To: AAP Disaster Preparedness Contact Network

From: Daniel B Fagbuyi, MD, FAAP, Member, Disaster Preparedness Advisory Council
Laura Aird, MS, Manager, Disaster Preparedness and Response

Re: AAP Disaster Preparedness and Response Updates

Dear Colleagues:

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Disaster Preparedness Advisory Council (DPAC) is pleased to provide you with information on its priority activities. Additional information can be found in previous Contact Network Newsletters. The DPAC is in the process of preparing several policy statements including “Medical Countermeasures for Children Exposed to Public Health Emergencies, Disasters, or Acts of Terrorism”, “Providing Support to Children and Families in the Aftermath of Disaster or Crisis”, and “Ensuring the Health of Children in Disasters”. For more information on the DPAC, including a list of members and liaisons, refer to the April 2013 DPAC Meeting Minutes or AAP Disaster Preparedness Advisory Council.

Anthrax

The AAP convened a meeting with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in November 2012, and a final draft clinical report, titled “pediatric anthrax clinical guidance” is being reviewed by AAP committees, councils, and sections.

Pediatric Bereavement Lectureship

Since the launch of the Pediatric Bereavement Lectureship Program in 2012, three programs have completed their lectureships. A lectureship at Boston University School of Medicine in Massachusetts took place on March 7-8, 2013. The lectureship at Comer Children’s Hospital at the University of Chicago in Illinois occurred on April 9-11, 2013. Riley Hospital for Children at Indiana University Health in Indiana held its lectureship on April 22-24, 2013. Programs will run through early 2014. The expert speaker for each lectureship is David Schonfeld, MD, FAAP.
**BOSTON BOMBINGS**
On April 15, 2013, bombs exploded near the finish line of the Boston Marathon. The explosions killed three people (including an 8 year old boy) and injured 264. In response, the AAP circulated resources to its members including the [Blast Terrorism and Explosions](#) Web page and shared resources with all AAP chapter contacts for disaster preparedness. A new Web page within HealthyChildren.org was created; see [Talking to Children About Tragedies and Other News Events](#).

**SPRING WEATHER**
Hurricane season officially began on June 1, 2013, and an active or extremely active Hurricane season is predicted for 2013. The AAP [Hurricanes, Tornadoes, and Storms](#) Web page includes the most up to date resources. In light of the recent events regarding the tornadoes that struck Oklahoma on May 20, 2013, it is important to stay up to date on tornado preparedness. The [Federal Emergency Management Agency](#) (FEMA) and the [CDC](#) both offer resources to help citizens prepare for natural disasters, and the AAP offers a [Tornado Fact Sheet](#) for families.

**PEDIATRIC PREPAREDNESS RESOURCE KIT**
The [Pediatric Preparedness Resource Kit](#) Web page has been expanded to include new sections on:

- Including Pediatric Care Providers in State-Level Decision-Making
- Promoting Strategic Communications and Systematic Messaging
- Prioritizing Within and Among High-Risk Groups
- Developing State Action Plans
- Establishing Pediatric Advisory Councils or Children’s Preparedness Coalitions
- AAP Chapter Contacts for Disaster Preparedness

To request printed copies of the complete kit, e-mail [DisasterReady@aap.org](mailto:DisasterReady@aap.org).

**SMALLPOX VACCINE CLINICAL UTILIZATION WORKSHOP**
The AAP collaborated with the CDC and the National Association of County & City Health Officials to convene a Smallpox Vaccine Clinical Utilization Workshop on May 21-23, 2013. The goal of the meeting was to develop smallpox vaccine clinical utilization guidelines to improve preparedness in the event of a smallpox release. The guidelines will cover vaccine use among adults, children, and pregnant women. A key factor in the development of these guidelines is the involvement of clinicians, vaccine specialists, and public health experts with a broad range of expertise, who can contribute their knowledge and experience. More than 85 expert panel members, federal steering committee members, and other key stakeholders attended the workshop. Organizations such as the American Academy of Dermatology, American Academy of Family Physicians, American College of Physicians, American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, American Nurses Association, Infectious Diseases Society of America, and various AAP groups participated. Draft guidelines are under development. For more information, contact Tracy Eier, Special Assignment Assistant, at [teier@aap.org](mailto:teier@aap.org) or 847-434-4742.

