



Newsletter of the American Academy of Pediatrics/New Jersey Chapter

PCORE CORNER

(Pediatric Council on Research and Education)

Steve Kairys, MD, Medical Director/Chair

PCORE Board of Trustees

Fran Gallagher, MEd, Executive Director

Coming July 1, 2009... AAP/NJ & PCORE Implements an Integration Plan

Together, AAP/NJ and PCORE will achieve a vision to *Shape Child Health in New Jersey for the 21st Century*. This vision drives PCORE's mission - to affect health policy and primary care practice improvements through a medical home focus, to provide education for parents and primary care provider teams, and to foster partnerships that integrate sustainable systems of care.

The Organizations share philosophical foundations:

1. Advance Chapter Goals
2. Increase Visibility of Pediatric Leadership
3. Engage in Partnerships that promote both Macro and Micro health quality improvements (e.g. Medicaid Reimbursement Policies to Community Systems Integration)
4. Focus on Quality Improvement within the Context of Pediatric Primary Care Medical Homes

Along these lines the executive officers of AAP/NJ and PCORE have worked collaboratively to conceptualize the vision for the upcoming organizational integration. We enthusiastically present it to the membership at large! Your feedback and ideas are welcome.

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AAP/NJ Chapter Attends Leadership Conference

Pierre Coant, MD, FAAP

A delegation from the New Jersey Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics attended the Second District III Pediatric Leadership Program. The conference was held February 20-21, 2009 in Baltimore, Maryland. The first conference had been held two years ago.

Fourteen members of the NJ Chapter attended including all the Executive Officers led by President Michael Segarra, MD, FAAP. Pediatricians from different practice and academic settings attended including several Pediatric Residents from New Jersey. Meg Fisher, MD, FAAP, Vice President-Elect AAP/NJ spoke on "Immunizations in the USA: Current State and Problems to Solve." Richard Lander, MD, FAAP, past President of AAP/NJ and Chair of the Practice Management Committee, spoke on "Immunizations and Practice: Real Challenges."

The program enhanced the participants' leadership skills concerning immunization issues. David Tayloe, MD, FAAP, President of the American Academy of Pediatrics, spoke at the meeting and joined in with all participants in discussions and workshops. Past AAP President, Renee Jenkins, MD, FAAP also presented to the group with her

insights regarding immunization controversies from her tenure as past AAP President.

The participants learned effective techniques in leadership from experts assembled by the AAP. During the conference the participants learned their personality color of red, green, blue or yellow to help them interact with others. Fun and knowledge were gained as "Reds" tried to communicate with "Blues".

This District III Meeting brought



From left to right: David Tayloe, MD, FAAP, President of AAP; Jackie Noyes, MA Associate Executive Director of AAP, based in Washington, DC; Margaret (Meg) Fisher, MD, FAAP, AAP/NJ and Richard Lander, MD, FAAP, AAP/NJ

together an entire group of AAP Chapters facing challenges in the immunization area. The conference helped attendees understand the current state of immunizations

including communicating with those individuals who oppose immunizing children. Advocating for realistic immunization compensation and understanding political realities of immunization legislation were other objectives.

The delegation from AAP/NJ was an integral part of this District III Leadership Conference. The attendees gained skills as advocates for children in promoting understanding and knowledge concerning pediatric immunizations.

American Academy of Pediatrics



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1st Quarter 2009

American Academy
of Pediatrics/
New Jersey Chapter
Established 1950

President's Message Michael Segarra, MD, FAAP

There are major changes coming to AAP/NJ. As of July 1, 2009, AAP/NJ will no longer be managed by our present management company. Instead, AAP/NJ is re-joining with PCORE (Pediatric Council on Research and Education). Fran Gallagher, Executive Director of PORE, will also become the Executive Director of AAP/NJ. PCORE is a foundation of AAP/NJ. PCORE has been able to receive grants of over one million dollars and has a staff of eleven. PCORE has worked on a number of quality improvement projects, such as, Educating Pediatricians in the Community (EPIC) in child abuse and neglect and post-partum depression. Looking to the future, PCORE hopes to be involved in the Maintenance of Certification program for pediatric board re-certification. AAP/NJ and PCORE have similar goals (of improving the health care of children in NJ and educating pediatricians and the community). Therefore, it is logical to join forces. Hopefully AAP/NJ will be involved in more projects in improving pediatric quality of care. Also, we hope to integrate AAP/NJ committees into PCORE grants. For example, PCORE has a grant for improving immunization rates in adolescents; getting the infectious disease committee involved in the program would be beneficial to both PCORE and AAP/NJ. PCORE has already received a grant from the National AAP to work with the state of NJ on children in foster care. So look for AAP/NJ's new address and phone number in July.

