Check the Red Book Online News page often for breaking news related to pediatric infectious diseases and immunizations, including new vaccine recommendations, vaccine or antiviral shortages, product recalls, disease outbreaks, travel notices, and more.

January 2022

**CDC COCA Call: COVID-19 Quarantine and Isolation Recommendations** Posted 1/12/22

On Thursday, January 13, at 2:00 pm ET, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention will host a COCA Call to review the recently updated COVID-19 quarantine and isolation recommendations for healthcare and non-healthcare settings. During this COCA Call, presenters will discuss the science supporting these changes, the populations and settings to which these changes apply, and additional precautions people should take at the end of quarantine or isolation.

**Date:** Thursday, January 13, 2022  
**Time:** 2:00 – 3:00 PM ET

For additional information and to view this session, please visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Emergency Preparedness and Response website at https://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2022/callinfo_011322.asp

**CDC COCA Call: What Clinicians Need to Know About the New Oral Antiviral Medications for COVID-19** Posted 1/11/21

The emergency use authorizations (EUAs) for the new oral antiviral medications molnupiravir and Paxlovid™ (nirmatrelvir/ritonavir) supplement current therapeutic efforts to decrease hospitalizations and prevent severe COVID-19 and death. During this COCA Call, presenters from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) will describe the recent EUAs and NIH treatment guidelines, patient prioritization, and resources for healthcare providers. Subject matter experts will review when to prescribe antiviral medications including
patient assessment, how to have a risk-benefit discussion to address patient questions or concerns, and how to prioritize patients if medications are in short supply.

**Date:** Wednesday, January 12, 2022  
**Time:** 2:00 – 3:00 PM ET

For additional information and to view this session, please visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Emergency Preparedness and Response website at https://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2022/callinfo_011222.asp

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**Red Book Online Outbreaks Feature—New Format!** Posted 1/6/21

*Red Book Online Outbreaks* continues to provide up-to-date information and resource links on current infectious disease outbreaks affecting the US pediatric population. This feature was recently reformatted and streamlined to quickly find pertinent and current outbreak information.

Overseen by members of the AAP Committee on Infectious Diseases, *Red Book Online Outbreaks* is intended to provide pediatric health care professionals with a quick resource to get up to speed on current outbreaks and how they affect the US pediatric population, along with links to explore further, and related *Red Book* chapters for additional information.

Visit *Red Book Online* to view all the current outbreaks, including the most recently posted *Listeria outbreak* linked to packaged salads by Dole and Fresh Express.

*Red Book Online Outbreaks* is regularly updated with new outbreaks and new information as each outbreak develops, as well as removal of outbreaks that have concluded.

Bookmark this feature for regular visits, and keep an eye out for emails from *Red Book Online* alerting you to updates.

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**CDC Reports First Pediatric Flu-related Deaths of 2021-22 Season** Posted 1/5/21

The first two pediatric influenza-associated deaths for the 2021-22 season have been reported to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), according to Flu View, the CDC's weekly surveillance report. Both deaths were reported in mid-December.

The first pediatric death was associated with an influenza A (H3) virus and occurred during the week ending December 11, 2021. The second pediatric death was associated with an influenza A virus, for which no subtyping was performed, and occurred during the week ending December 18, 2021.

The majority of viruses detected continue to be A(H3N2), according to the report. Most influenza A(H3N2) virus infections have occurred in children and young adults ages 5-24 years. However, the number of infections is increasing in other age groups as well.

While preliminary data suggest that vaccine effectiveness against currently circulating H3N2 viruses may be reduced this season, vaccination is still likely to offer some protection, including against serious flu illness and death.
The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and CDC recommend everyone 6 months and older get vaccinated each year. Physicians with high-risk patients who have contracted the virus should treat them promptly with antivirals.

Read the full article in AAP News.

AAP COVID-19 Town Hall  Posted 1/5/22
The AAP is proud to host the first Town Hall of 2022 on **January 6th at 7:00 pm CT**. This bi-weekly series of virtual town halls links members with leading experts to discuss emerging issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic. During this event, we will address the latest related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Join us for this informative session where you will hear from leading experts and connect with your peers.

James Campbell, MD, MS, FAAP
Member, AAP Committee on Infectious Diseases
Professor, Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health, University of Maryland School of Medicine

Bonnie Maldonado, MD, FAAP
Chairperson, AAP Committee on Infectious Diseases
Professor, Departments of Pediatrics and of Health Research and Policy; Chief, Division of Infectious Diseases; and Senior Associate Dean of Faculty Development, Stanford University School of Medicine

Sonja O’Leary, MD, FAAP
Chairperson, AAP Council on School Health
Assistant Professor, Pediatrics University of Colorado School of Medicine; Medical Director, Denver Health, School-Based Health Centers

Register [here](#).

December 2021

AAP COVID-19 Town Hall  Posted 12/14/21
The AAP hosts a bi-weekly series of virtual town halls linking members with leading experts to discuss emerging issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The next session will be held on **Thursday, December 16, 2021 at 7:00 pm CT**. During this event, we will address the latest related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Join us for this informative session where you will hear from leading infectious disease experts and connect with your peers.

**Expert Panelists**

Kristine (Kris) Bryant, MD, FAAP
Member, AAP Committee on Infectious Diseases
Hospital Epidemiologist, Norton Children's Hospital; Professor of Pediatrics, University of Louisville School of Medicine

James Campbell, MD, MS, FAAP
Member, AAP Committee on Infectious Diseases
New Webinars on Red Book Online Posted 12/9/21
Visit Red Book Online (RBO) to view the following two new webinars!

