

**Progress Notes- June 21, 2013**  
**Louisiana Chapter- American Academy of Pediatrics**

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**2013 Louisiana Legislative Session Report**

The Louisiana AAP 2013 Legislative Report is now published online. The report includes all the bills tracked, weekly committee action summaries from during session along with a summary of the bills by category and their current dispositions. You can download the pdf here:

Links to keep up with status of bills:

**Act Numbers to Bills Passed** <http://www.legis.la.gov/Legis/ActNumbers.aspx?sid=last>

**Bill Numbers to Acts** <http://www.legis.la.gov/Legis/BillsToActs.aspx?sid=last>

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**Constitutional Amendments & Joint Resolutions** <http://www.legis.la.gov/Legis/ConstAmendments.aspx?sid=last>

The LA AAP Chapter has kept its members informed about what was happening at the Capitol throughout the Legislative Session through its newsletter, *Progress Notes*, and on its website.

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**LA Medicaid- ACA Enhanced Payment Updates**

*Provider Notice*

On 6/18/13DHH posted the following Provider Notice on the Medicaid Website:  
[http://lamedicaid.com/provweb1/recent\\_policy/EnhancedReimbursementACAPrimaryCareServices.pdf](http://lamedicaid.com/provweb1/recent_policy/EnhancedReimbursementACAPrimaryCareServices.pdf)

## **ATTENTION PRIMARY CARE PROVIDERS**

Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals  
Bureau of Health Services Financing

On June 6, 2013, DHH received CMS approval for a State Plan Amendment (SPA) authorizing reimbursement of designated physicians for specified primary care services rendered during calendar years 2013 and 2014 at an enhanced rate as required by the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Consistent with the approved SPA, with the June 25, 2013 check write DHH will update the fee schedule and reimburse new claims for eligible services at the enhanced rate. In July 2013, eligible claims paid in previous check writes will be adjusted to reimburse for the difference between the Medicaid rate paid and the enhanced rate required. No action of the part of providers is required.

Also with the June 25, 2013 check write, DHH will no longer exempt from the July 1, 2012 and February 1, 2013 Physician Services rate reductions those physicians who reported a specialty or subspecialty in Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, or Pediatrics in Section A of the PE-50 when enrolling as a Medicaid provider. This specialty reporting does not meet federal requirements for the enhanced reimbursement under ACA. The rate reduction exemption anticipated the implementation of the ACA enhanced reimbursement and was limited to the period prior the CMS approval of the SPA. To receive the ACA enhanced rate, eligible physicians must submit a Designated Physician form to Molina Provider Enrollment.

For more information on the enhanced reimbursement, see the “ATTENTION PRIMARY CARE PROVIDERS: Affordable Care Act Enhanced Reimbursement of Primary Care Services Informational Bulletin” posted on [www.lamedicaid.com](http://www.lamedicaid.com)

\*\*\* LA AAP wrote to DHH staff to ask for an interpretation of what the notice meant. Below is DHH’s response:

In anticipation of the ACA PCP enhanced reimbursement effective 1/1/13, DHH decided to exclude from the July 2012 and February 2013 rate reductions those services and providers specified in the CMS proposed rule. We did so reasoning that it made little sense to reduce rates for specified services rendered by designated providers only to increase them to the ACA rate in short order.

At the time the exclusions were made, the federal rule was not final nor did we have processes in place pursuant to a final rule (e.g., provider attestations to meeting board certification or claims volume requirements). So, we used the best proxy we had at the time, which was the (sub)specialty on file with Molina as declared by the provider on his/her Medicaid provider enrollment form. We preserved the rates in effect on 6/30/12 for providers with a declared specialty or subspecialty in Pediatrics, Internal Medicine when the service provided was one specified in the proposed rule. We did this with the intent of ending this exclusion when the final ACA PCP rule and related State policy and procedures were in effect.

In practical terms, what the below RA message means is that providers who were receiving the 6/30/12 rate on the basis of the declared specialty:

- WILL get the ACA rate IF they have a Designated Physician form on file; or
- Will NOT get either the ACA rate or the 6/30/12 rate IF they do not have a Designated Physician form on file; instead they will get the rates currently in effect on the Professional Services fee schedule.

Please let me know if you have further questions.

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*Informational Bulletin Update*

An updated Informational Bulletin about the ACA Enhanced Payments has been posted. **IMPORTANT-** this update contains information about Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistants and how they can qualify for enhanced payments.  
[http://lamedicaid.com/provweb1/recent\\_policy/ACA\\_PCP\\_Informational\\_Bulletin\\_FINAL\\_010612\\_revised\\_061813.pdf](http://lamedicaid.com/provweb1/recent_policy/ACA_PCP_Informational_Bulletin_FINAL_010612_revised_061813.pdf)

Highlights:

**Q13: When will enhanced reimbursement be paid?**

Answer: No payment for enhanced reimbursement could be made prior to the SPA approval. Pending SPA approval, DHH continued to reimburse designated physicians for eligible services at the Medicaid rate.