Over the next several months you will be hearing about the AAP/NJ Purchasing Alliance. The state has passed legislation allowing physicians to join together for the purpose of negotiating a reduced premium for its members in the purchase of medical malpractice liability insurance. Currently we are in the process of creating this purchasing alliance. The Alliance would be open only to members of the AAP/NJ chapter. We are hoping this can reduce our rates up to 20%.

If you have not gotten your CME credits for cultural competence, which maybe required for your NJ license you could try going to www.aapnj.org and go to resources then websites and under government resources you will find link sponsored by the US Department of Health and Human Services that will let you earn up to 9 free CME credits in culture competence. Also on the same aapnj web page there is an article from the NY Times about Paul Offit's new book "Autism's False Prophets" which could be of interest to you and some of your patients.

Hope to see you on June 9th at the Annual Meeting which will be in Atlantic City, NJ at the Atlantic City Hilton Casino Resort.

If you have any questions, problems, suggestions please e-mail me at msegarra@aap.net or call me at 732-297-0603.



PCORE CORNER

Continued from page 1

Background

Since its inception (1999), PCORE, a 501 (c) 3 non-profit, was envisioned as the Foundation ('charitable' and 'quality improvement arm') for the AAP/NJ Chapter. As PCORE evolved, so did a need for creating its own infrastructure and to move from a management model to a content model in order to better align quality improvement programs with the national AAP pediatric initiatives. PCORE transitioned to an independent structure May 1, 2007.

While PCORE transitioned to independence, procedural safeguards were put in place to ensure integrity of the intent for PCORE to be the Foundation for AAP/NJ Chapter. Seven Board Of Trustee (BOT) seats are reserved for AAP/NJ Board of Directors Officers and members at large. PCORE leadership met in summer 2007 and participated in Leadership Development (Board & Personnel) and revisited/revised the mission, created a vision statement, and determined the 3 top priorities: leadership, quality, and branding /marketing (who is PCORE, why is it unique, and what does PCORE accomplish). Significant progress has been noted and reported to both Boards.

Both Organizations Benefit

The AAP/NJ Chapter and PCORE benefit from a more integrated partnership in a variety of ways: Personnel

leadership committed and dedicated solely to the missions of AAP/NJ and PCORE and working with leadership to ensure a solid and sustainable infrastructure; leveraging synergies between AAP/NJ Standing Committees, Advisory Groups/Task Forces and PCORE programs; financially through cost sharing opportunities; and a strengthened alignment with the national AAP.

Leadership Development

- ◇ Update AAP/NJ Executive Committee leadership needs assessment (e.g. Board Development/Leadership training; Strategic Planning, etc...)
 - ◇ Executive Director will participate in the American Academy of Pediatrics meetings key to strengthening the Chapter: Academy Leadership Forum, District III Meetings, and NCE meetings and serves as a link of continuity as Officers change; build capacity
 - ◇ Promote the AAP/NJ Chapter in collaboration with PCORE as the MOC (Maintenance of Certification) Quality Improvement Center in NJ
- Strengthen and enhance the committees working on behalf of the AAP/NJ Chapter Mission.

- Membership/Benefits of Membership
 - ◇ Expand the membership base (e.g. provide information to practices participating in PCORE programs)
 - ◇ Clearly communicate the opportunities members have within the AAP/NJ and PCORE and serve as a resource for community providers (e.g. offering technical assistance in preparing CATCH applications)
 - ◇ Assess needs and interests of members at the Board of Directors request
 - ◇ Seamlessly continue to plan and implement traditional AAP/NJ Events
 - ◆ Annual Meeting
 - ◆ School Nurse Health Conference
 - ◆ Residence Career Day
 - ◆ NJ Pediatrician Quarterly Newsletter
 - ◆ Design new opportunities as requested and agreed upon by AAP/NJ and PCORE

A few diagrams will help to provide you with a picture of the plan. We are excited to grow ... and to grow together! Look for details in June regarding updated contact information.

Continued on page 4



NEW... Take a Chance and Support Your Foundation!

