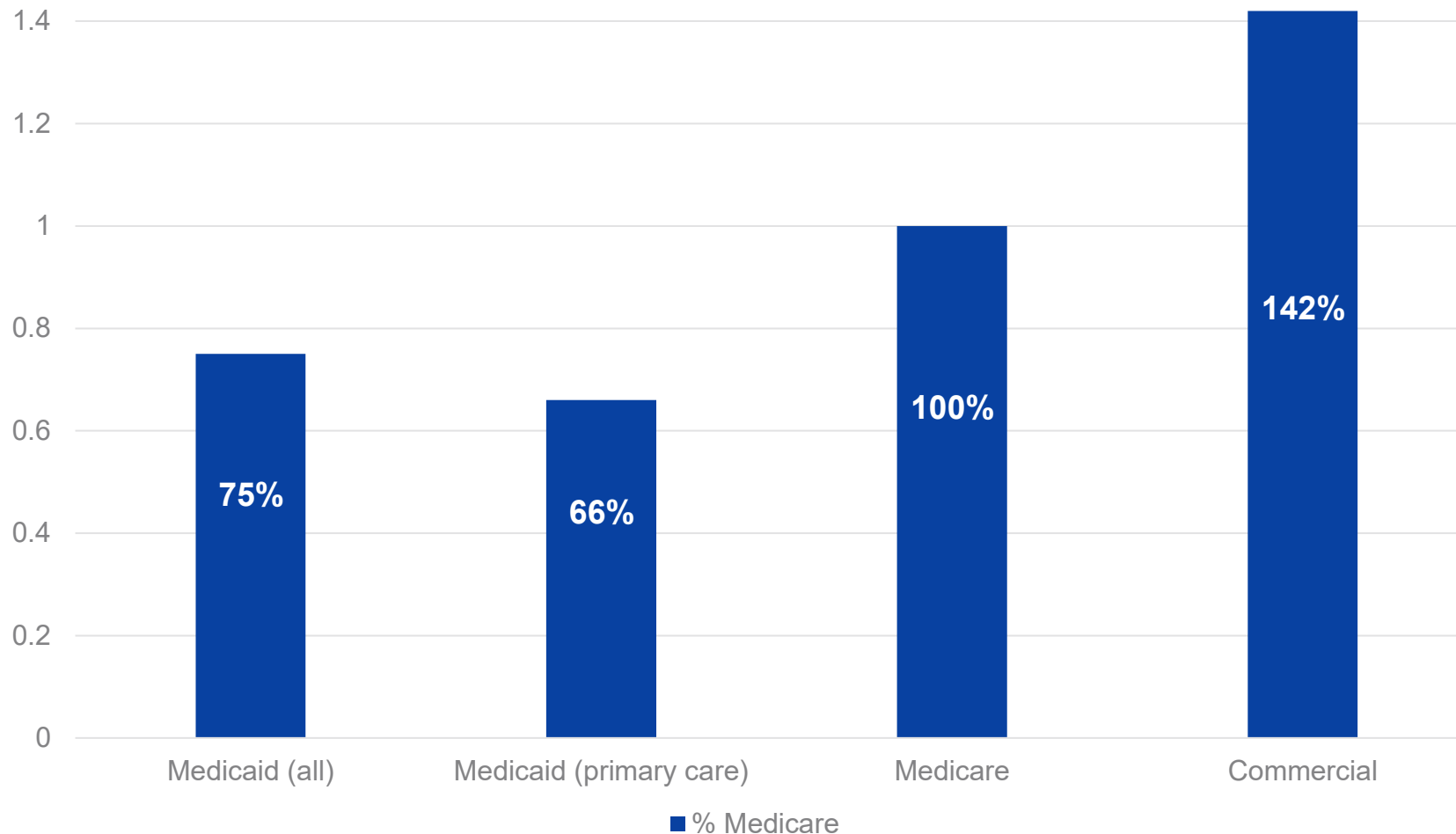
On average, 47% of discharges from children's hospitals are paid for by Medicaid