Following SPA approval, Molina completed necessary systems changes to adjust paid Legacy Medicaid and Bayou Health Shared Savings claims to reimburse the difference between the Medicaid rate and the enhanced rate and pay the enhanced rate going forward. Adjustments to claims paid through June 2013 will be made in July 2013. Claims paid on or after June 25, 2013 will be paid at the enhanced rate.

Claims paid by Bayou Health Prepaid Plans will be adjusted at a later date. Managed Care Organizations (MCO) are responsible for reimbursing services to designated physicians at the enhanced rate after CMS approves a reimbursement methodology for MCOs. This approval is separate and apart from the SPA already approved by CMS. DHH submitted to CMS on March 29, 2013 an MCO method that would have had Bayou Health Prepaid Plans continue to pay providers the Medicaid rate. Then, on a quarterly basis, DHH would have reimbursed MCOs for the difference between the Medicaid and enhanced rates and the plans would have paid providers the difference.

In recent weeks, DHH decided to revise the methodology and include the enhanced payment in the capitation rate paid to the MCOs. This will enable MCOs to pay providers the enhanced rate on the original claim, without subsequent adjustment. DHH expects to submit the replacement MCO method to CMS in June. Once approved by CMS, MCOs will adjust previously paid claims and begin paying the enhanced rate on new claims, similar to what Molina will do for Legacy Medicaid and Shared Savings claims in July.

**Q18: Are non-physician practitioners, such as nurse practitioners and physician assistants, eligible for the enhanced reimbursement?**

Answer: Yes. Physician Assistants (PA) and Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN) are eligible for enhanced reimbursement when federal requirements for physician supervision are met and the supervising physician has a Designated Physician form on file with Medicaid Provider Enrollment. Federal rule specifies that the enhanced reimbursement applies only to services delivered under the “physicians’ services” benefit in federal regulations at 42 CFR §440.50, including services provided under the personal supervision of a self-attesting physician. To meet federal requirements, the designated physician must assume professional responsibility and legal liability for services provided. This precludes arms-length arrangements or collaborative agreements with physicians for purposes of establishing a relationship that leads to higher payment of the practitioner services.

**Q19: What do PAs and APRNs need to do in order to be reimbursed the enhanced rate?**

Answer: Because State law requires physician supervision of PAs, PAs are not required to attest. The supervising physician must submit a Designated Physician form (see Q1). Any services provided by a PA must be billed by a physician group, the PA must be identified as the Rendering Provider, and the supervising physician’s NPI must be provided in the Referring Provider field of the claim form. If the physician has a Designated Physician form on file with Molina effective for the date of service, the service will be reimbursed at the enhanced rate. In accordance with federal rules, the service will be reimbursed at an enhanced rate.

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**Bayou Health**

*Informational Bulletins*

All bulletins: <http://new.dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/page/1198/n/311>

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## *Provider Calls*

The weekly provider call hosted by DHH takes place every Wednesday at noon. Any provider is welcome to call in, and pre-registration is not required.

The call in number is 1-888-278-0296

Access code is 6556479#

\*\*\* NOTE\*\*\* These calls will **STOP** at the end of June 2013. DHH reserves the option to begin having provider calls again if there are any major programmatic changes to the Bayou Health or Louisiana Medicaid program.

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## **AAP Pediatric Workforce Survey- Coming Soon**

The AAP Committee on Pediatric Workforce (COPW) is conducting an online survey of pediatricians who are members of the Chapter. The results will provide important workforce information and data that we can use in our state advocacy efforts and for Chapter planning. It will also enable the AAP, at the national level, to better advocate for our needs. We strongly encourage your participation! Please be on the lookout for an email with your link within the next month (You may need to check your SPAM folder, too!). If you have questions, please feel free to contact COPW member Christopher Harris ([christopher.harris@cshs.org](mailto:christopher.harris@cshs.org)). Thank you in advance for your time.

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## **Tulane Infant Mental Health Services (TIMHS) Program**

We are very pleased to contact you to introduce a new program that is focused on supporting the mental health needs of young children in Louisiana!

Tulane Infant Mental Health Services (TIMHS), was recently formed in order to provide services for low-income children ages 0-6 and their families. The TIMHS team is comprised of child psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, and a community resource expert. All team members have expertise and experience in Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health. We know that experienced early childhood mental health providers are often scarce throughout the state, and yet the mental health needs of young children can be quite complicated and require timely attention and support.

TIMHS offers free mental-health consultation services to primary care providers (as well as childcare providers, educators, mental health clinicians, early steps providers). We can provide consultation about specific children or general principles of early childhood mental health care by telephone, e-mail, and/or secure videoconferencing, and will provide written feedback and recommendations to assist in the care of young children. We can also provide “lunch and learns or other mini-trainings directly to PCPs in their office via video conferencing.

What does this mean to you? If, in your work, you encounter young children who are Medicaid-eligible who may be having mental health difficulties, you can contact us to inquire about free consultation regarding that child. Common topics of consultation include:

- A child's behavioral or emotional functioning
- Mental health disorders in young children
- The use of psychiatric medications with young children
- Parent-child relationship problems
- Early childhood development
- Resources for families

We are physically located in New Orleans, LA, in the Tulane University School of Medicine, but we are available to consult with providers throughout the state. If you have questions about our services or would like to inquire about requesting a consultation appointment, please call us at: 504.988.9184.