**It's coming in January 2009! The first PCORE raffle...
Five hundred (500) raffle tickets will be sold at \$100 each.
First prize: \$12,500, Second Prize: \$7,500, and Third Prize: \$5000.
Tickets will be sold January – May 4, 2009 and the winning ticket
will be drawn at the Golf Outing dinner.**

For additional information:

Fran Gallagher, MEd, Co-Executive Director, American Academy of Pediatrics/NJ Chapter & Executive Director Pediatric Council on Research and Education, 3836 Quakerbridge Road, Suite 108, Hamilton, NJ 08619

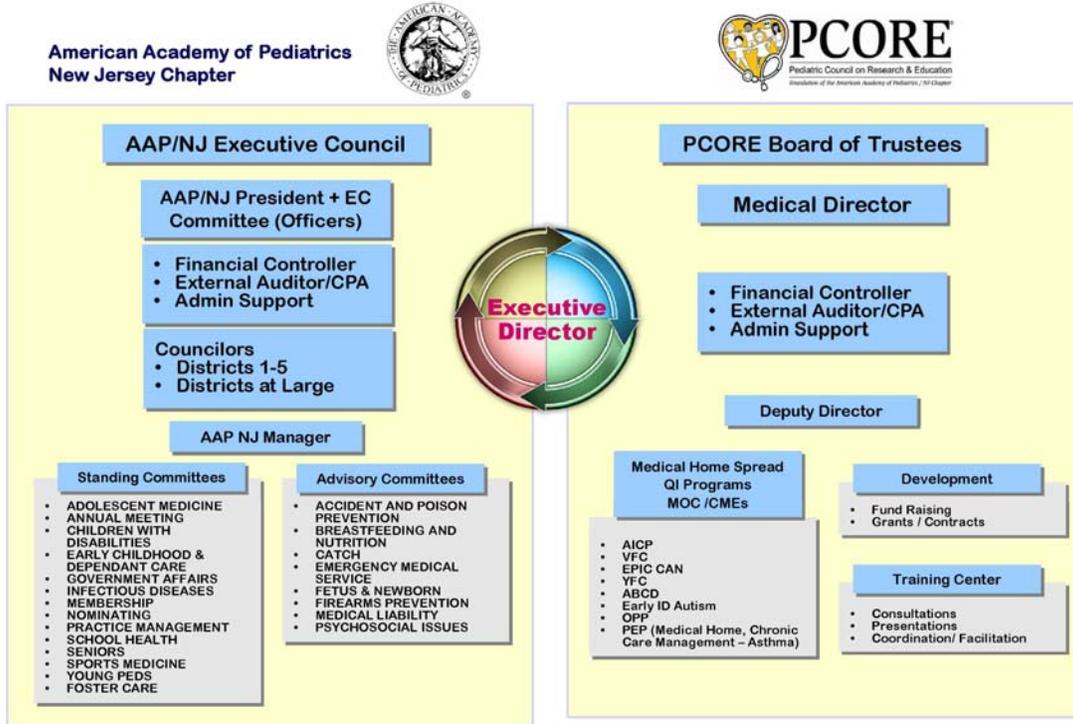
Phone: 609-588-9988. **Fax:** 609-588-9901. **Email:** fgallagher@njpcore.org **Website:** www.njpcore.org

PCORE CORNER

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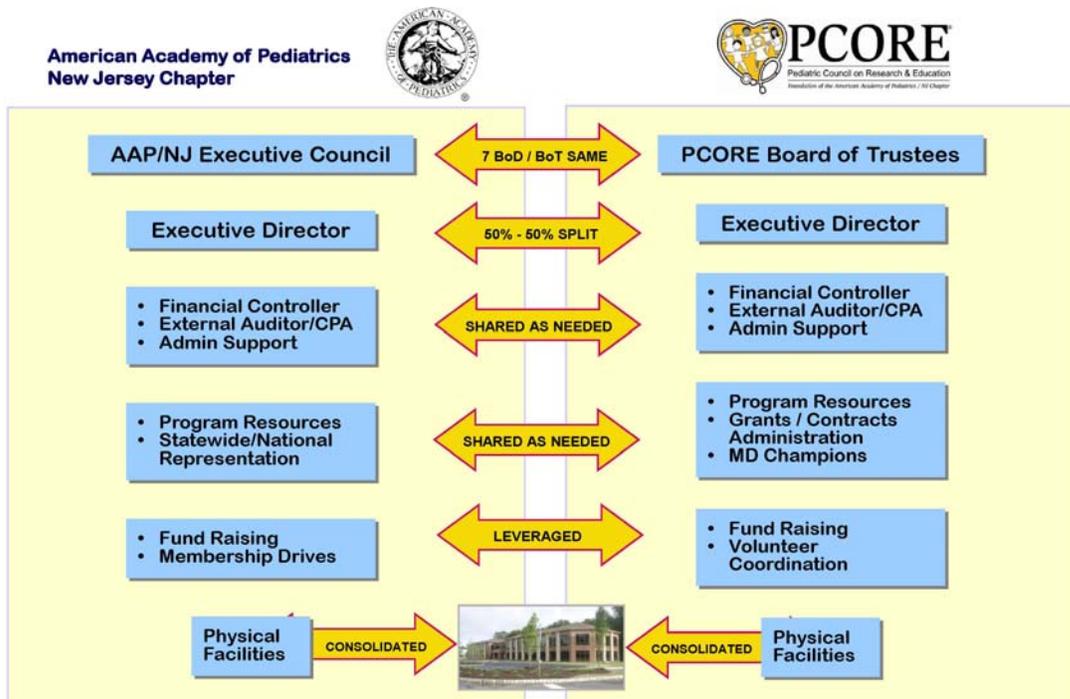
Organizational Integration - AAP/NJ and PCORE would function seamlessly; support leadership and governance and meet the legal management requirements for two separate entities (501 (c) 3 and 501 (c) 6).

