A Message from Your Chapter President

Eve Switzer, MD | OKAAP

Dear Colleagues,

After almost 2 years of engagement with the Oklahoma Health Care Authority (OHCA), I’m so pleased to let our members know about a rule change that affects all pediatricians – in a positive way. Here’s the language as it was presented to the Medical Advisory Committee a few weeks ago:

APA WF # 22-11 Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) Visit and Sick Visit on the Same Day – Policy will be revised to allow reimbursement for an EPSDT visit and a sick visit that occur on the same date of service, when it is deemed medically appropriate. The revisions will outline the requirements that must be met including, but not limited to, separate documentation/note to justify additional condition(s), information on the appropriate use of Modifier 25, a provider’s ability to only claim the additional time required above and beyond the completion of the EPSDT screening, and clarification that any health problem that is encountered in the EPSDT screening and does not require significant additional work will be included in the EPSDT visit and should not be billed separately.

The OHCA Board approved this rule change on January 18th and pending the Governor’s approval, the anticipated effective date will be March 6, 2023.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN TO OUR MEMBERS?

It means we’ll finally get paid for doing the work that we’ve all been doing – taking care of our patients’ significant and separately identifiable medical condition during a routine well visit. That patient who came in sick during a well visit and is diagnosed with an infection requiring prescription medication management. The patient being seen for a routine well visit who has a foreign body you take the time to remove. The patient who, during a routine well visit, is having an acute asthma exacerbation. I think it’s safe to say that it’s happened to every single one of us at one time or another.

As excited as I am about this rule change, we need our members to keep several things in mind including why OHCA was not previously paying for a 25 modified acute visit during a routine well visit: it was being misused. To help members understand the appropriate use of a 25 modifier in this way, the OKAAP has scheduled a coding webinar on Tuesday, February 21st at 7 pm to discuss 2023 coding updates as well as the proper use of the 25 modifier. Please take the time to join us for what promises to be a very informative webinar.

Continue reading on page 2

The obesity committee members include: myself, Edward Legako, MD, Colony Fugate, DO, Stephanie Schofield, MD, Lamiaa Ali, MD, and is being led by Ashley Weedn, MD, MPH.

Most of the members of this committee are, literally, the clinical experts in childhood obesity in our state and we are so fortunate to have them serving on our committee.

Acknowledging that the AAP’s CPG is comprehensive (meaning really long), the obesity committee will be working with the Oklahoma State Medical Association on distilling down the information provided in the CPG into a digestible format for the busy practicing pediatric clinician.

More on this coming soon but if you are interested in joining the obesity committee (we need more input from pediatricians in private practice!) or want to help, contact anyone on the committee.

Keep an ear to the ground as bills are being crafted in the legislature right now and be prepared for another session that will likely see anti-vaccine, anti-health, anti-children bills emerge, again. Fortunately, we have many medical organizations that are actively keeping tabs on our legislators and any bills being submitted that affect pediatrics. On the flip side, the Chapter is also being notified and asked to support pro-child bills which our executive committee has been reviewing and lending our Chapter support as appropriate.

I hope everyone is experiencing what we are in my office – what looks like a slow down in the “tridemic” that’s been affecting (and infecting) kids all fall/winter. Take care and I hope that 2023 had a great start so far for each and every one of you.

Eve Switzer, MD | OKAAP

February is American Heart Month which means love is in the air! Tell us why you LOVE what you do or nominate an Oklahoma Pediatrician

Nominate Someone Here

Kari Webber, CAE
OKAAP EVP
Call for Nominations

AAP President-Elect Position 2023

Below is the information for interested candidates for President-Elect. Please reach out Tammy Camp (tammy.camp@tuhsc.edu) with any names of people you would like to see have a personal contact regarding consideration for this position. We would love to see someone from the Oklahoma Chapter consider this position.

- The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) is accepting applications for the AAP President-Elect position for the 2023 election. Interested applicants must be fellow or specialty fellows and be able to demonstrate national pediatric leadership experience and qualifications.
- The role and responsibilities for this position can be accessed by clicking this link. In alignment with the AAP Equity Agenda, the NNC is committed to presenting a diverse set of candidates for elections and to making the pathways to leadership transparent.

Any AAP member interested in being considered as a candidate for President-Elect should submit the Biographical Summary Form by March 1, 2023, at 11:59 PM CST. Questions regarding this form or the process should be directed to nationalelections@aap.org or Tammy Camp.

