Region 1: New England PEHSU

Choose Safe Places for Early Care and Education (CSPECE) partnership

On February 2, Alan Woolf, MD, MPH, FAAP, FACMT, Marissa Hauptman, MD, MPH, FAAP, Kim Manning, and Lauren Paradis met with their partners at Choose Safe Places for Early Care and Education (CSPECE) program at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. They discussed safer disinfectant use in early care and education facilities. The CPSECE is a pilot program designed to provide education and technical assistance to early child care facilities on environmental health topics as well as screen for environmental hazards. The Region 1 PEHSU team provided an overview of PEHSU’s mission and supplied educational resources on methanol, healthy homes, and safer disinfectant.

Region 2 PEHSU: Serving New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, and US Virgin Islands

Prescriptions for Prevention Landing Page

In collaboration with the New York State Children’s Environmental Health Centers (NYSCHECK), the Region 2 PEHSU Prescriptions for Prevention website has been updated. The website provides information for families to address common environmental health concerns such as lead, secondhand smoke, mold, and...
Region 2 PEHSU: Serving New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, and US Virgin Islands Continued

radon. These PEHSU prescriptions are tailored for families in New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. For more information, please visit the webpage.

Prescriptions for Prevention Presentation

On February 17, Region 2 PEHSU coordinators Jennifer Acevedo, MD, Christopher Bland, MPH, and Joseph Wilson Jr, MHS presented at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai’s (ISMMS) Department of Environmental Medicine and Public Health Grand Rounds. Prescriptions for Prevention: Integrating Environmental Health into Pediatric Care presentation highlighted the social determinants of health screener, prescriptions for prevention project, and virtual home visiting program. The recording can be found here.

Twitter: Black History Month

Region 2 PEHSU is promoting environmental health issues affecting Black communities in recognition of Black History Month in February. Region 2 PEHSU Twitter posts are amplifying the work of environmental justice groups and highlighting the leadership of Black environmental health scholars and activists, who have made it their life's work to improve the health of families. To view their posts, visit their Twitter account.

Region 3 – Mid-Atlantic Center for Children’s Health and the Environment (MACCHE)

Congratulations Laura Anderko, PhD, RN!

Laura Anderko, PhD, RN has been invited to serve on the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine’s Committee on Guidance on per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) Testing and Health Outcomes. The committee will consider current evidence regarding human health effects of the most widely studied PFAS. The National Academies will provide the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), and the National Institutes of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) an objective and authoritative review of current evidence regarding human health effects of those PFAS being monitored in the CDC’s National Report on Human Exposure to Environmental Chemicals.

Nursing Collaborative on Environment and Maternal-Child and Women’s Health

Ruth McDermott-Levy, PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN and Dr Anderko have been invited to participate as members in a newly
formed Nursing Collaborative on Environment and Maternal-Child and Women’s Health. The collaboration is composed of 15 national nursing organizations, representing 100,000 healthcare providers. This initiative is being led by the National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women’s Health (NPWH) and the Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments (ANHE), key organizations from all areas of nursing. The goals are to engage in a first-of-its-kind, focused effort to combat the environmental factors contributing to compromised reproductive health, poor pregnancy outcomes, and worsening cardiovascular and respiratory disease in women. The collaborative partnerships will advance education, research, and clinical practice solutions related to environmental health interventions to improve maternal-child and women’s health outcomes.

Region 6: Southwest Center for Pediatric Environmental Health (SWCPEH)

Disaster Recovery in Louisiana

On February 6, the SWCPEH hosted its fourth and final educational session on disaster recovery in Louisiana. Stephen Borron, MD presented on Overview of Pediatric Environmental Health Associated with Flooding.

Lead Exposure and Prevention in Refugee Communities Webinar

Lois Wessel, PhD, RN, MS, DNP, FNP-BC presented a webinar titled, Lead Exposure and Prevention in Refugee Communities: A Guide to Resources. The information was developed for clinicians working with refugee communities. The recording of the video can be viewed here.