Red Book Webinar on Increasing Influenza Vaccination Rates During the COVID-19 Pandemic
Annika M. Hofstetter, MD, PhD, MPH, FAAP provides an overview on increasing influenza vaccination rates during the COVID-19 pandemic in this webinar. This short webinar describes current influenza vaccination rates in children, common barriers to influenza vaccination, and strategies to improve timely influenza vaccination. View Webinar

- Red Book Online Influenza Resources
- AAP Influenza Page

Red Book Webinar on Tuberculosis Testing and Treatment in Children and Adolescents
Dawn Nolt, MD, MPH, FAAP, lead author of the AAP clinical report, “Tuberculosis Infection in Children and Adolescents: Testing and Treatment” published in the December 2021 issue of Pediatrics provides an overview of the recommendations on a newly recorded webinar. Topics include a change in terminology for tuberculosis infection (TBI), strategies for testing children and adolescents with suspected infection, and options for treatment for TBI. View Webinar

- AAP Clinical Report: Tuberculosis Infection in Children and Adolescents: Testing and Treatment
- AAP News: Report offers recommendations for diagnosis, treatment of tuberculosis infection
- HealthyChildren.org: Tuberculosis in Children and Teens

Find all AAP infectious disease-related webinars on the Red Book Online Webinars page, including “Red Book 2021 Key Updates” by David Kimberlin, MD, FAAP, Red Book Editor.

November 2021

Now Live—Red Book Online on New Unified Site Posted 11/30/21
All your trusted AAP resources, including Journals, News, Point-of-Care Solutions, and Books, are now all on one unified site, AAP Publications, offering unparalleled innovation with quick access to essential pediatric titles all in one place.
As part of Point-of-Care Solutions, **Red Book Online** (RBO) is on this unified site. Newly streamlined for ease of use and quick answer finding, RBO now has a new fresh look, including a redesigned home page where you will find pertinent features and key content at a glance, including the **Red Book**, COVID-19 Resources, Outbreaks, Inuenza Resources, the Visual Library, and more.

Visit RBO today and discover newly enhanced layouts and functionality, such as split-screen viewing—view **Red Book** chapter text on the left and figures, images, tables, references, and related content and articles on the right.

Visit the [new unified site](https://www.aap.org/pubscentral) or learn more at [https://www.aap.org/pubscentral](https://www.aap.org/pubscentral).

**AAP COVID-19 Town Hall** Posted 11/30/21

The AAP hosts a bi-weekly series of virtual town halls linking members with leading experts to discuss emerging issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The next session will be held on Thursday, December 2, 2021 at 7:00 pm CT. During this event, we will address the latest related to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on children, adolescents and families. Join us for this informative session where you will hear from leading experts and connect with your peers. Register [here](https).

**AAP COVID-19 Town Hall** Posted 11/15/21

Join us for our next AAP COVID-19 Town Hall on Thursday, November 18, at 7:00 pm CT to hear the latest about COVID-19 in children. This session will begin with a brief presentation from a National Institute for Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) pediatric leader, Dr. Robert Tamburro, who will provide a pediatric COVID-19 research update. The presentation will be followed by a time of facilitated Q&A. Join us for this informative session where you will hear from leading experts and connect with your peers.

Register [here](https). Previous town halls are available for viewing [here](https).

**Expert Panelists**

James Campbell, MD, MS, FAAP  
Member, AAP Committee on Infectious Diseases  
Professor, Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health  
University of Maryland School of Medicine

Karen Puopolo, MD, PhD, FAAP  
Chief, Section on Newborn Medicine, Pennsylvania Hospital  
Associate Professor of Pediatrics  
University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine

Robert F. Tamburro, MD, MSc, FAAP  
Senior Advisor for Clinical Research, Division of Extramural Research  
Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

**COCA Call: What Clinicians, Pharmacists, and Public Health Partners Need to Know about Antibiotic Prescribing and COVID-19** Posted 11/11/21
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has published several studies characterizing antibiotic prescribing during the COVID-19 pandemic in outpatient, nursing home, and hospital settings. Findings from these studies and others inform opportunities to improve antibiotic use and guide the development of resources to support healthcare professionals and health systems. Case studies representing common clinical scenarios will be discussed to support decisions related to antibiotic prescribing.

During this COCA Call, clinicians, pharmacists, and public health partners will learn about the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on antibiotic prescribing and strategies for optimizing antibiotic prescribing.

**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2021  
**Time:** 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM ET

For additional information and to view this session, please visit the CDC Emergency Preparedness and Response website at [https://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2021/callinfo_111821.asp](https://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2021/callinfo_111821.asp).

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**AAP COVID-19 Town Hall**  
**Posted 11/3/21**

Join us at a special time this Thursday, November 4, at 5:00 pm CT to connect with AAP infectious disease leaders to hear the latest about COVID-19 in children, including vaccines for 5-11 year olds.

View this and previous AAP Town Halls [here](https://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2021/callinfo_111821.asp).

**Expert Panelists:**  
Bonnie Maldonado, MD, FAAP  
Chairperson, AAP Committee on Infectious Diseases  
Professor, Departments of Pediatrics and of Health Research and Policy; Chief, Division of Infectious Diseases; and Senior Associate Dean of Faculty Development, Stanford University School of Medicine  

Sean O'Leary, MD, MPH, FAAP  
Vice Chairperson, AAP Committee on Infectious Diseases  
Professor, Pediatrics, Sections of Pediatric Infectious Diseases and General Academic Pediatrics, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Children's Hospital Colorado

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**Red Book Online Outbreaks Update: Salmonella Infections**  
**Posted 11/2/21**

Officials are currently investigating two multistate outbreaks of *Salmonella* infections linked to onions and salami sticks.