52% of inpatient stays in children's hospitals are paid for by Medicaid



Physician Payment Rates Relative to Medicare, 2024

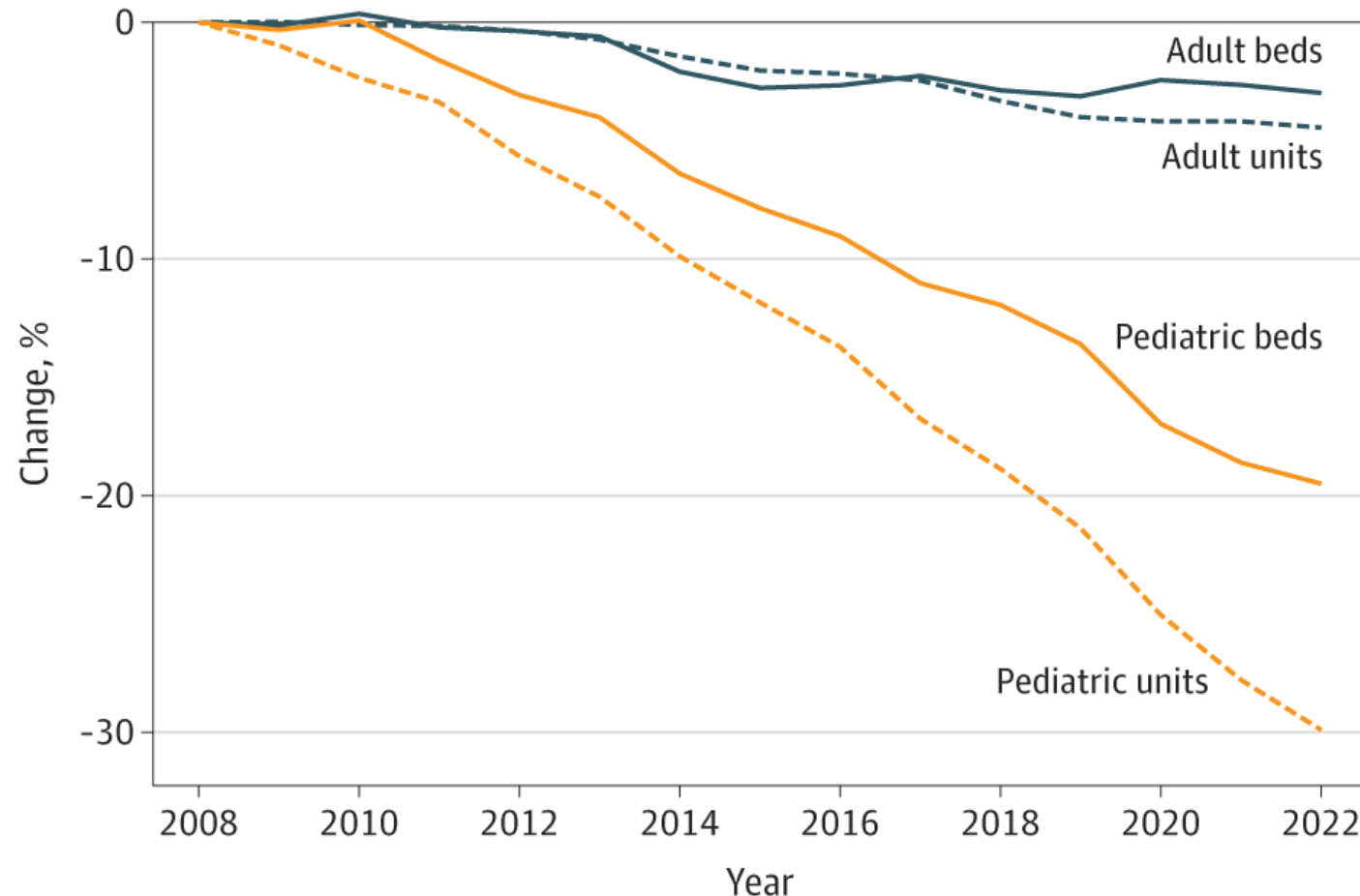


Skopec L, Pugazhendhi A, Zuckerman S. Updated Medicaid-to-Medicare Fee Index: Medicaid Physician Fees Still Lag Behind Medicare Physician Fees. *Health Affairs*. 2025;44(5). doi.org/10.1377/hlthaff.2024.01530

Marshall S, Zhou D, Mills C. Commercial reimbursement benchmarking 2025. Milliman white paper. July 2025. Available from <https://www.milliman.com/en/insight/commercial-reimbursement-benchmarking-medicare-ffs-rates-2025>.