Effective Infection Control in Schools Webinar

On February 16, Dr Anderko presented Effective Infection Control in Schools for the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. The COVID-19 pandemic has challenged school personnel to mobilize infection control strategies to protect the health of students, teachers, and other school staff. This webinar explored evidence-based strategies to improve infection control and promote health within school settings, with a focus on addressing the special needs of children with speech, language, and hearing considerations.

Pediatric Environmental Health Grand Rounds

On February 18, Matthew Charnetski presented for the monthly Pediatric Environmental Health Grand Rounds. Mr Charnetski will be presenting on Cold-Related Injuries and Hypothermia in Pediatric Patients. The SWCPEH has educated over 700 health care professionals since the inception of the Pediatric Grand Rounds Series in June 2020.

New YouTube Channel

The Western States PEHSU has created a YouTube Channel to share lecture series and informational videos. To stay up to date on the latest videos, please subscribe to the WS PEHSU channel.
The mission of the PEHSU program is to improve reproductive and children's health by leading the integration of environmental health into clinical care and public health while supporting communities to address historical injustices and ongoing environmental racism and address the existential threat of climate change.

**Region 9 – Western States (WS) PEHSU**

**Herb Needleman Lecture**

The first annual Children's Environmental Health lecture honoring Herb Needleman was held during the University of California San Francisco (UCSF) Occupational and Environmental Health Grand Rounds on January 14. The inaugural speaker was Bruce Lanphear, MD, MPH Professor of Health Sciences at Simon Fraser University and Investigator at British Columbia Children's Hospital. His lecture titled *The Lingering Legacy of Lead Poisoning: Why a Little Lead is Too Much.* This lecture was sponsored by WSPEHSU and the Program on Reproductive Health and the Environment (PRHE). It will be presented annually in honor of Dr Needleman’s groundbreaking work on the hazards of environmental lead on children’s neurodevelopment, and his perseverance despite fierce opposition from industry. The first lecture was a success, with more than double the number of attendees expected! The recording here can be viewed on YouTube.

**Region 10: Northwest (NW) PEHSU**

**Climate Anxiety and Grief Workshop**

On January 27, the NW PEHSU sponsored the *Climate Anxiety & Grief workshop.* The workshop was led by Jennifer Atkinson, PhD, who presented the emotional impacts of climate change on different groups, including students, activists, front-line communities, scientists, and individuals directly impacted by extreme events. She examined the dimensions of environmental justice and social equity inherent to climate impacts, emphasizing the roots, scale, and interconnection of these problems. Dr Atkinson utilized breakout groups to provide a safe space for students to talk about their emotional response to environmental loss and injustice before providing the students contemplative practices to help them understand and manage these emotions.
New eLearning Module

Check out the recently developed eLearning module Vaping: Risk Factors and Health Impacts. It explores health impacts and steps to take for prevention and treatment. The course can be viewed on the PEHSU National Classroom. Free CE is available!

Upcoming Event

Toxicity of Chemical Disinfectants Encountered in Everyday Life

Date: February 24, 2:00-3:00pm CT

Moderated by: Paul Wax, MD, FACMT and Ziad Kazzi, MD, FACMT

Presented by: Charles McKay, MD, FACMT, Ashley Haynes, MD, FACEP, and Timur Durrani, MD, MPH, MBA

Registration: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_EEp7jnYIRbWXBozjbe_g

Expanding Continuing Education (CE)


Presenter: Susan Buchanan, MD, MPH

Expiration Date: February 19, 2021

Suggestions for content? Please email Isabel Montoya at imontoya@aap.org

This material was supported by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and funded (in part) by the cooperative agreement award number 5 NU61TS000296-02-00 from the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR).

Acknowledgement: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) supports the PEHSU by providing partial funding to ATSDR under Inter-Agency Agreement number DW-75-95877701. Neither EPA nor ATSDR endorse the purchase of any commercial products or services mentioned in PEHSU publications.