Two new entries on a *Salmonella* outbreak linked to onions and a *Salmonella* outbreak linked to salami sticks have been added to the Red Book Online Outbreaks section, providing information about the outbreaks and their impacts for the pediatric population.

Overseen by members of the AAP Committee on Infectious Diseases, the Outbreaks section is intended to provide pediatric health care professionals with a quick resource to
get up to speed on current outbreaks and how they affect children, along with links to explore further.

Bookmark the section for regular visits, and keep an eye out for emails from Red Book Online alerting you to updates.

October 2021

The Next AAP COVID-19 Town Hall Posted 10/26/21
The AAP hosts a bi-weekly series of virtual town halls linking members with leading experts to discuss emerging issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The next session will be held on Thursday, October 28, 2021 at 7:00 pm CT. During this event, we will address the latest related to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on children, adolescents and families. We will also cover the vaccine roll-out for 5-11 year olds. Join us for this informative session where you will hear from leading experts and connect with your peers.

View this and previous AAP Town Halls here.

Red Book Online Outbreaks Update: Seafood – Salmonella Thomson Posted 10/21/21
Officials are currently investigating a multistate outbreak of Salmonella Thomson infections linked to seafood.

A new entry on this Salmonella Thomson outbreak has been added to the Red Book Online Outbreaks section, providing information about the outbreak and its impacts for the pediatric population.

Overseen by members of the AAP Committee on Infectious Diseases, the Outbreaks section is intended to provide pediatric health care professionals with a quick resource to get up to speed on current outbreaks and how they affect children, along with links to explore further.

Bookmark the section for regular visits, and keep an eye out for emails from Red Book Online alerting you to updates.

The Next AAP COVID-19 Town Hall Posted 10/13/21
The AAP hosts a bi-weekly series of virtual town halls linking members with leading experts to discuss emerging issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The next session will be held on Thursday, October 14, 2021 at 7:00 pm CT. During this event, we will address the latest related to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on children, adolescents and families. Join us for this informative session where you will hear from leading experts and connect with your peers.

Expert Panelists
Benson Hsu, MD, MBA, FAAP, FCCM
Chair-Elect, AAP Section on Critical Care
Professor of Pediatrics, University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine
Chief Scientific Officer, Preparedness Treatment and Equity Coalition
New PediaLink Course: Influenza During the COVID-19 Pandemic  Posted 10/13/21

This four-part course series provides key information about the 2021-2022 flu season. The purpose of this PediaLink module is to educate pediatric health care professionals on the current American Academy of Pediatrics policy recommendations for routine use of seasonal influenza vaccine and antiviral medications for the prevention and treatment of influenza in infants, children, and adolescents. The recommendations for the prevention and treatment of influenza are updated annually.

Pediatricians continue to have a leadership role in the prevention of influenza and its complications through vaccine use and public education. In addition, pediatricians should promptly identify influenza infections to provide timely treatment when indicated to reduce childhood morbidity and mortality. Recommendations for treating egg-allergic patients are discussed along with requirements and importance for all health care personnel to be immunized annually.

Unit 1 Influenza: Clinical Presentation and Complications
Unit 2: Influenza: Diagnostic Testing
Unit 3: Prevention of Influenza
Unit 4: Influenza: Treatment for the Clinician

AVAILABLE: 10/11/2021 - 10/10/2022

Faculty
Flor Munoz, MD, FAAP
Tim Uyeki, MD, MPH, MPP, FAAP
Claudette Poole, MD, FAAP
Julie A. Boom, MD, FAAP
Sean O'Leary, MD, MPH, FAAP
John M. Kelso, MD, FAAP,
Min Jung Lee, MD, FAAP
Suchitra Rao, MBBS, MSCS, FAAP
John Bradley, MD, FAAP
New PediaLink Course: Effective COVID-19 Vaccine Conversations Posted 10/12/21
The coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic has caused tremendous burden to the U.S. population, including children and adolescents. Vaccines are safe and effective in protecting individuals and populations against infectious diseases, including COVID-19, and vaccines are currently available to provide protection against COVID-19. This course aims to improve knowledge and competency among pediatricians and non-physicians to have effective COVID-19 vaccine conversations with patients and families, including the sharing of credible COVID-19 vaccination information and responding to misinformation.

Module 1: Science of Vaccines & Common Myths
Module 2: COVID-19 Vaccine Basics: The Science of Vaccines
Module 3: Disinformation and Misinformation: Knowing the Difference—Coming Soon!
Module 4: Not Your Routine Vaccines, Not Your Routine Circumstances: Engaging with Patients and Parents About COVID-19 Vaccines in these Extraordinary Times
Module 5: Cognitive Biases, Behavior Change, and Putting the Evidence Into Action

Available: 10/8/21 – 12/31/21
https://shop.aap.org/effective-covid-19-vaccine-conversations/

Faculty
Rupali J. Limaye, PhD, MPH, MA
Sean O'Leary, MD, MPH, FAAP
Heidi J. Larson, PhD
Douglas J. Opel MD, MPH, FAAP

Learning Objectives
- Describe the science of vaccines and how they are developed, including COVID-19 vaccines.
- Communicate effectively with adolescents and families who have questions or express hesitancy, providing them with accurate, succinct, and compelling responses to myths and frequently asked questions about COVID-19 vaccines.
- Describe the difference between disinformation and misinformation and use strategies to address both.
- Recognize and address cognitive biases about vaccines among patients and families by using effective messages and communication strategies to foster behavior change.