Organizational Integration



Synergies - align leadership and opportunities to share resources to maximize outreach and outcomes.

Synergies

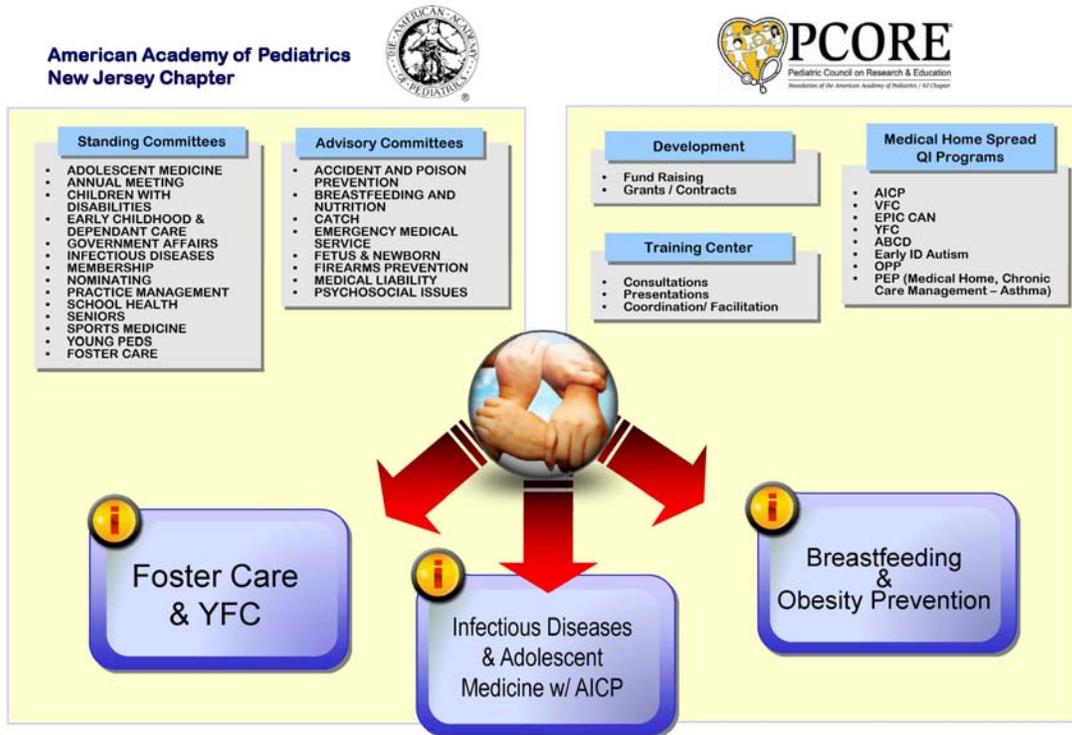


PCORE CORNER

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Collaborative Model - intentionally focus on bringing together AAP/NJ and PCORE initiatives, programs, and efforts when appropriate (ideas: Breast Feeding Committee with Early Childhood Obesity Prevention Efforts; Infectious Disease and Adolescent Health with the PCORE Adolescent Immunization Community Partnership)

Collaborative Model



Chapter Outreach Grant Submitted

The New Jersey Chapter/AAP has applied to national AAP for a Chapter Outreach Grant designed to grow the number of young pediatricians in the chapter and to invigorate and encourage those young pediatricians to become more involved in chapter activity and leadership.