Relative Changes in Inpatient Capacity, 2008-2022



WHAT IS THE ONE BIG BEAUTIFUL BILL?



*"You no longer have Medicaid,
so expect a big beautiful bill."*

- **Health care: \$1T+ in cuts, 10m to lose coverage**
 - Medicaid funding cuts, new enrollment barriers for expansion adults including parents and immigrants
- **SNAP: \$186B in cuts, 22.3m families affected**
 - State cost-share, expanded work requirements
- **Immigration: \$130B in spending**
 - More enforcement, family detention, policies undermining child health
- **And more...**
 - Lifetime limits on federal student loans including medical education
 - Increased child tax credit, but parent must have SSN
 - \$50B rural health transformation fund



How is AAP engaging?

- Legislative advocacy: continuous coverage for kids, Medicaid payment increases, workforce incentives
- Regulatory engagement: Medicaid Access/Managed Care rules, accounting for unique needs of kids as HR 1 rolls out
- Technical assistance to state chapters
- Tracking impacts
- Resources for practices



Resources for Practices & Pediatricians

American Academy of Pediatrics



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Child Health Finance & Payment Strategy

For more information and payment and billing resources, please visit the AAP's Child Health Finance and Payment Strategy page



Coding & Payment Hotline

Visit AAP's official landing page for the Coding and Payment Hotline. This service is available to members and non-members with questions regarding the fundamentals of coding and payment or to flag current payer policy issues.



Coding and Valuation

Helpful resources on various CPT, ICD-10 and HCPCS coding concepts for services delivered by primary care pediatricians and pediatric subspecialists. Educational materials on how members can support the AAP in offering proper RVU recommendations for CPT codes to the AMA.



Payment and Financial Resources

Explore the wide range of resources available on topics such as analyzing and negotiating payer contracts, understanding coverage policies, navigating value-based payment models and utilizing cost analysis tools.



Payment and Finance Advocacy

Learn more about how the Academy is supporting efforts around public and private payer advocacy.

AAP Coding and Payment Hotline

Your Name *

AAP Member Status *

Your Email *

Your Organization Type *

City *

Your AAP Chapter/State *

Your Practice's geographical location *

Your Specialty *

- ☐ General Pediatrician
- ☐ Pediatric Medical Subspecialist
- ☐ Pediatric Surgical Subspecialist
- ☐ Multi-Specialist

Do you subscribe/purchase the AAP Pediatric Coding Newsletter? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Is this a payer-related issue? *

Payer Type *

- ☐ Commercial
- ☐ Medicaid/Medicaid MCO/CHIP
- ☐ Tricare West/East (Including Humana Military and Health Net Federal Services)
- ☐ Health Insurance Exchange
- ☐ Multiple Payer Types

Describe Issue in Detail *

Field: Field: Field:

Upload Files (eg. Explanation of Benefits)

(Remember that if you submit certain payer regulations, you require a redacted EOB with a clear mark on it in order to work with the payer.)

<https://www.aap.org/en/practice-management/child-health-finance-payment-strategy/>



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Payment Benchmarking Tool

<https://pediatricsupport.com/analysis-of-codes-affecting-pediatrics>



**PEDIATRIC
MANAGEMENT
INSTITUTE**
HELPING PEDIATRICIANS SUCCEED

**American Academy
of Pediatrics**



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Supporting Pediatric Care: A Data-Driven Partnership between PMI and AAP

Pediatric Management Institute (PMI) and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) have partnered to provide a powerful resource for pediatricians. This analysis displays negotiated payment rates for the most common CPT codes in pediatric practices and offers insights into the valuation of pediatric services across the country by major payers.