Acknowledgements
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Coming Soon—Red Book Online on New Unified Site! Posted 10/6/21
Coming in November, all your trusted AAP resources, including Journals, News, Point-of-
Care Solutions, and Books, are moving to one unified site offering unparalleled innovation with streamlined access to essential pediatric titles all in one place.

As part of Point-of-Care Solutions, Red Book Online (RBO) will be on this unified site. Newly streamlined for ease of use and quick answer finding, RBO will also have a new fresh look, including a redesigned home page and split screen content viewing. See below for a sneak peek.

New RBO Home Page—Find pertinent features and key content at a glance, including the Red Book, COVID-19 Resources, Outbreaks, Influenza Resources, the Visual Library, and more.

New Split Screen Functionality—View Red Book chapter text on the left and figures, images, tables, references, and related content and articles on the right.

Learn more about the new and exciting unified site at https://www.aap.org/pubscentral. And, be on the lookout for additional messaging about RBO on this new site.

Influenza Prevention and Control Strategies in Early Child Care Settings Posted 10/5/21

Influenza remains a serious threat to children due to its potential to cause severe morbidity and mortality. Each year, millions of children get sick with seasonal flu, thousands are hospitalized, and some die from complications. The best way to protect children against the flu is to get vaccinated, along with implementing and teaching infection control practices. Join this webinar to learn how child care settings can prepare for seasonal flu during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Thursday, October 7, 2021
5:00–6:00 pm ET

Register Online Now!

Presenter
Andrew Hashikawa, MD, MS, FAAP, Clinical Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine and Pediatrics, Michigan Medicine, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

Target Audience
- Head Start and child care center directors
- Child care health consultants
- Education services staff members
- Health managers and specialists
- Parent leaders

How to Register
Participation is free, but registration is required. Space is limited. Select this link to register.
After registering, participants will receive a confirmation email with details on how to join.
the webinar. This webinar will be recorded and archived for later viewing.

**Certificate of Participation**
Participants will receive a certificate of participation upon completion of an online evaluation. A link to the form will be available at the end of the webinar. Participants must complete the form in order to receive a certificate.

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**COCA Call: 2021-2022 Recommendations for Influenza Prevention and Treatment in Children: An Update for Pediatric Practitioners**  
*Posted 10/5/21*

During this Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity (COCA) Call, subject matter experts from the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and CDC will discuss strategies primary care providers and medical subspecialists can use to improve, prevent, and control influenza among children this season.

**Date:** Thursday, September 7, 2021  
**Time:** 2:00 - 3:00 pm (ET)

[Click here](https://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2021/callinfo_090521.asp) to watch this COCA Call.

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**September 2021**

**COCA Call: 2021-2022 Influenza Vaccination Recommendations and Guidance on Coadministration with COVID-19 Vaccines**  
*Posted 9/16/21*

During this Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity (COCA) Call, presenters will provide updates on the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommendations for the 2021-2022 influenza vaccination season and guidance for coadministration of influenza and COVID-19 vaccines.

**Date:** Thursday, September 9, 2021  
**Time:** 2:00 - 3:00 pm (ET)

For additional information and to view this session, please visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Emergency Preparedness and Response website at [https://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2021/callinfo_090921.asp](https://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2021/callinfo_090921.asp)

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**Red Book Online Updates!**  
*Posted 9/7/21*

**RBO Vaccine Status Tables**
The vaccine information in the [Red Book Online Vaccine Status Tables](https://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2021/callinfo_090721.asp) (1 and 3) was updated to include new vaccines, usage recommendations, age indications, and US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval.

The [Vaccine Status Tables](https://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2021/callinfo_090721.asp) contain current information about recently submitted, licensed, and recommended vaccines and biologics, including status of the FDA licensure process.
and related American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

- Table 1: Status of Recently Submitted, Licensed, and Recommended Vaccines & Biologics
- Table 2: Influenza Vaccines
- Table 3: Sars-CoV-2 vaccines

See what's new and visit often to stay updated on the latest vaccine information!

**RBO Influenza Resource Page**
The Influenza Resource Page was just updated to include the most recent influenza information from the AAP and CDC, including the just released AAP policy statement and technical report “Recommendations for Prevention and Control of Influenza in Children, 2021-2022.”

The AAP Committee on Infectious Diseases compiled this comprehensive list of influenza resources to serve as a centralized point of reference for vaccine guidance, prevention, treatment, payment, policies, news, and other information pertaining to influenza for infants, children, adolescents, and young adults.

This resource is updated frequently as needed, including pertinent information related to seasonal, H1N1, avian, and pandemic influenza.

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**The Next AAP Town Hall: COVID – How are the Children?** Posted 9/7/21
The AAP hosts a bi-weekly series of virtual town halls linking members with leading experts to discuss emerging issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The next session will be held on Thursday, September 9, 2021 at 7:00 pm CDT. During this event, we will address the variety of impacts that COVID-19 is having on children and adolescents. Join us for this informative session where you will hear from leading experts and connect with your peers.

View this and previous AAP Town Halls [here](#).

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**August 2021**

**AAP Town Hall: COVID – What’s the Latest?** Posted 8/31/21
The AAP hosts a bi-weekly series of virtual town halls linking members with leading experts to discuss emerging issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The next session will be held on Thursday, September 2, 2021 at 7:00 pm CT and will address the COVID-19 variants, monoclonal antibody treatment, vaccinations, back-to-school, and other pressing topics. Join us for this informative session where you will hear from leading experts and connect with your peers.