These 50 new young pediatricians will gather in November 2009 for social

enjoyment, networking, learning practical lessons about "life after residency" and how membership in the AAP/NJ Chapter can enrich their professional opportunities and lives

Between March and June, the chapter intends to recruit one or two more members to join the Young Pediatrician Committee to help plan the event and develop the specific tools and strategies

to achieve our goal of a fabulous November event. Please contact either

Dr. Stephen Rice, Vice-President
(srice@meridianhealth.com)

or

Dr. Amy Kotler, Chairman
Young Pediatrician Committee
(doverpedsbrc@yahoo.com).



School Health Conference

Wayne Yankus, MD, FAAP, Chair, School Health Committee and Conference Chair



The time between the annual conference and January is for planning topics and speakers for the fall conference which will be the 18th consecutive meeting.

Government affairs, rules and regulations change often in the fall and early winter. This year the new epinephrine guidelines went into effect for schools, and the office of the Attorney General issued guidelines on religious exemptions. At the

committee's next meeting, these changes to school immunization code will be discussed.

The committee also welcomes suggestions from physicians for topics for the annual school health forum which will be October 28, 2009 at the Pines Manor, Edison, NJ. Plan to attend for education and lively discussion.

Mark Your Calendars!!!

These are some of the AAP/NJ Chapter meetings planned for 2009. Please plan on attending and encourage your colleagues to attend as well.

For details on any of the events, call 609-585-6871 or visit www.aapnj.org.



June 9, 2009

AAP/NJ Annual Meeting - Bugs, Drugs, Visuals and Codes. Atlantic City Hilton Casino Resort, Atlantic City, NJ. 1:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

October 28, 2009

Eighteenth Annual School Health Conference - Pines Manor, Edison, NJ - More details to follow.

CATCH Corner

CATCH continues to grow. We hope to continue to support New Jersey applications with technical assistance and grant development guidance.

Congratulations to Dr. St. Fleur (Neptune, NJ), and Dr. Kaweblum and Dr. Sharon (Lakewood, NJ) for being awarded CATCH Planning grants! Dr. St. Fleur's grant will develop a pediatrician-driven model for breastfeeding education. Dr. Kaweblum's grant will focus on oral and dental health and Dr. Sharon's grant will focus on overweight and obesity.

The next call for proposals will be posted at <http://www.aap.org/catch/planninggrants.htm> for May 1, 2009. Applications will be due July 31, 2009.

For more information or if you have any questions now, you may either contact Paul Schwartzberg, D.O. at pschwartzberg@meridianhealth.com or catch@aap.org.

SAVE THIS DATE: May 29 – May 31, 2009

11TH
ANNUAL



THE PEDIATRIC GURUS

Goryeb Children's Hospital Continuing Medical Education Conference

Skytop Lodge, Skytop, Pennsylvania

The Goryeb Children's Hospital is proud to present its 11th annual Continuing Medical Education Conference at Skytop Lodge in Pennsylvania, a weekend program on topics of interest to practicing pediatricians, family practitioners, advanced practice

nurses and office managers. In addition, you can start your weekend early with the Pediatric Practice Management Seminar on Friday, May 29 for physicians and office managers, featuring talks on coding and other "hot" practice management topics.

Guest Lecturers

Scott H. Sicherer, MD, FAAP
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
Jaffe Food Allergy Institute
Mount Sinai School of Medicine
New York City, New York

Stanford T. Shulman, MD, FAAP
Virginia H. Rogers Professor of Pediatric Infectious Diseases
Northwestern University
The Feinberg School of Medicine
Chief, Division of Infectious Diseases
The Children's Memorial Hospital
Chicago Illinois

John Walkup, MD
Associate Professor
Deputy Director, Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
Johns Hopkins Medicine
Baltimore, Maryland 21287-5371

Joseph A. Zenel, Jr., MD, FAAP
Professor and Chief of the Section of General Pediatrics
Sanford School of Medicine
The University of South Dakota
Assistant Vice President for Education, Sanford Health
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

PRACTICE MANAGEMENT

Richard Lander, MD, FAAP
Clinical Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, UMDNJ

Chip Hart
Director of Pediatric Solutions
Physician's Computer Company

Ashley R. McEnroe, Esq.
Manager, Risk Management, Atlantic Health

Kathryn Sortino and Connie Werner-Hopkins, RN
Human Resource Managers, Atlantic Health