**PANDEMIC AND ALL-HAZARDS PREPAREDNESS REAUTHORIZATION ACT**
The [Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Reauthorization Act (PAHPRA)](#) of 2013 was signed by the President on March 13, 2013. As a result of AAP advocacy, this bill created a "National Advisory Committee on Children and Disasters", which will consist of 15 federal and other members, including 2 "non-federal health care professionals with expertise in pediatric medical disaster planning, preparedness, response or recovery." Once it has been appointed, the Advisory Committee will be in place until September 2018.

**AVIAN INFLUENZA A (H7N9)**
The AAP continues to partner with the CDC to monitor this situation. This [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)](#) summarizes the emergence of Avian Influenza A (H7N9). As of May 8, 2013, 131 confirmed cases of H7N9 infections in humans had been reported, with 32 deaths. The source of the human infections remains under investigation. Almost all confirmed cases have been sporadic, and are presumed to have resulted from exposure to infected birds. Limited human to human transmission may have occurred in 3 family clusters. In the latest [AAP News](#) article titled “As seasonal influenza wanes, be aware of H7N9”, Henry H. Bernstein, DO, FAAP, reported on the H7N9 influenza virus that has been causing illness and death among individuals in China. Dr Bernstein gives background information about the virus, steps to take in preparing for a possible pandemic, and treatment recommendations from the CDC.
APPLAUSE, PLEASE
The DPAC recognizes the following agencies and individuals for their efforts to address pediatric disaster preparedness and the needs of children:

• The Presidential Commission for the Study of Bioethical Issues for its very thorough analysis and report, “Safeguarding Children: Pediatric Medical Countermeasure Research.” This document responds in a very timely manner to the National Biodefense Science Board (NSBS) report “Challenges in the Use of Anthrax Vaccine Adsorbed (AVA) in the Pediatric Population as a Component of Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP)”.

• The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for creation of the Unaccompanied Minors Registry (UMR), the first online data collection system of its kind focused on unaccompanied minors. It aids in the process to track and reunify unaccompanied minors as a result of the disaster, in a more expedient and efficient manner. All registrations are directly routed to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children who administers the UMR, and will work to reunify children with their parents and legal guardians through the assistance of deployed personnel on the ground. FEMA has also created a Family Emergency Plan document that allows families to keep track of important contact information in the event of a disaster.

• The Institute of Medicine Workshop for its Disaster Preparedness, Response and Recovery Considerations for Children and Families workshop. This 2 day workshop examined medical and public health preparedness related to children and families including children with special healthcare needs. Several AAP members presented and served on the planning committee. The link above includes an agenda from the workshop, presentation slides, and audio from each session.

• MAJ Daniel Fagbuyi, MD, FAAP, and David Siegel, MD, FAAP, for their presentations at the 2013 MCMi Regulatory Science Symposium. Dr Siegel presented on “Radiation Exposure Vulnerabilities in Pregnant Women and Children and the Need for Population-Specific Biodosimetry”. Dr Fagbuyi spoke on “End-User Vulnerabilities, Challenges and Clinical Implications.

EDUCATION/TRAINING

National Biodefense Science Board Application Opportunity
July 7, 2013
The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) is accepting application submissions from qualified individuals who wish to be considered for membership on the National Biodefense Science Board (NBSB). Nominees are being accepted in the following categories: Industry, Academia, Healthcare Consumer Organizations, and Organizations Representing Other Appropriate Stakeholders.