View this and previous AAP Town Halls [here](#).

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**Available on RBO: AAP Interim Guidance on Use of Palivizumab During Unusual RSV Season**
**Posted 8/24/21**
The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recently released new interim guidance on the...
treatment of serious lower respiratory tract infections caused by respiratory syncytial virus (RSV). The guidance comes in response to an uncharacteristic rise in cases over the spring and summer. The AAP recommends consideration of the use of palivizumab, a monoclonal antibody directed against the fusion protein of RSV, in infants at increased risk of severe disease.

For complete information on RSV, refer to the Respiratory Syncytial Virus chapter in Red Book on Red Book Online.

Additional resources:

- Interim Guidance: Interim Guidance for Use of Palivizumab Prophylaxis to Prevent Hospitalization from Severe Respiratory Syncytial Virus Infection During the Current Atypical Interseasonal RSV Spread
- AAP News story: AAP releases interim guidance on preventing RSV during delayed season
- HealthyChildren.org: RSV: When It's More Than Just a Cold

COCA Call: Additional mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines for Moderately to Severely Immunocompromised People Posted 8/16/21

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has issued Emergency Use Authorizations (EUA) for additional doses of mRNA COVID-19 vaccines for moderately to severely immunocompromised people. People with immunocompromising conditions or who take immunosuppressive medications or therapies are at increased risk for severe COVID-19. Studies indicate that some immunocompromised people have a reduced immune response following a primary COVID-19 vaccine series compared to vaccine recipients who are not immunocompromised. Studies have further demonstrated that an additional mRNA COVID-19 vaccine dose after an initial 2-dose primary mRNA COVID-19 vaccine series in some immunocompromised populations may enhance immune response.

During this COCA Call, presenters will discuss the current data on COVID-19 vaccines in immunocompromised people; the role of additional doses of mRNA COVID-19 vaccines, patients who should be considered to receive these additional COVID-19 vaccine doses, results from the August 13, 2021, Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) meeting, and CDC's guidance on additional COVID-19 doses in immunocompromised people.

Date: Tuesday, August 17, 2021
Time: 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm (ET)

For additional information and to view this session, please visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Emergency Preparedness and Response website at https://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2021/callinfo_081721.asp.

AAP Town Hall: COVID-19 Hot Topics Posted 8/13/21

The AAP hosts a bi-weekly series of virtual town halls linking members with leading experts to discuss emerging issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The next session will be
held on Thursday, August 19, 2021 at 7:00 pm CT and will address the COVID-19 variant, vaccinations, back-to-school, and other pressing topics. Join us for this informative session where you will hear from leading experts and connect with your peers.

View this and previous AAP Town Halls [here](#).

**Expert Panelists:**

Sara Bode, MD, FAAP  
Chairperson-elect, AAP Council on School Health  
Medical Director, Nationwide Children’s Hospital's Care Connection School-Based Health and Mobile Clinics

David W. Kimberlin, MD, FAAP  
Editor, AAP Red Book  
Sergio Stagno, MD Endowed Chair in Infectious Diseases  
Co-Director of the Division of Pediatric Infectious Diseases; and Vice Chair for Clinical and Translational Research at University of Alabama at Birmingham

Bonnie Maldonado, MD, FAAP  
Chairperson, AAP Committee on Infectious Diseases  
Professor, Departments of Pediatrics and of Health Research and Policy; Chief, Division of Infectious Diseases; and Senior Associate Dean of Faculty Development, Stanford University School of Medicine

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**Guidance on Use of Palivizumab During Unusual RSV Season**  
*Posted 8/12/21*

An atypical summer spike in respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) has prompted the AAP to recommend clinicians consider using palivizumab for high-risk infants in affected areas.

A typical RSV season runs from fall through spring with a peak in February. However, RSV activity was low from May 2020 to early March 2021, possibly due to COVID-19 mitigation measures. Instead, some parts of the country have seen rising rates over the last several months, prompting a health advisory from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The AAP interim guidance on administration of palivizumab during this delayed season is the same as for a typical season: Consider administering the humanized monoclonal antibody in up to five monthly doses to prevent RSV in high-risk infants and children in areas experiencing high rates of the virus.

Eligible children include premature infants, especially those born at less than 29 weeks’ gestation, infants with chronic lung disease of prematurity, infants with certain types of hemodynamically significant congenital heart disease, infants and young children with certain immunodeficiency states, and infants with pulmonary abnormalities or neurological and neuromuscular conditions that impair ability to clear secretions from the upper airway.

Clinicians should reassess the need for palivizumab at least monthly.

See the full article in [AAP News](#).
**July 2021**

**Neonates, Breastfeeding Infants Included in New CDC Guidance on Plague**  
*Posted 7/30/21*

A new report offers recommendations on the antimicrobial treatment and prophylaxis of plague, both naturally occurring and in a bioterror attack, including guidance related to neonates and breastfeeding infants.

The evidence-based guidance published in *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is aimed at clinicians, public health professionals and first responders. Organizations, hospitals and communities can use the information for treating patients and in a mass casualty.

*Yersina pestis*, the agent that causes plague, is in the highest risk category of biologic agents and toxins. An attack would require rapid and informed decision-making by clinicians and public health agencies, according to the report *Antimicrobial Treatment and Prophylaxis of Plague: Recommendations for Naturally Acquired Infections and Bioterrorism Response*.

New data have become available and the Food and Drug Administration has approved additional countermeasures since plague guidelines were published in 2000. American Academy of Pediatrics experts were among those in clinical medicine, bioterrorism preparedness and public health who took part in forums beginning in 2018 and contributed to the updated publication.