PMI and AAP are committed to fostering a thriving healthcare environment for children and the professionals who care for them.



Background

This initiative was completed by the



Purpose

The primary objective of this analysis was



Data Quality

The tool displays 70 specific CPT codes of



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Payment Benchmarking Tool

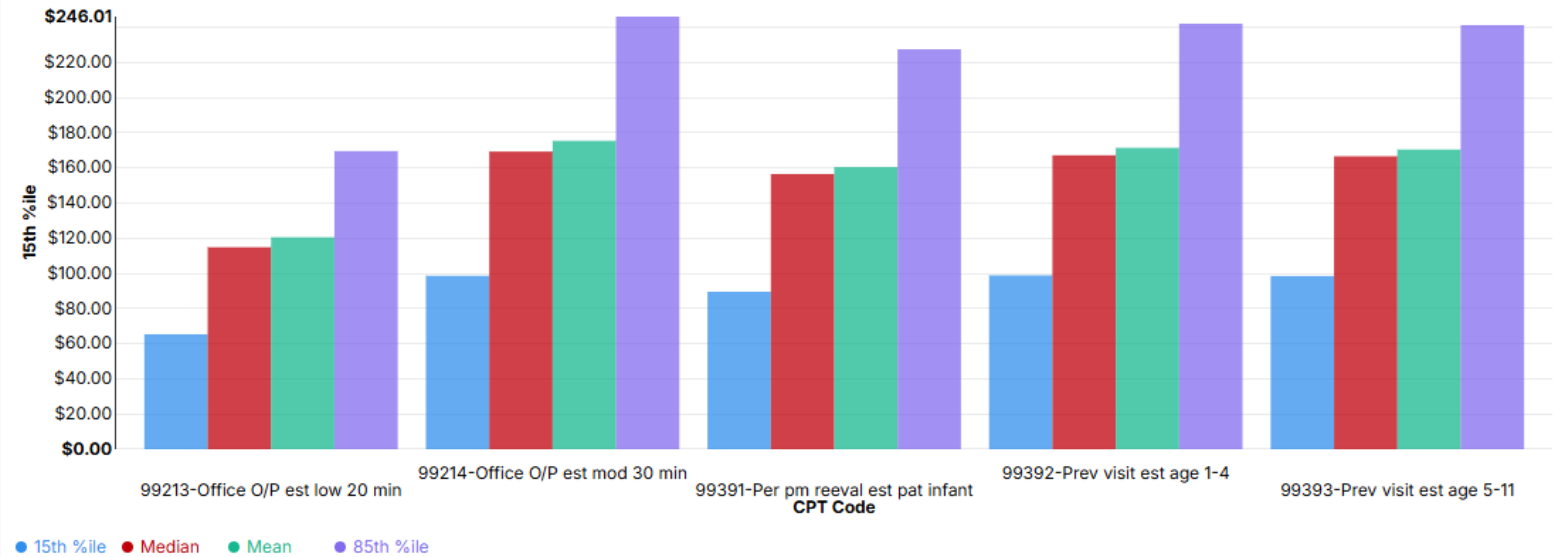
<https://pediatricsupport.com/analysis-of-codes-affecting-pediatrics>

State: Virginia

Payer: United Healthcare

Five Codes Of Interest To Pediatrics

Graphical summary of specified CPT codes showing the 2025 National Medicare Fee Schedule amount, 15th percentile, Mean, 85th percentile, and Median for the state and payer selected above.