Application Instructions:
• Review the recently issued Call for Nominations to the National Biodefense Science Board.
• The deadline for all application submissions is July 7, 2013, at 11:59 pm ET.
• Please prepare the following electronic copies:
  o A one page biography
  o A full curriculum vitae or resume, limited to 35 pages including publications
  o Any letters of support and/or references.
• All application packages must be submitted electronically by filling out an electronic form, available at www.phe.gov/nbsb/board-application-2013.
  o Note: all attachments can be uploaded into the electronic form prior to submission
• If you choose to mail in your application, please fill in the information in the above link, print, and send in your application package to:
  o CAPT Charlotte Spires, DVM, MPH, DACVPM
    Executive Director and Designated Federal Official, National Biodefense Science Board
    Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response
    U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
    Thomas P. O’Neill Federal Building
    200 C St. S.W.
    Room number 14F18
    Washington, DC 20024
    Office: 202-260-0627

www.aap.org/disasters 3 DisasterReady@aap.org
Building Resilience through Public-Private Partnerships Conference
July 30-31, 2013
The third annual Building Resilience through Public-Private Partnerships Conference will be taking place in Washington, DC. The event is focused on building and sustaining viable partnerships with a whole community approach. For an agenda and registration information, please see the Web site. This conference is supported by the US Department of Homeland Security.

American Academy of Pediatrics National Conference and Exhibition
October 26-29, 2013
As the world’s largest pediatrics-focused medical education event and technical exhibition, the AAP Experience offers unparalleled opportunities to network with colleagues and hear from those at the forefront of pediatric care. Join the debate about the latest pediatric controversies at new daily point-counterpoint sessions, and enjoy the exhibits, which will include free book signings, demonstrations and more! The NCE includes several sessions and events for those interested in disaster medicine:

- **Saturday, October 26, 2013**
  H1016 Section on Medical Students, Residents, and Fellowship Trainees Program: Discover the Magic of Medicine: Inspiration from Pediatric Leaders Keynote Address
  **Presenter:** Steven E. Krug, MD, FAAP
  **Time:** 8:20am-8:50am

- **Saturday, October 26, 2013**
  I1038 Communication Challenge: What’s a Pediatrician to Do/Say?
  **Presenters:** MAJ Daniel B. Fagbuyi, MD, FAAP, Wendy Swanson, MD, FAAP
  **Time:** 8:30am-10:00am

- **Monday, October 28, 2013**
  P3066 Aurora, Newtown, Boston and Beyond: Violence and Its Impact on Children
  **Presenter:** David Schonfeld, MD, FAAP
  **Time:** 11:30am-11:50am
  This plenary session presentation offers information on the impact of violence on America’s youth, resources for pediatricians treating children to exposed violence, and opportunities for discussion on strategies for advocacy initiatives.

- **Monday, October 28, 2013**
  F3102 Supporting the Grieving Child and Family
  **Presenter:** David Schonfeld, MD, FAAP
  **Time:** 3:00pm-3:45pm
  This session will provide attendees with an overview of the recently released AAP clinical report, “Supporting the Family After the Death of a Child”. This session will also review basic information regarding children’s understanding of death (reactions of young children and adolescents), approaches to talking with children about death, and common reactions of children to death. The faculty will provide strategies for identifying and addressing guilt, anticipating and addressing grief triggers, and misconceptions and literal misinterpretations related to the death of a child.

- **Tuesday, October 29, 2013**
  X4060 Preparing for the Worst: How to Practice and Survive After a Disaster
  **Presenter:** Scott Needle, MD, FAAP
  **Time:** 12:30pm-1:30pm
  This session will help pediatricians better prepare for disaster and its aftermath. Attendees will learn why disaster preparedness is important for all pediatricians, how to prepare and mitigate risk, and what issues might arise during prolonged recovery from disaster. The session will focus on improving pediatricians’ abilities to provide medical services, promote mental health, serve the greater public health, and continue business operations. A revised and updated disaster preparedness checklist for pediatric office practices will be highlighted.
Tuesday, October 29, 2013
F4084 A Tale of Two Cities: New York After Hurricane Sandy
Presenter: Edward Conway, MD, FAAP
Time: 4:00pm-5:45pm
With a seemingly increasing number of natural disasters occurring across the country, it has never been more important for hospitals and communities to develop policies and procedures that assure close coordination between pediatricians and adult providers in order to most efficiently utilize medical resources. This session will give examples of community responsiveness and will focus on lessons learned in regards to advancing preparedness including the need for communication among facilities and all pediatric and adult providers.