See the full article in *AAP News*.

Also refer to the AAP *Red Book Plague chapter* on Red Book Online.

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**June 2021**

**What’s the Latest with the Flu**  
*Posted 6/17/21*

**Know Your Community Prevalence of Influenza and COVID-19**

The number of influenza positive specimens reported by public health labs has remained unusually low, likely due to the COVID-19 mitigation measures in place. One pediatric
influenza-associated death has been reported to CDC since October 2020. Influenza-like illness (ILI) has remained below the national baseline of 2.6%. ILI surveillance may be impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and should be interpreted with caution (Weekly U.S. Influenza Surveillance Report | CDC). Influenza is unpredictable, and it is not possible to know how severe the next flu season will be.

The best way to be protected against the flu and its potentially serious complications is to get vaccinated with the influenza vaccine each fall.

**Data on COVID-19 Among Children**

Data on COVID-19 among children are updated on a weekly basis and can be found here.

**Data on Community Prevalence of COVID-19**

CDC COVID Data Tracker is regularly updated with information on community prevalence of COVID-19, data about testing and vaccination rates, demographic trends, and other information at the national and state level.

The Community Profile Report provides a plain language summary of key indicators for all regions, states, core-based statistical areas (CBSAs), and counties across the United States. It provides a snapshot that focuses on recent outcomes in the last seven days and changes relative to the weeks prior, and provides contextual information at the county, CBSA, state, and regional levels.

**Address Missed Immunizations among the Pediatric Population**

As we head into summertime, it is a good time for practices to ensure their pediatric patient population is caught up on routine childhood and adolescent immunizations that were missed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. According to CDC, public sector vaccine orders dropped 14% in 2020-2021 compared with 2019.

Clinicians and practices can employ the following strategies and resources to increase immunization rates at their practices:

- Send reminders to families about school immunization requirements.
- Implement provider prompts; electronic prompts in Electronic Health Records (EHRs) or notes/flags in paper charts.
- Hold family friendly office hours.
- Assign an Immunization Champion who can lead practice-based efforts on catch-up for your practice.
- Provide a strong recommendation for all vaccines on the current immunization schedule.
- Help address health beliefs and barriers about influenza and other routinely recommended vaccines.
- Educate patients and their parents.
- Include all recommended vaccinations at every visit. Co-administration of the COVID-19 vaccine with other vaccines is acceptable.
- Do not miss any opportunity to vaccinate!

Click here for more information on how practices can address missed immunizations.

The AAP offers several toolkits where clinicians and providers can access sample texts, videos, and photos sized for social media platforms to promote immunization catch-up:
Apply Expertise with Flu Vaccination Clinics to COVID-19 Vaccination

Offering flu vaccination clinics for patients, and even members of patients' families, is not new for pediatricians. In fact, the COVID-19 pandemic prompted more practices to adopt new flu clinic models such as drive thru or curbside clinics, or expanded hours of existing clinics.

Pediatric practices can apply this experience to offering COVID-19 vaccination clinics. With the Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine for 12–15 year olds, pediatric practices that sign up to be providers of this vaccine may consider holding a COVID-19 vaccination clinic for adolescents. The AAP offers information, resources, and tips to help your practice host a successful vaccination event. Check out the information here.

Action Steps for Pediatricians

The Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine is now authorized and recommended for persons 12 years of age and up. Distribution of COVID-19 vaccine to pediatric practices is handled at the state level. States are now distributing to primary care practices. Pediatricians and their teams can prepare by doing the following:

- Administer catch-up routine vaccinations to patients who are behind.
- Promote COVID-19 vaccine confidence.
- Know the COVID-19 vaccination sites in your community.

Practices that want to administer COVID-19 vaccines can consider the following:

- Enroll to administer COVID-19 vaccine in your state
- Learn more about providing COVID-19 vaccine to adults for those who wish to do so, including enrolling in Medicare to provide COVID-19 vaccine to seniors.

Click here for more information on what pediatricians can do now.

Additional Information

See the AAP Red Book Online Influenza Resource page, AAP Red Book Online COVID-19, and CDC FluView.

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The newly revised and updated Red Book: 2021–2024 Report of the Committee on Infectious Diseases, 32nd Edition is now available on Red Book Online—the go-to resource for the most current information on infectious diseases.
Click "Red Book" to go directly to the Table of Contents. And, refer to the Summary of Major Changes to quickly see all the new and updated content in the Red Book 2021.

Start using the new edition of the Red Book on Red Book Online today!

Webinar—Red Book 2021 Key Updates
Dr Kimberlin, Red Book Editor, provides an overview of key updates in the 32nd edition of the Red Book in this newly recorded webinar. Topics discussed include updated vaccination recommendations (Meningococcal, Tdap/DTaP, Hepatitis A, Rotavirus), commonly treated conditions in children (eg, head lice, molluscum), travel medicine, new figures and tables to help guide the care and management of many infectious diseases (Helicobacter pylori, HIV, Hepatitis B, Measles, Tuberculosis), and much more, including a new systems-based antibiotic table that guides empiric antibiotic selection prior to knowing what the causative pathogen is! Find this new webinar on Red Book Online.

AAP Member Benefit!
Eligible AAP members can request one print copy of the 2021 Red Book® at shop.aap.org/getredbook.

AAP medical students members, international members, corresponding members, and lapsed members are not eligible. A $17 shipping and handling fee will be applied.

May 2021

Red Book Online Outbreaks: Ground Turkey – Salmonella Hadar Posted 5/14/21

This outbreak is now over.