CPT Code	NPI Count	National Medicare Rate	15th %ile	Median	Mean	85th %ile
99393-Prev visit est age 5-11	1,026	\$101.24	\$98.49	\$166.56	\$170.40	\$241.18
99392-Prev visit est age 1-4	1,026	\$101.24	\$98.84	\$167.12	\$171.39	\$241.99
99391-Per pm reeval est pat infant	1,026	\$95.10	\$89.51	\$156.47	\$160.44	\$227.44
99213-Office O/P est low 20 min	1,026	\$88.95	\$65.36	\$114.83	\$120.50	\$169.54
99214-Office O/P est mod 30 min	1,026	\$125.18	\$98.62	\$169.26	\$175.36	\$246.01

Evaluation & Management Codes

CPT Code	NPI Count	National Medicare Rate	15th %ile	Median	Mean	85th %ile
99202-Office O/P new sf	1,026	\$69.87	\$68.90	\$117.50	\$121.88	\$171.85



Immunization Confidence and Access

- Vaccine availability
- Evidence-based recommendations
- Family confidence



Federal Vaccine Policy Changes, 2025



RFK Jr.'s vaccine policy sparks a lawsuit from the American Academy of Pediatrics

JULY 8, 2025 · 5:00 AM ET

HEARD ON MORNING EDITION

By Will Stone

- COVID-19 vaccine recommendation changes for healthy children, pregnant women
- MMRV recommendation changes
- Review of entire childhood immunization schedule
- Possible changes to Vaccine Injury Compensation Program
- Possible changes to FDA approval processes
- Implications for Vaccines for Children program
- Liability implications

Pediatric Health Network



News from Last Week: Changes to the CDC's Vaccine & Autism Website

Statement by AAP President Susan J. Kressly, MD, FAAP on Changes to CDC's Website on Autism

The AAP and **more than 65 leading medical groups** are calling on the CDC to return to its long history of promoting **evidence-based information** to protect the health and well-being of all Americans.



*"The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website has been changed to promote false information suggesting vaccines cause autism. Since 1998, independent researchers across seven countries have conducted more than 40 high-quality studies involving over 5.6 million people. The conclusion is clear and unambiguous: There's no link between vaccines and autism. Anyone repeating this harmful myth is misinformed or intentionally trying to mislead parents. **We call on the CDC to stop wasting government resources to amplify false claims that sow doubt in one of the best tools we have to keep children healthy and thriving: routine immunizations.** The American Academy of Pediatrics stands with members of the autism community who have asked for support in stopping this rumor from spreading any further."*

Vaccine Confidence Campaign

<https://www.aap.org/en/news-room/campaigns-and-toolkits/immunizations/>

[Home](#) / [News Room](#) / [Campaigns & Toolkits](#) / Vaccine Confidence Campaign



Join us in this national, multi-channel Vaccine Confidence campaign to help restore confidence in child immunizations. Currently, only 85 percent of kindergarteners are up-to-date, or above, the target 95 percent. We have developed communication tools below to help restore the power of immunizations.

Looking for images that accurately represent vaccination? Available for anyone to use in broadcast or online.

[Immunization Image Gallery](#)

Multiple Vaccines in One Visit

Below are key messages, resources, graphics and social media posts you can utilize on your own channels to highlight the need benefit of getting multiple vaccines over a short period.

Key Messages

Use these messages to incorporate across digital content, including newsletters, social media, blogs, and more.

- Children's immune systems are constantly learning, and vaccines help them build critical immunity. Multiple vaccines over a short period of time don't overwhelm a child's immune system, they help it learn to resist preventable illnesses.

How to Use This Toolkit

Each toolkit contains a set of key messages, social media graphics and copy, and related resources to share across your own channels.

[Common Questions About Vaccines](#)

[Multiple Vaccines in One Visit](#)

[Community Immunity](#)

[Vaccine Ingredients](#)

[Respiratory Viruses](#)

[Hepatitis B Vaccine](#)

ly tested on its own and in combination with others. Science-backed truth we can trust: On-time immunization keeps our kids and our

accine schedule is designed to prepare children's bodies to resist contagious which sometimes means receiving several vaccines in a short period of time. keeps kids healthy and active.

Copy

ed graphics that you can use on your social media channels.

Children can
receive multiple

Q Does getting multiple vaccines at once...

Q ...overwhelm the immune system?

Not Extensive testing is required for every vaccine, and research shows that multiple vaccines at the same



Fact Checked

Home / News Room / Fact Checked

<https://www.aap.org/en/news-room/fact-checked/>



Vaccines: Safe and Effective, No Link to Autism

Some individuals wrongly assert there is a link between vaccines and autism. Many studies have looked at this and found no link.