Goryeb Children's Hospital/Atlantic Health Faculty

John J. Gregory Jr., MD
Pediatric Hematology/Oncology

Frances M. Guevarra, MD
Pediatric Endocrinology

Lorraine M. Lazar, MD
Child Neurology

Topics

- ▶ Prevention of Atopic Disease through Diet
- ▶ Gastrointestinal Food Allergies
- ▶ Food Allergy Diagnosis and Management in the Pediatric Office
- ▶ Visual Diagnosis: Brush up your physical diagnosis
- ▶ Visual Diagnosis: Can you make the diagnosis without the history?
- ▶ Immunization Update
- ▶ What's New with Strep Pharyngitis
- ▶ Kawasaki Disease 2009
- ▶ Anxiety in Children
- ▶ Behavioral Problems in Children: techniques for intervention
- ▶ Convulsive Syncope
- ▶ Medical Jeopardy
- ▶ Pediatric Chronic Disease Management
- ▶ Hypercoagulability Evaluation

Please watch your mailbox for our full brochure. If you would like more information, please contact Maria Acevedo at 973-971-5150 or maria.acevedo@atlantichealth.org.

American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE CARE OF ALL CHILDREN



New Jersey Chapter

Thank you for support from
MAIN STREET VACCINES



This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essential Areas and Policies of the Medical Society of New Jersey through the joint sponsorship of Atlantic Health and the American Academy of Pediatrics, New Jersey Chapter. Atlantic Health is accredited by the Medical Society of New Jersey to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

This activity has been approved for AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™

Announcing PCORE's 5th Annual Golf Outing

Mark your Calendars!

May 4, 2009 at Neshanic Valley Golf Course

There are many opportunities to get involved and to support our work in shaping children's health for the 21st Century...for ALL children. One is sure to be a good match for you. Please consider:

- Register to Enjoy a Day of Golf and/or a Lovely Evening Cocktail Hour (Open Bar) and Gourmet Dinner
- Consider Purchasing a Sponsorship
- Help to Recruit Other Sponsors
- Making a Tax-Deductible Donation (no amount is too small!)
- Donate Gifts for Door Prizes (e.g., gift basket, gift certificates for dinner or theatre, complimentary green fees or a round of golf)

To register, please visit www.njpcore.org for the 5th Annual Golf Outing Brochure.

Need more information?
Contact Lisa Makai, Golf Outing Coordinator
lmakai@njpcore.org, 609-588-9988



Committee on Pediatric Workforce Update

Beth A. Pletcher, MD

The September COPW meeting was a working meeting in the true sense, as the Committee prepares to revise and develop a number of statements in the coming year. COPW member, Dr. Scott Shipman, shared with us his ongoing research on pediatric workforce in collaboration with his colleagues at Dartmouth, which provided a foundation for further discussion.

Of concern to most pediatricians is how to best care for all children regardless of their socioeconomic status or geographic location. The "Preserving Primary Care Act" to amend the PHSA and Social Security Act that was initially drafted in 2008 to increase the numbers of primary care physicians in the US and improve access to primary care services, did not speak to the breadth of the needs

of our pediatric patients. Therefore, suggestions were provided by the COPW to strengthen the proposed legislation as it applies to children. Concurrently, the Academy is participating in the Partnership for Primary Care Workforce to help focus health care reform on issues such as expanded health insurance coverage, access to primary care and preventive care, as well as the training of future physicians. The COPW has been asked to also weigh-in on the informational package put together by this group.

We have begun preliminary work on revisions of the "Scope of Practice Issues in the Delivery of Pediatric Health Care" and "Pediatrician Workforce Statement". The COPW envisions the latter as an important advocacy tool for use by the Academy, that may be used to clearly define and highlight the issues that im-

pact (often disproportionately) children's health and that need to be addressed on a national as well as regional basis. Scope of practice issues remain on the Academy's radar, with legislation pending in 18 states regarding independent prescribing practices for psychologists (two states have already passed such laws – NM and LA), and expansion of prescribing privileges or independent prescribing abilities for advanced practice nurses in a number of states. Legislation has also been introduced in some states to allow pharmacists to administer flu vaccine to individuals over 18 years of age, with one state (WV) moving toward permitting pharmacists to administer a broader range of vaccines.

