

# The Idaho Pediatrician

Idaho Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics  
E-Newsletter Spring 2010



## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

The health of Idaho's children got some positive attention during an otherwise grim state legislative session. Idaho ranks behind nearly all other states in childhood immunization rates. [Read the President's Letter](#)

## Top Stories

**Flu Shots in Children Help Whole Community** - An unusual study done in western Canada has provided the surest proof yet that giving flu shots to schoolchildren protects a whole community from the disease. [Read more here.](#)

**Infant Deaths Prompt CPSC Warning About Sling Carriers** - Being carried in a sling can be deadly for low birth weight babies, premature babies, and babies who are congested or have airway concerns. [Learn more here.](#)

## Pediatric Health Care

**Idaho Lead Screening Survey** - Attention! All Medicaid Providers- Please respond to the Department of Nursing and Head Start Lead Screening Survey which you have received. It is colored yellow and very important! If you would like another copy please contact Dr. Ingrid Brudenell at [ibruden@boisestate.edu](mailto:ibruden@boisestate.edu) or (208) 426-1670. We greatly appreciate your responses and want to know what providers are doing for lead screening.

### **New PediaLink Course -- Reducing the Risk of SIDS**

A recent study, "[The Physician's Role in Reducing SIDS.](#)" found that more than 30% of physicians incorrectly stated that the safest sleep position is something other than on the back. To reinforce the AAP recommendations around safe sleep habits, a new online PediaLink course has been developed. "Reducing the Risk of SIDS in Child Care," provides free CME for physicians, but is also available to parents, relatives and child care providers.

[Register for this FREE CME](#)

**Idaho Chapter AAP Awarded Immunization Grant** - We are pleased to announce that Idaho Chapter AAP has been awarded a federal grant to continue our work toward improving immunization rates in our state. An Immunization Congress will be held on June 28, 2010 at Brick 29 in Nampa, Idaho (time TBD). To join the Idaho

## Mark Your Calendar

### [Common Problems in Pediatrics Conference](#)

Westminster College  
Salt Lake City, UT  
*June 7-9, 2010*

### [34th Annual District VIII Section on Perinatal Pediatrics Conference](#)

Boise, ID  
*June 17 - 20, 2010*

### [Idaho Medical Association Summer Meeting](#)

Boise, ID  
*July 16-18, 2010*



"The world is as many times new as there are children in our lives."

-Robert Brault

Immunization Coalition and receive notice of details about the Immunization Congress, please [click here](#).

## Policy & Legislative Issues

**Cystic Fibrosis Program Coming to an End** - State budget cuts will end a 32-year program aimed at helping adult Cystic Fibrosis patients. [Read more here](#).

**Idaho Public Health Legislative Update** - A comprehensive look at the 2010 legislative session can be found [here](#).

**Midwifery Licensing** - The Idaho State Board of Midwifery will soon begin licensing midwives as described in the Midwifery Licensing Law, Idaho Code 54-5501-5513. To read more about this important change, [please click here](#).

**Idaho Kids Count January Report** - These monthly updates are intended to help advocates and professionals working with children, youth and young adults both monitor and impact Idaho's uses of ARRA funds. [Read the full report here](#).

## Best Practices & Resources

**Idaho Foster Care Liaison** - We are pleased to announce that Idaho Chapter AAP member and pediatrician Dr. Joyce Gilbert has agreed to serve as the Foster Care Liaison for our state. Dr. Gilbert has been a pediatrician in Sandpoint for 25 years, she has been a foster parent for 5 years, and she has adopted 4 children, so she is an excellent resource. Dr. Gilbert can be contacted at (208) 265-2242 or [JPJgilbert@aol.com](mailto:JPJgilbert@aol.com).

**Safe Transportation of Obese Children** - As obesity in children increases, so do challenges associated with transporting them safely. The AAP recommends keeping children rear-facing in the car until they exceed the rear-facing weight limit on their convertible car seat (30-45 lbs. depending on model). More car seats are being designed to accommodate heavier children, allowing them to ride rear-facing to higher weights to optimize their safety in the car. [Read more here](#). The AAP also recommends keeping children in a harnessed car seat (vs. a booster seat) as long as possible. For a list of higher weight harnessing car seats [click here](#).

**District IV Health Department Immunization Partnership Advisory Board**. The purpose of this board is to identify sustainable solutions to safely administer vaccines, and to enhance protection from vaccine preventable diseases for the children and adults in our communities. Dr. Susan Kim is serving on this board representing the Idaho Chapter AAP and the pediatricians in District IV. Thank you, Dr. Kim, for your dedication to improving the immunization rates for the children in Idaho. For more information regarding this board, please [click here](#).

## From the Chapter

**May 2010 Issue of AAP Immunization Initiatives Newsletter** - [Click here](#) to read this excellent newsletter.

**AAP Chapter Champion Programs** have been very effective for disseminating best policies and practices to pediatric health care providers nationwide through the leadership and volunteer networks

of chapters. Chapter champion programs are designed to serve as a mechanism to provide technical assistance, tools and resources, and more to pediatricians and other pediatric health care providers in a more direct manner via national AAP staff.

This particular project will facilitate the dissemination of best practices and advocacy related to the implementation of the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI) asthma guidelines within medical homes at the AAP chapter and/or state level(s).

Program goals include:

- increasing access to a medical home for all children and youth, especially those with health disparities;
- facilitating pediatric practices adoption and implementation of the NHLBI guidelines within the context of a medical home;
- and increasing advocacy efforts for implementation of asthma care within medical homes.

David Parry, MD is the Idaho Chapter Champion for NHLBI asthma guidelines within medical homes. Dr. Parry is an allergy & asthma specialist in Pocatello, Idaho. He can be reached at (208) 233-0801 or [dparrymd@msn.com](mailto:dparrymd@msn.com). Look for updates from Dr. Parry in future newsletters from Idaho Chapter AAP.

#### **Strategic Partnership Between AAP and Obama Administration**

- The AAP believes that the life success of every child should be the nation's highest priority, and as such, is proud to announce a new commitment in partnership with the First Lady's "Let's Move!" campaign. [Find out how this will affect your practice.](#)



"It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men." ~Frederick Douglass

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