Maine Pediatrics

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Maine AAP President's Message

Anne Coates, MD, FAAP, FCCP, ATSF

Hello!

It was wonderful to see many of you at the recent UNE Mixer on 10/19! Our chapter has a strong tradition of fostering the next generation of pediatricians, and the robust turnout of medical students, pediatric residents, and faculty (including many UNE alumni) was on full display! Many thanks to all who took the time to represent our field with pride! The future looks very bright!

The crisp, November air has arrived, which means that elections are upon us. As we all continue to do what we do best as pediatricians, which includes educating, counseling, and sharing the science behind our recommendations with our patients, families, and communities, one of the most powerful tools we have at our disposal is **voting.**

Elected leaders, at all levels of government, shape policies that impact the health of children, families, and our communities.

Election Day is Tuesday, **November 3**; join our chapter and the AAP in getting out the vote and making sure you have a plan to cast your ballot!

Have you seen our **Blueprint for Children: 2026-2028 Policy Agenda**? As was outlined in our recent Legislative Lowdown, please share this Blueprint to help promote the advocacy work of the Maine AAP and pediatricians across the state. Consider sending this Blueprint to your colleagues, and encourage them to join us in advocating for Maine children!

Most importantly, please share this Blueprint with your legislators, and encourage them to be an ally for children's health. You can find the contact info for your Senator **HERE** and your Representative **HERE**. Here's a **sample message** to include with the Blueprint.

Are you interested in getting more involved in our chapter? One excellent way to do so is to join one of our **ten committees**. If you'd like to learn more about them, please contact **Madeleine DesFosses**.

Lastly, our chapter has recently launched a fundraising campaign. Please consider **donating** to support our mission to provide the best comprehensive care, advocacy, research, and leadership for the children and families of Maine, and to lift up all who contribute to this outstanding work.

In gratitude and solidarity,

Annie





Learn More and Register

The AAP Board of Directors is soliciting nominations to fill chairperson vacancies in the following AAP National Committees and Councils for terms beginning July 1, 2027:

- Committee on Hospital Care
- Committee on Substance Use and Prevention
- Council on Children and Disasters

You can find the requirements, the statements of need for each position, and the application materials on the **Lead @ AAP site** (*AAP login required*), under "Appointments and Election Information." To be considered complete, an application must include a (1) factsheet, (2) biographical summary, (3) letter of nomination, and (4) letter of support. Please visit the **Appointments and Election Information page** (*AAP login required*) for complete information.

Nominations are due by November 23rd!



Register Here



Register Here

Did you Know?

The Maine AAP offers a variety of asynchronous educational programs and webinars throughout the year, all available to you at no cost! These opportunities include **TREAT ME**, a 12-block learning collaborative designed to enhance knowledge and understanding of treatment strategies for adolescents with Substance Use Disorders (SUD). This resource is available to everyone through the **MMA Center for Quality Improvement website** and offers opportunities to earn CME and Opioid credits.

The Trauma-Informed Care: A Call for Interdisciplinary Collaboration program offers up to 12 CME credits, providing valuable education and insights. Visit the **collaborative website**.

In partnership with the Maine Department of Education, we are continuing to offer an asynchronous School Health Webinar Series. **Learn more here!**

An AAP clinical report provides guidance on how pediatricians can play a role in helping families maintain consistent practices to keep the mouth and gums healthy. Oral health is important for all children, but youth in foster care, those experiencing homelessness, teens involved in the juvenile justice system, immigrant and refugee youth, and those with special health care needs often have greater oral health challenges and reduced access to services.

- **Clinical report and technical report: "Oral Health for Adolescents"**
- **AAP News: New AAP guidance focuses on adolescents' oral health needs**
- **Healthy Children: 7 Teen Dental Health Risks & Tips to Prevent Them**
- **News release: American Academy of Pediatrics Clinical Report Highlights Oral Health During Adolescence**

Check out all of the resources that the
Children's Oral Health Network of Maine has to offer!



Pediatricians Dan Hale and Don Burgess, through a CATCH grant from the AAP, are working with community partners, including Autism Society of Maine and the Maine Parent Federation, to provide training for those working with neurodivergent/autistic youth in camp or recreational settings. Please share with folks who might benefit from this free training!