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New Jersey Conference on the Prevention of Childhood Obesity

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆
March 31, 2009 ~ Crowne Plaza, Monroe

Registration Fee ~ \$95.00 Individual ~ \$75.00 Groups of 3 or More
Save Paper! Register online at www.njpcore.org

Registration Fee Includes:

◆ CMEs/Nursing Contact Hours/Dietitian/DTR CPEUs ◆ All Training Materials ◆ Breakfast & Lunch

An educational symposium co-sponsored by:
NJ PCORE & AAP/NJ, NJ DHSS,
New Jersey Council of Children's Hospitals,
Central NJ Maternal & Child Health Consortium,
American Dairy Association & Dairy Council, Inc., and
the Mid-Atlantic Dairy Association

See page 10 for event information.

Committee on Pediatric Workforce Update

Continued from page 8

Additional factors that potentially impact the pediatrician workforce and are of interest to the Committee include re-entry of physicians into practice and gender parity (as part of the Academy's ongoing collaboration with the AMA on this issue). Over the coming year, as the COPW revises and shortens some of the policy statements, we would like to continue to collaborate with others within and outside of the Academy to bolster

the children's health agenda. Data collected as part of the Periodic Survey of Fellows in 2007 looking at subspecialty referral preferences, satisfaction with subspecialty care, and potential barriers to referral are currently being analyzed for possible publication. It is clear that more data needs to be collected from primary care pediatricians to assess access to subspecialty care for children living in all regions of the US, so that

inroads can be made in eliminating health care disparities.

As always, it is a pleasure being able to share what the COPW is doing and I hope you will contact me if you have any ideas, concerns or issues relating to this Committee's work. My email address is pletchba@umdnj.edu and my phone number (direct line) during the week is (973) 972-3314.

New Jersey Conference on the Prevention of Childhood Obesity

March 31, 2009 ~ Crowne Plaza, Monroe

7:30 – 8:30 AM	Registration & Networking Breakfast Poster & Exhibits Session
8:30 – 8:45 AM	Welcome Heather Howard, JD (Invited)
8:45 – 10:00 AM	Keynote : <i>The Role of the Healthcare Provider in Community Advocacy Around Obesity Prevention</i> Scott Gee, MD
10:00 – 10:30AM	<i>Coordination of NJ Obesity Efforts—A Five Year VISION</i> Peri L. Nearon, MPA
10:30 – 10:45 AM	Break
10:45 AM – 12:00 PM	Keynote Panel: <i>Obesity Prevention Throughout the Pediatric Years</i> Sandra Hassink, MD, FAAP
	Panelists: <i>Mommy & Me, From Birth to Three: An Infant Obesity Prevention Project</i> Robyn D'Oria, MA, RNC, APN
	<i>Choosing a Healthy Life by Making Healthy Choices (CHL)</i> NJ PCORE & AAP/NJ Margaret "Meg" Fisher, MD, FAAP <i>Healthy Habits, Healthy Living</i> NJ PCORE & AAP/NJ Lori Feldman-Winter, MD, MPH, FAAP
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM	Networking Lunch
1:00 – 1:30 PM	Poster & Exhibits Session Roaming Dessert Session
1:30 – 2:30 PM	Breakout Session (A) A-1: <i>Vital Connections: Primary Care Approach to Childhood Obesity</i> Sandra Hassink, MD A-2: <i>Up, Up and Aweigh - Creating a Wellness Partnership between the City of Paterson and St. Joseph's Children's Hospital</i> Michael Lamacchia, MD A-3: <i>Alliance for a Healthier Generation - Healthy Schools Program</i> <i>(A partnership between the William J. Clinton Foundation & the American Heart Association)</i> Karen Buonocore, MA, CHES A-4: <i>Rutgers Cooperative Extension: Professionals and Communities Working Together to Improve Health</i> Nurgul Fitzgerald, PhD, RD A-5: <i>Fuel Up to Play ~ A Child Nutrition Fitness Initiative</i> <i>(American Dairy Association & Dairy Council, Inc. & the Mid-Atlantic Dairy Association)</i> Lora Korowajczyk, BS, MBA & Aisha King, BS
2:45 – 3:45 PM	Breakout Session (B 1–5) (Repeat of Sessions A 1–5)
3:45 – 4:00 PM	Evaluation Return & Certificates <i>Continuing Education Certificates will not be awarded unless an evaluation is returned to the reception desk at the end of the day!</i>

FACULTY

The following faculty **do not** have
anything to disclose:

Heather Howard, JD

Commissioner, NJ Department of
Health and Senior Services

Scott Gee, MD ~ Medical Director for
Prevention & Health Information
Kaiser Permanente, Northern
California

Peri L. Nearon, MPA ~ Director,
Office of Nutrition & Fitness, NJ
Department of Health and Senior
Services