Learn More

Filter

Filter by Topic

- ☐ Vaccines
- ☐ Autism
- ☐ Measles
- ☐ Adverse Health Issues
- ☐ Fluoride

Showing 1 - 4 of 4

[Fact Checked: Receiving Multiple Vaccines Does Not Overwhelm a Child's Immune System](#)

10/19/2023

Misleading claims that the cumulative number of vaccines on the childhood immunization schedule can overwhelm a child's immune system or cause other issues are inaccurate and dangerous.



[Fact Checked: Aluminum in Vaccines Strengthens Immune Responses, Do Not Cause Autism, Serious Health Issues](#)

10/19/2023

The claim that aluminum salts in vaccines cause autism, other neurodevelopmental conditions or serious health issues in children is a longstanding rumor intended to make helpful vaccine ingredients sound scary.



[Acetaminophen is Safe for Children When Taken as Directed, No Link to Autism](#)

09/12/2023

Decades of research have found that acetaminophen is safe for children when administered as recommended. Misleading claims that the medicine is not safe and is linked to increased rates of autism send a confusing, dangerous message to parents and expectant parents and does a disservice to autistic individuals.



[Fact Checked: Vaccines: Safe and Effective, No Link to Autism](#)

09/12/2023

Some individuals wrongly assert there is a link between vaccines and autism. Many studies have looked at this and found no link.





Resources for Supporting Immigrant Children and Families

https://downloads.aap.org/DCMO/Supporting_Immigrant_Children_Pediatrician_Resources_TIPS_2025.pdf

FAMILY PREPAREDNESS PLANS

- Documents with guides for having childcare plans in place and identifying trusted caretakers if needed for children
- Multiple available resources, in multiple languages, including from:
 - [CT Governor](#)
 - [ILRC: Step by Step with Links](#) and [Printable PDF](#)
 - [Informed immigrant](#)
 - [Clinical Legal](#) (50 State resource)
 - [Kids in Need of Defense \(KIND\)](#)
- App that instantly notifies emergency contacts
 - [Spanish & English Info Sheet about App](#)

BOOKS AND RESOURCES FOR TALKING TO CHILDREN ABOUT DEPORTATION

- [How to talk to a child worried about deportation](#)
- [National Child Traumatic Stress Network: Guiding Caregivers to talk to children about deportation or separation](#)
- Consider with caution/expertise only:
 - [Healing and Resilience: An Activity Book for Latino Children Impacted by Deportation](#)
 - [Love and Monsters Book](#)
 - [Mama's Nightingale Book](#)

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SUPPORTING THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF IMMIGRANT CHILDREN RESOURCES FOR PEDIATRICIANS

BACKGROUND

Immigrant families are facing a rapidly changing political landscape and may be impacted by federal policies that increase deportation and detention, restrict travel, and prevent access to public benefits. These developments may cause significant stress, anxiety, and uncertainty for immigrant families, and the pediatricians who care for their children.

The American Academy of Pediatrics is dedicated to the health of all children, no matter where they or their parents were born. Relevant policy includes: [Providing Care for Immigrant, Migrant, and Border Children](#) and [Detention of Immigrant Children](#).

All approved AAP Immigrant health related policies can be found [here](#).

The following resources were compiled to assist pediatricians with supporting the health and well-being of immigrant children. These resources address common issues related to:

- Mental and Emotional Health
- Talking with Children
- Immigration Status and Family Separation
- Community Resources
- Advocacy

This information is provided for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. This information will be updated with additional resources as they become available.

For more information, please contact the [AAP Council on Immigrant Child and Family Health \(COICFH\)](#)



What Does 2026 Have in Store?

Key Work in States and All Eyes on the Mid-Terms

- Regulatory-palooza
- State legislative sessions take center stage with hard budget decisions
- Slim Congressional margins = not much legislating
- Action in the courts
- Shifting politics headed into the mid-terms
- Continued vaccine federalism
- Immigration policies will stay front and center
- Your voice and expertise more vital than ever



Thank you!

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