Learn more and register

In The News

The AAP is seeking pediatric primary care practices to participate in a 12-month virtual quality improvement learning collaborative, **ASCEND Anxiety: Adolescent Screening and Care for Emotional Health and Substance Use Disorders**. **Learn more.**

Registration Now Open - **AAP Pediatric Mental Health Education Center Recognition Program**. Scholarships are available for the first 100 registrants! **Learn more.**

I Like My Teeth is an education website created by the *Campaign for Dental Health* that provides science-based information about the safety and benefits of fluoride in drinking water. It aims to address misinformation, educate the public, and promote community water fluoridation as an effective way to prevent tooth decay and improve oral health.

FREE SEATS AVAILABLE for **Suicide Bereavement Facilitator Training**. The Maine CDC Suicide Prevention Team is pleased to share an offer from the VA Maine's Suicide Prevention Program to cover the cost of 20 seats for an upcoming Suicide Bereavement Facilitator Training hosted by the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. Contact Erin Miles at **emiles@afsp.org** with questions and to claim your seat.

The AAP has released a webinar that provides an overview of a free tool to help practices determine the cost of delivering care, evaluate payment adequacy, and support informed financial and contracting decisions. Access the calculator and webinar here: **AAP Cost Calculator for Primary Care Practices.**

The ***SAFEST Choice National Learning Collaborative*** is a joint program between Boston Medical Center and Proof Alliance that helps clinics **address FASD in prenatal and pediatric care settings** through virtual ECHO education. Learn more about the **Pediatric ECHO Program**, which will take place February - June 2027.

WORRIED ABOUT A PATIENT? AN ADOLESCENT IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD or COMMUNITY?

TREAT ME Now offers rapid response assessments for youth aged 13 - 19 who are struggling with mental health challenges and substance use.

TREAT ME Now offers a low barrier rapid assessment system to evaluate youth 13-19 Struggling with substance use/misuse/substances in appropriate care settings. In addition to primary care or hospital based services, this model could include counseling, case management or residential placement and additional services as needed. Referral to the TREAT ME Now system can come from a variety of sources:


Schools



Emergency Departments


Youth Justice


Self/ Family


Primary Care


Youth Organizations

The 'HUB' - A Team Approach to Care

The rapid evaluation team operates as the 'HUB' to provide a rapid intake, expert assessment, and recommend/offer patient-centered low barrier care.

- Rapid response: connection **within 24 hours** via phone or virtual platform.
- Plan initiated **within 72 hours** or sooner.
- Primary care office is alerted, if not the referral source, and offered support.
- Guidance to appropriate ED, if needed.
- Treatment protocols that include wrap around care will be provided.



DayOne

(207) 893-0386

www.day-one.org/online-referral

Maine AAP

Maine AAP relies on donations from members and friends to enable us to continue growing and providing advocacy, education and child health project collaboration throughout Maine! Please consider making a donation today!

Donate Here

Upcoming Partner Programs

November 3rd | 3:30 - 4:30PM: Maine DOE Launches 2026-2027 School Health Webinar Series. **Learn more.**

November 3rd | 3:30 -- 4:30PM: MCDC Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs Team monthly webinar *ADHD 101: What We Want to Know But Forget to Ask!* **Learn more.**

November 4th | 12:00 - 1:00PM: MPBHP Pediatric Psychiatry in Primary Care ECHO *Recognizing and Responding to Pediatric OCD*. **Register here.**

November 5th: Maine CDC's 2026 Nurture ME Conference - *Power of Perspective: Dismantling Stigma and Bias to Strengthen and Support Families* in Bangor, Maine. **Register here.**

November 19th | 3:00 - 4:00PM: DHHS Partner Briefing on Federal Medicaid Work Requirements and Increased Renewals - Implementation Updates. **Register here.**

December 2nd | 12:00 - 1:00PM: MPBHP Pediatric Psychiatry in Primary Care ECHO *Early Psychosis in Adolescents: Continuing the Conversation.* **Register here.**

December 15th | 12:00 - 1:00PM: MaineHealth Grand Rounds Fall 2026 - Newest Research on the Rural Maternal Crisis. **Register here.**



Connect with Maine AAP on Social Media!

Follow us on X, Facebook, LinkedIn, and Instagram, and BlueSky where we continue to share pro-pediatric health messages, new clinical info and pertinent articles.

https://linktr.ee/maineaap

Maine AAP | 30 Association Drive Box 190 | Manchester, ME 04351 US

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