For More Information CLICK HERE to Email Tammy Camp

Click Below for More Information

District Chairperson Additional Responsibilities

Board of Director Roles and Responsibilities 10.20.docx

District Vice Chairperson Job Description[32]

Bio Form Here
Call for Nominations Continued

Nominations for DC and DVC

As was originally announced in the January 2023 issue of AAP News, there is an excellent opportunity to guide the course of pediatrics and to better the lives of children. It happens that the District VII Chairperson and the District VII Vice Chairperson positions are up for election this year! Anyone who is a Full or Specialty Fellow in good standing and who is a member of District VII may ask to be considered by the District Nominating Committee for nomination as a candidate for the position which has one term of 4 years.

The job description for District Chairperson (Board of Directors role and DC Additional Responsibilities) and District Vice Chairperson is attached. As you can see, these are positions of great responsibility and trust, and demand a considerable commitment of time and effort. In return the jobs provide reward beyond measure in terms of personal satisfaction and in the tremendous good that the American Academy of Pediatrics can continue to do, thanks to its volunteer leaders. Beyond this, AAP district leaders are among the strongest links between AAP members and the AAP national leadership. The Bio Form that is attached will be filled out by the candidates selected by the District Nominating Committee and will serve as the information that is run in AAP News prior to the election.

Deadline: March 1, 2023

Please give this opportunity careful thought. If you would like to be considered, the District VII Nominating Committee would very much like to hear from you. Please send the following documentation to tammy_camp@ttuhsc.edu:

1. A brief curriculum vitae
2. A statement of 250 words or less in which you summarize:
   a. Your thoughts regarding what you see as the overall role of the AAP districts, particularly with respect to the overall functioning of their component chapter, and the AAP as a whole;
   b. The reason(s) you want the office for which you are seeking nomination; and
   c. Those personal and professional attributes that you feel qualify you for the office you are seeking.

Please respond by 5 PM CST Wednesday, March 1, 2023.

*Special Election Procedures: District VII: A state cannot succeed itself after completion of a term in office. Only two of the four national officers may be from the same state. (District VII meeting minutes, March 14, 1999).

We are looking for future content for newsletters! Please share any relevant information or updates by submitting content on the home page of the OKAAP website.
Grand Rounds Invitation

Invited by: General and Community Pediatrics OUHSC Department of Pediatrics in collaboration with OKAAP

OUHSC Department of Pediatrics Grand Rounds
Speaker: Lisa Chamberlain, MD, MPH

Professor of Pediatrics, Stanford School of Medicine
Professor by Courtesy, Stanford Graduate School of Education
Arlene and Pete Harman Faculty Scholar Associate Chair, Policy & Community Engagement

Wednesday
February 8, 2023
12:00 – 1:15 pm
“Advocating for OK’s Kids: from the Clinic to the Capitol”

Join Zoom Meeting: CLICK HERE
- Meeting ID: 946 1171 9830
- Password: 00001111

NOTE: The meeting host will admit you to the meeting a few minutes before 12:15. If you login early, please wait to be admitted.
Children and Adolescents with Obesity

AAP Issues its First Clinical Practice Guideline on the Evaluation and Treatment of Children and Adolescents with Obesity

It has been 15 years since the AAP released recommendations to pediatricians on pediatric overweight and obesity. Since then a wealth of new evidence has accumulated that changes the culture of obesity treatment and informs the clinical practice guideline (CPG).

Obesity is one of the most common diseases in pediatrics with nearly 15 million children and adolescents in the US struggling with excess weight gain. Obesity is a complex disease resulting from an interaction between genetic, physiologic, social, and environmental factors. For years, obesity has been stigmatized and access to care has been limited, which has worsened the problem.

The CPG is based on evidence accumulated over the past two decades that calls for obesity to be evaluated using a comprehensive whole-child approach and treated within a chronic care model. Pediatricians should utilize long-term treatment strategies, provide ongoing medical monitoring, and initiate concurrent treatment for comorbidities. The new guideline published online January 9th and in the February 2023 Pediatrics journal includes an executive summary and is accompanied by two technical reports, one on treatment interventions and one on comorbidities. Highlights of the CPG are listed below.

