

CCP MMA and FHK

Provider Notice

TO: All Community Care Plan Providers & Office Managers

DATE: October 16, 2020

SUBJECT: AAP Guidance on Well-Child visits and Immunizations during a pandemic

During the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been a significant decrease in well-child visits that has resulted in delays in well-child vaccinations. There is concern that the delay in vaccinations may result in secondary outbreaks with vaccine-preventable illnesses.

- The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) strongly supports the continued provision of health care for children during the COVID-19 pandemic. The well-child care provided should be consistent with the AAP Recommendations for Preventive Pediatric Health Care -periodicity schedule.
- All well-child care should occur in person whenever possible and within the child's
 medical home where continuity of care may be established and maintained. For
 practices who have successfully implemented telehealth to provide appropriate elements
 of the well exam virtually, these telehealth visits should continue to be supported and
 followed by a timely in-person visit.
- Pediatricians should identify children who have missed well-child visits and/or recommended vaccinations and contact them to schedule in-person appointments inclusive of newborns, infants, children, and adolescents. Pediatricians should work with families to bring children up to date as quickly as possible. State-based immunization information systems and electronic health records may be able to support any catch-up immunizations.
- Pediatricians should also inform families about the strategies already implemented in primary care offices to assure safety.
- For vaccinations, there are <u>resources available from the Centers of Disease Control to</u> <u>help promote vaccinations during the pandemic</u>, such as images, social media posts, and website links that you can use. These are also <u>multimedia materials available on the</u> <u>CDC website</u>.
- We encourage providers to disseminate materials from the AAP's "The Doctor is in" and "COVID-19 To-Do's" campaigns to members via text, email, member portals and social media platforms to help make sure children are vaccinated on time. Sample texts, videos, and social media posts are available for download on the <u>AAP website</u>.

Should you have any questions or need any assistance, please contact our Provider Operations Hotline at 855-819-9506. Thank you in advance!