20th Pediatric Critical Care Colloquium
November 2-5, 2013
This 3-day multidisciplinary, interactive program will provide a comprehensive review of late breaking issues affecting pediatric critical care. The daily sessions will explore the latest in modern models of care delivery, safety/quality and outcomes, disaster planning, palliative care, and much more. Discounted registration for the Pediatric Critical Care Colloquium is available until August 3, 2013. This interactive program is presented by Children’s National Medical Center.

Global Health & Disasters Course
November 4-15, 2013
This international health course will be held November 4-15, 2013, on the Anschutz Medical Campus at the University of Colorado in Aurora, CO. The first week of the course is dedicated to global health, and the second week will focus on children in disasters. This training is interactive and incorporates readings, lectures, small group problem-based learning exercises, technical skill sessions, and a disaster simulation exercise. If interested in attending, please complete the online registration request form indicated by student/resident/fellow or external participant. Due date for receipt of registration request is end of business day on August 15, 2013. Participants will be notified of selection in early September. This course is sponsored by the Center for Global Health at the University of Colorado in Aurora, CO.

KEY RESOURCES

Inter Facility Transfer Tool Kit for the Pediatric Patient
This kit addresses the issue of moving a very sick or critically injured infant or child from one facility to another facility. Resources included in this tool kit support efforts in establishing agreements or memorandums of understanding to facilitate transfer of children to specialty resources when needed. The kit will aid in the development of pediatric transfer guidelines to assist staff as they work to ensure safe and timely inter facility transfer. This tool kit was coordinated by the Emergency Nurses Association, Emergency Medical Services for Children and the Society of Trauma Nurses.

Pennsylvania AAP Chapter Emergency Preparedness Webinar/Teleconferences
The Pennsylvania AAP Chapter recently conducted 3 Emergency Preparedness webinar/teleconferences. Recorded webinars can be viewed at the link above. AAP members Renee Turchi, MD, MPH, FAAP; Wendy Ross, MD, FAAP; Scott Needle, MD,FAAP; and David Schonfeld, MD, FAAP, presented.

Health Security Headlines
The University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) Health Security Headlines is the Center’s daily electronic newsletter and provides an update on news, events, and important developments related to biosecurity, biodefense, nuclear security, and national security. To register for free updates, please see the Web site.

Efforts to Address the Medical Needs of Children in a Chemical, Biological, Radiological, or Nuclear Incident
With only about 60 percent of the chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) medical countermeasures in the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) approved for children, the US Government Accountability Office (GAO) examined the challenges the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) faces in developing and acquiring CBRN medical countermeasures for the pediatric populations, and how to address these challenges.
Research as a Part of Public Health Emergency Response
Dr Nicole Lurie’s article “Research as a Part of Public Health Emergency Response” in the March 28, 2013, issue of the New England Journal of Medicine, stated that research must be a component of public health emergency response if the many evidence gaps that exist are to be addressed, and for research to be used as a tool to improve individual patient and public health outcomes.

The Preparedness Report
The Preparedness Report is a monthly digest featuring in-depth news, discussion and planning considerations about relevant emergency management, business continuity, and disaster and public health topics. To join the mailing list, please click here.

National Preparedness Report
The National Preparedness Report (NPR) is an annual status report on the nation’s progress toward reaching the National Preparedness Goal of a secure and resilient nation. The report also identifies areas for national improvement in enhancing the resilience of infrastructure systems and maturing the role of public private partnerships

Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) Program
The updated EMSC grantee contact list is now available. AAP chapters and members can partner with grantees to improve preparedness for children.

OPPORTUNITIES

The AAP disaster preparedness staff has continued to identify disaster preparedness contacts for each state. The following are states and territories that we currently do not have a representative for, Alaska, Connecticut, Delaware, Guam, Maryland, Nebraska, North Carolina, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virgin Islands, Washington, Washington DC.

If you are interested in becoming a disaster preparedness contact for your state, or have questions about what the roles and responsibilities would be, please e-mail DisasterReady@aap.org.

We appreciate your efforts to care and advocate for the needs of children!