- Obesity is a complex and chronic disease that affects the immediate and long-term health of children.
- Comprehensive whole child evaluations are critical to guide effective treatment.
- Weight bias and stigma are pervasive and harmful and are barriers to treatment.
- All children with overweight and obesity should be offered longitudinal treatment using a patient-centered and family-based approach.
- Treatment should begin as early as possible at the highest level of intensity available.
- There are multiple evidence-based treatment strategies that are successful (motivational interviewing, intensive health behavior and lifestyle treatment, pharmacotherapy, and metabolic and bariatric surgery) for pediatricians to develop tailored treatment plans.
- Comprehensive obesity treatment includes nutrition support, physical activity treatment, and behavioral therapy, and can also include pharmacotherapy and metabolic and bariatric surgery, dependent on patient’s age and severity of obesity, as an adjunct to lifestyle treatment.
- Treatment of obesity also means treating comorbidities.
- Evidence-based behavioral and medical treatment delivered by trained health care professionals with active parent or caregiver involvement is safe and effective with no evidence of harm.

The AAP has created education and implementation resources to facilitate adoption and integration of these recommendations into clinical practice, available at www.aap.org/obesitycpg. Additional information and state-based resources from the OKAAP Obesity Committee will be forthcoming and we wanted to share this information with our OAFP colleagues.

Written By- Ashley Weedn, MD, MPH, FAAP, Chair of OKAAP Obesity Committee
In March 2022, the State of Oklahoma passed SB1369 and the subsequent rules, requiring all health care providers to report data to and utilize the State Designated Entity (SDE) for Health Information Exchange beginning July 1, 2023.

All health care providers shall:
- Establish a direct, secure connection to the state-designated entity for HIE and submit data in the form and format as defined on the Office of the State Coordinator for HIE website.
- Actively use the HIE services to securely access records during and/or in support of patient treatment or health care operations.

State-Designated Entity (SDE):
MyHealth Access Network has been designated as the state-designated entity (SDE) for Health Information Exchange and is here to help you meet the requirements of SB1369.

Background:
MyHealth Access Network is a nonprofit health information exchange created by a grassroots coalition of health care industry stakeholders across Oklahoma. Through this coalition, members securely share electronic health records to achieve better, safer, and lower cost care for all.

Additional Benefits of Joining MyHealth
- Better monitor and improve care quality and timeliness.
- Reduce health care costs associated with redundant testing, hospital admissions, and emergency department visits.
- Improve care coordination during transitions between health care settings.
- Comply with State and Federal programs such as MIPS, ONC and CMS interoperability rules, and other requirements.

Contact:
For more information, reach us at: www.myhealthaccess.net and 918-236-3434

Join MyHealth today by completing the online application at www.MyHealthAccess.net
Coding Education Opportunity

Looking for information if available to include here on the upcoming coding opportunity/seminar.

The graphic would either include information to link to or would be an image based on the seminar.

We are excited to share OKCAPMAP’s first Bridging the Gap in Pediatric Mental Healthcare conference for pediatric-serving primary care providers and child and adolescent psychiatrists! We hope to provide opportunities to both learn and connect. The one-day conference will be held in person in Tulsa on April 28th and offers 6 CME credits. OSU full-time faculty and OSU and non-OSU students, interns, residents and fellows can attend at no charge. OKCAPMAP registered providers can receive a discount code to register at a discounted rate. See next page for more information.

Your OKCAPMAP Team

Chapter Members Opportunity

Looking Ahead: Be on the lookout for an email with details about an upcoming Coding Seminar available to chapter members!

The Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline offers FREE services to help your patients quit.

FREE services include:
- At least a two-week supply of patches, gum or lozenges
- A supportive online community
- Coaching calls with advice and support

Encourage your patients to call 1-800-QUIT NOW or visit Okhelpline.com.

If you’re trying to quit tobacco, you’re not alone. We understand the struggle, and we’ve got your back. Wherever you are in your journey, the support you need is right here. CLICK HERE
2023
BRIDGING THE GAP IN PEDIATRIC MENTAL HEALTHCARE

April 28, 2023
8:00 AM to 5:00PM
OSU Tandy Building, Tulsa, OK

JOIN US for an in-person full-day conference

GOALS

IMPROVE PEDIATRIC MENTAL HEALTHCARE IN OKLAHOMA
We aim to disseminate up-to-date pediatric mental health education as well as ongoing support for providers.

INCREASE COLLABORATION AND INTEGRATION
We believe change happens through collaboration between the behavioral health and primary care communities, and we aim to create an integrative space to encourage this collaboration.

INFORMATION

TARGET AUDIENCE
Pediatric primary care providers and child psychiatrists

FOOD PROVIDED
Thanks to generous donors

COST
Discounts available for OKCAPMAP, OCCAP, and OSU

REGISTER TODAY
Email for more information
OKCAPMAP@OKSTATE.EDU

CLICK HERE to REGISTER

6 CME CREDITS
CLICK HERE FOR INFORMATION