Officials are currently investigating a multistate outbreak of Salmonella infections linked to ground turkey.

A new entry on this Salmonella Hadar outbreak has been added to the Red Book Online Outbreaks section, providing information about the outbreak and its impacts for the pediatric population.

Overseen by members of the AAP Committee on Infectious Diseases, the Outbreaks section is intended to provide pediatric health care professionals with a quick resource to get up to speed on current outbreaks and how they affect children, along with links to explore further.

Bookmark the section for regular visits, and keep an eye out for emails from Red Book Online alerting you to updates.

Mobile Apps Retirement: Red Book® Online and Pediatric Care Online™ Posted 5/14/21

On June 1, 2021, the AAP mobile apps Red Book Online (RBO) and Pediatric Care Online (PCO) will be retired to align with our efforts to provide the most updated content with the best user experience to our members and customers.

Please see the FAQs for more details about the plan as well as the best ways to access RBO and PCO content on a mobile device going forward.
American Academy of Pediatrics Calls for Children and Teens Age 12 and Up to Get the COVID-19 Vaccine  
 Posted 5/12/21

Itasca, Ill.—In a new policy statement today, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends vaccinating all children ages 12 and older who are eligible for the federally authorized COVID-19 vaccine.

The AAP policy statement comes amid a discussion by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine for adolescents 12 years and older, including a review of the data provided by clinical trials. Earlier this week, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration granted an Emergency Use Authorization for use of the vaccine in the 12- to 15-year age group.

Both steps were part of a long-standing, rigorous and transparent process that leads to the development of all vaccines.

The AAP recommends that all eligible children, teens, family and household members be vaccinated as soon as possible. Pediatricians are especially concerned about communities disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and are working to ensure equity in the vaccine’s distribution.

Click here for the full press statement.

AAP Policy Statement: COVID-19 Vaccines in Children and Adolescents

AAP News article: AAP, CDC recommend COVID-19 vaccine for ages 12 and older

HealthyChildren.org article: Getting Your Child Ready for the COVID-19 Vaccine

COCA Call: What Clinicians Need to Know About Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccination of Adolescents  
 Posted 5/12/21

This COCA Call will give clinicians an overview of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccination in adolescents who are 12-to-15 years of age. Clinicians will learn about the safety and efficacy of the vaccine, vaccine recommendations, and clinical guidance for using the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine in adolescents in this age group.

Date: Friday, May 14, 2021
Time: 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm ET

Presenters
Sara Oliver, MD, MSPH
LCDR, U.S. Public Health Service
Co-lead, Advisory Committee for Immunization Practices COVID-19 Vaccines Work Group COVID-19 Response
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Kate Woodworth, MD, MPH
Medical Officer, Clinical Guidance Team COVID-19 Response Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Tanya Myers, PhD, MSc
v-safe Team Co-Lead
COVID-19 Response
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

For additional information and to view this session, please visit the CDC Emergency Preparedness and Response website at https://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2021/callinfo_051421.asp


**Pediatrics On Call** – In this episode Lewis First, MD, MS, FAAP, editor-in-chief of *Pediatrics*, is back for another edition of “First Up.” He joins hosts David Hill, MD, FAAP, and Joanna Parga-Belinkie, MD, FAAP, with a bird's-eye view of what's in the May issue of the journal. The hosts also talk to David Kimberlin, MD, FAAP, editor of the *Red Book* about what to expect in the 2021 edition coming to *Red Book Online* June 3. [Episode Website](https://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2021/callinfo_051421.asp).

**Coca Call: Lyme Disease Updates and New Educational Tools for Clinicians Posted 5/7/21**

Lyme disease is the most commonly reported vector-borne disease in the United States. The number of confirmed and probable reported cases more than doubled from 1998 to 2018. Understanding Lyme disease’s epidemiology and clinical features is valuable for clinicians in emerging areas, clinicians in endemic regions who need a refresher course, and healthcare providers in non-endemic regions who see travel-related cases.

During this COCA Call, presenters will review updates in Lyme disease epidemiology, diagnosis, treatment, and prevention and share new educational tools for both healthcare providers and their patients.

**Date:** Thursday, May 20, 2021  
**Time:** 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm (ET)

**Presenter**  
Grace Marx, MD, MPH  
LCDR, U.S. Public Health Service  
Medical Epidemiologist, Bacterial Diseases Branch  
Division of Vector-Borne Diseases  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

For additional information and to view this session, please visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Emergency Preparedness and Response website at [https://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2021/callinfo_052021.asp](https://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2021/callinfo_052021.asp).

**April 2021**

**Next AAP Town Hall: Ask the Red Book About COVID-19 – Part 3 Posted 4/20/21**

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) has launched a series of virtual town halls linking members with leading experts to discuss emerging issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The 16th in the series, *Ask the Red Book About COVID-19 – Part 3*, will be held on
Thursday, April 22, at 7:00 pm CT. Hear the latest on the Janssen COVID-19 vaccine pause, strategies for addressing vaccine hesitancy, SARS-CoV-2 variants, and more by leaders from the AAP Red Book Committee. Join us to hear from our experts and to connect with your peers.

View this and previous AAP TownHalls [here](#).