Robyn D'Oria, MA, RNC, APN

Executive Director, Central New
Jersey Maternal and Child Health
Consortium

Michael Lamacchia, MD ~ Chairman,
Department of Pediatrics, St. Joseph's
Children's Hospital, Paterson, NJ

**The following faculty make the
following disclosures:

Sandra G. Hassink, MD, FAAP

Director, Weight Management Clinic,
A I DuPont Hospital for Children,
Wilmington, DE

** Board Member American Academy of
Pediatrics (financial relationship)

Margaret "Meg" Fisher, MD, FAAP

Chair, Department of Pediatrics,
Monmouth Medical Center, Long
Branch, NJ, Vice President
American Academy of Pediatrics/NJ
Chapter

**RWJF (grant/research support)

Lori Feldman-Winter, MD, MPH,

FAAP ~ Division Head, Adolescent
Medicine, The Children's Regional
Hospital at Cooper University,
Camden, NJ

**CDC and USDA CREES (grant/
research support)

Karen Buonocore, MA, CHES

New Jersey Relationship Manager,
Alliance for a Healthier Generation ~
Healthy Schools Program

**RWJF (Financial supporter for AHG
Healthy Schools Program)

Nurgul Fitzgerald, PhD, RD

Assistant Professor/Extension
Specialist, Department of Nutritional
Sciences, Rutgers, The State University
of New Jersey

**Johnson & Johnson (research
support)

Lora Korowajczyk BS, MBA

Nutrition Specialist
Aisha King, BS ~ Child Nutrition
Consultant

American Dairy Association and Dairy
Council, Inc.

**Will discuss industry research
relevant to program Fuel Up to Play

The AAP Children's Oral Health Initiative

Jeffrey M. Bienstock, MD, FAAP

I recently had the opportunity to spend a wintery weekend at AAP National Headquarters in Elk Grove Village, Illinois. This was the first Chapter Advocate Training on Oral Health (CATOOH), which is a new AAP program supported by funding from the American Dental Association Foundation. During the weekend of December 5-6, 2008 I represented the New Jersey Chapter. There were 20 chapters that participated in the initial CATOOH program.

Beginning in 2008 and continuing through 2010, a representative from each of the 66 AAP Chapters will be trained to serve as a Chapter Oral Health Advocate (COHA). The COHA will function as the Chapter's oral health expert—offering trainings on incorporating oral health assessments into well-child visits; establishing collaborative relationships with general dentists, pediatric dentists, and state and local dental organizations to improve children's oral health in their communities; and providing oral health technical assistance to Chapter members.

The CATOOH is a 1½ day train-the-trainer session offered at AAP Headquarters. Participants are instructed in

the role pediatrician plays in assessing children's oral health, how to conduct an oral health risk assessment (including oral screening exam), how to provide appropriate oral health instruction to families, and how to develop a management plan with referral to a dental home. Participants will take their knowledge back to their Chapter and share the information with members of their pediatric community.

Participants will take this knowledge back to their Chapters and share the information with members of their pediatric community.

During the sessions, COHAs learn to:

- Serve their local area as a Chapter Oral Health Advocate and establish collaborative relationships with general dentists and pediatric dentists, as well as state/local dental organizations, to improve children's oral health in their communities.
- Discuss the role of the pediatrician and his/her staff in assessing young children's oral health and providing anticipatory guidance to parents and caregivers.
- Cite the importance of prevention of caries in children 0-3 years of age and the establishment of a dental

home by 12 months of age.

- Explain factors in cariology and the relationship of oral health to a young child's overall health and well-being.
- Perform an Oral Health Risk Assessment (OHRA).
- Identify and address challenges in caring for children's oral health, including oral health awareness among professionals and parents/caregivers, access to a dental home, and funding to support oral health care services.
- Train pediatricians and others to perform an oral health risk assessment; provide appropriate anticipatory guidance, which may include oral health instruction to families and caregivers; develop a management plan, including appropriate prevention interventions, such as the use of fluoride varnish when applicable; and referral to a dental home, as appropriate.

I will now begin working with dentists and pediatricians throughout the state and helping to implement the newest Policy Statement from the AAP (published in December, 2008) : Preventive Oral Health Intervention for Pediatricians:

(<http://aappolicy.aappublications.org/cgi/reprint/pediatrics;122/6/1387.pdf>)

[AAP/NJ Government Affairs Update](#)

To view this quarter's Government Affairs updates, go to
www.aapnj.org, click on
"Reports and Publications," then click on
"AAP/NJ Government Affairs Committee Update."