**Expert Panelists**

David W. Kimberlin, MD, FAAP  
Editor, AAP Red Book

Sergio Stagno, MD.  Endowed Chair in Infectious Diseases; Co-Director of the Division of Pediatric Infectious Diseases; and Vice Chair for Clinical and Translational Research at University of Alabama at Birmingham

Bonnie Maldonado, MD, FAAP  
Chairperson, AAP Committee on Infectious Diseases  
Professor, Departments of Pediatrics and of Health Research and Policy; Chief, Division of Infectious Diseases; and Senior Associate Dean of Faculty Development, Stanford University School of Medicine

Sean O'Leary, MD, MPH, FAAP  
Vice Chairperson, AAP Committee on Infectious Diseases  
Professor, Pediatrics, Sections of Pediatric Infectious Diseases and General Academic Pediatrics, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Children's Hospital Colorado

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**The Science behind COVID-19, Antibiotic Stewardship – Episode 56**  
*Posted 4/16/21*

In this episode Sean O'Leary, MD, MPH, FAAP, vice chair of the AAP Committee on Infectious Diseases (COID), describes the characteristics of SARS-CoV-2 and what it might take to end the pandemic. Hosts David Hill, MD, FAAP and Joanna Parga-Belinkie, MD, FAAP also talk to Jeffrey S. Gerber, MD, PhD, FAAP, chair of the Antimicrobial Resistance and Stewardship Subcommittee of COID, about his efforts to end unnecessary prescribing of antibiotics in pediatrics. [Click here](#) to view.

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**March 2021**

**PCO Webinar—Hit Me with Your Best Shot: Immunizations in 2021**  
*Posted 3/1/21*

We invite you to join us on Monday, March 8, at 12:00 pm EST when Henry Bernstein, DO, MHCM, FAAP discusses the Recommended Childhood and Adolescent Immunization Schedule: United States, 2021. Objectives of this webinar include:

- Highlight the current Recommended Childhood and Adolescent Immunization Schedule: United States, 2021.
- Understand the rationale for the latest updates to the 2021 universal immunization schedule.
- Understand the process for approval of COVID19 vaccine in children.

To view the webinar on Monday, March 8, please [click here](#) or use the following url:  
https://event.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1430886&tp_key=b56e77e2b2
Henry Bernstein, DO, MHCM, FAAP is a Professor of Pediatrics at the Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell in New York. He presently is a member of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Associate Editor of Red Book Online. He is an ex-officio member of the American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on Infectious Diseases.

Dr. Bernstein taps into his extensive 36-year experience as a general pediatrician in private practice, the National Health Service Corps, and as Chief of General Academic Pediatrics at urban, suburban, and rural children's hospitals to promote the health and well-being of children, their families, and their communities.

His private, community-based primary care (generalist) experiences, in combination with academic leadership responsibilities, have provided him with a value-added, translational science perspective, unique from many others in academia.

This tacit knowledge enables him to fulfill a lifelong passion of communicating, educating, and translating science into clinical settings, educational venues, policymaking, and media interactions to advance the health of children.

February 2021

CIIW Webinars: Updates on the 2021 Child/Adolescent and Adult Immunization Schedules Posted 2/24/21

There will be a Current Issues in Immunization Webinars: Updates on the 2021 Child/Adolescent and Adult Immunization Schedules on March 3, 2021 from 12:00-1:00 pm EST.

Moderator: Andrew Kroger, MD, MPH, Medical Officer, Communications and Education Branch, Immunization Services Division, NCIRD, CDC

Topic: Updates on the 2021 Child/Adolescent and Adult Immunization Schedules

Speakers:
- Mark S Freedman, DVM, MPH, Veterinary Medical Officer, CDC/NCIRD
- Patricia Wodi, Public Health Physician, CDC/NCIRD

View the recording of this webinar here.

New RBO Vaccine Status Table Posted 2/11/21

A new vaccine status table—Sars-CoV-2 vaccines—was added to the Red Book Online (RBO) Vaccine Status Table page.

This new table provides current information about five Sars-CoV-2 vaccines and pertinent information about each, including:
- Manufacturer
- Vaccine type
- US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) status
- FDA age indication
- Dose number and interval
Visit the RBO Vaccine Status Table page for the latest information about recently submitted, licensed, and recommended vaccines and biologics, including status of the FDA licensure process and related American Academy of Pediatrics and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommendations.

January 2021

**New Policy Statement on Antibiotic Stewardship in Pediatrics** Posted 1/8/21
Antibiotics are among the most commonly used medications in pediatric care, but they are frequently overused, contributing to the public health crisis of antibiotic resistance. In a new policy statement, “Antibiotic Stewardship in Pediatrics,” the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society (PIDS) discuss the rationale for programs that monitor and evaluate the appropriate prescribing of antibiotics in inpatient and outpatient settings. The statement published in the January 2021 *Pediatrics* (published online Dec. 28) cites growing evidence demonstrating that antibiotic stewardship programs can reduce antibiotic overuse while improving patient outcomes. In addition to highlighting the importance of inpatient antibiotic stewardship programs, the statement emphasizes that most antibiotic prescribing occurs in the outpatient setting, and that studies show at least half of these prescriptions are considered inappropriate. AAP and PIDS note that antibiotic use can also lead to unintended, harmful effects to the patient, including *Clostridioides difficile* infections (CDIs), and other drug-related adverse events, such as end-organ toxicities, diarrhea, rashes, cytopenia, and anaphylaxis. In the statement, AAP and PIDS provide recommendations on personnel, infrastructure and activities required for inpatient and outpatient antibiotic stewardship programs, as well as approaches to evaluating their effectiveness.

**Resources:**

- *AAP News* article “Antibiotic stewardship policy offers strategies for inpatient, outpatient pediatrics”
- *AAP News* article “How to optimize pediatric antibiotic use during COVID-19 pandemic”
- AAP pediatric antibiotic safety webpage
- *Red Book* chapter on antimicrobial stewardship
- Pediatric antibiotic stewardship program toolkit