[\*\*CLICK HERE\*\*](#) for a flyer about our consultation services. Please feel free to share it with your colleagues. If you might be interested in collaborating with us, we ask that you complete the [\*\*MD enrollment form\*\*](#) so we can stay in touch. (The enrollment form can be completed as a e-form or printed and completed by hand.) Thank you for your work on behalf of children in Louisiana, and we hope that we may collaborate with you in the future.

Thank you!

*The TIMHS Team*

Angela Breidenstine PhD  
Tessa Chesher DO  
Mary Margaret Gleason MD  
Katie Maskowitz, LCSW  
Lisa Settles PsyD  
Tracey Thomas MA  
Valerie Wajda- Johnston PhD  
Charles Zeanah MD

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### **Nominate Colleagues Now For LA AAP Awards**

LA AAP is seeking nominations for the Chapter's Annual Awards that will also be given at the annual meeting in September. See below for the descriptions, requirements, deadline and how to submit your nominations.

#### *Annual Awards*

Please submit your nomination for the annual awards by July 19th to [\*\*ashley.politz@laaap.org\*\*](mailto:ashley.politz@laaap.org). Include the name of the nominee and why you think they should be the award winner along with your contact information.

*David W. Van Gelder distinguished Service Award*—This award is to recognize and honor those rare and dedicated individuals who have contributed substantially to the advancement of the Chapter.

*Charles M Vanchiere Award*—This award is given to recognize special efforts to improve the health of children in Louisiana by increasing their access to needed health care.

*Elizabeth E. Cassinelli Award*—This award is given in recognition of special efforts relevant to women's careers in pediatrics—at academic institutions, as basic scientist or clinicians, and in the private sector.

*Outstanding Pediatric Society*—This award recognizes the president of the regional society for the society's outstanding programs or accomplishments.

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### **Upcoming Events**

#### ***Ochsner 9th Annual Update in Pediatrics / 7/19-20/13 / New Orleans, La***

9th Annual Update in Pediatrics  
July 19-20, 2013  
Brent House Conference Center  
New Orleans, LA

For more information, or to register, please visit [www.ochsner.org/cme](http://www.ochsner.org/cme) or call (504) 842-6596.

[Click here](#) to view the brochure. Details on the course are below.

*Course Description:*

The field of Pediatrics is fluid with new discoveries and advances in patient care. Generalists must be knowledgeable in all areas of preventive care as well as be able to competently care for children with more complex medical problems. It is essential that these healthcare professionals remain current in all areas of pediatric medicine and we will address a range of topics in this year's course from general outpatient medicine to emergencies that generalists may encounter to chronic illness.

This CME course will provide participants with the basic science knowledge and bedside practical skills to manage many everyday clinical challenges. Through lectures, PowerPoint presentations, video demonstrations, and handouts, practitioners will visualize and take home key information for managing everyday encounter with pediatric patients.

*Educational Objectives:*

By the end of this conference, the participant should be able to:

- 1) Be informed of the clinical impact of new discoveries in the areas of Pediatrics including Orthopedics, Intensive Care, Emergency Medicine, Infectious Disease, Cardiology, Gastroenterology, Neurosurgery, Endocrinology, Pulmonology, and Neurology, as well as Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Speech and Language Pathology, Transplant Medicine, and Child/ Adolescent Psychology.
- 2) Improve preventive health strategies for promotion of child health.
- 3) Develop critical skills in reviewing the current literature to enhance knowledge and improve clinical care in practice.

*Accreditation:*

The Ochsner Clinic Foundation is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

*Designation:*

The Ochsner Clinic Foundation designates this live activity for a maximum of 10.75 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim only credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

*Guest Speaker:*

Robert Hopkins, MD  
Section Chief, Pediatric Pulmonology, Tulane University School of Medicine

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**AAP: Pediatric Musculoskeletal Course / 7/19-21/13 / Cincinnati, OH**

Brought to you by the leadership of the AAP Orthopaedic Section, Rheumatology Section, and Sports Medicine and Fitness Council.

This course is targeted to the pediatrician and other child health professionals who want to gain expertise and confidence in the diagnosis and management of common musculoskeletal conditions.

Attendees will not only learn from the collective expertise of authorities in these three disciplines, but also the collective benefit of different teaching formats. No conference would be complete without podium lectures, but with musculoskeletal topics, expect some interesting videos and "mechanisms of injury." However, the teaching is not limited

to faculty alone- attendees will definitely learn from each other and from themselves. Yes, the popular and highly-rated "hands on" small group seminars for joint examination are back, along with case-based discussions between faculty and attendees.

The faculty line-up includes practitioners from around the country who are recognized both as accomplished clinicians and educators in the field of musculoskeletal medicine. The line-up of topics has been carefully selected to address common concerns elicited in the office and provide practical points to help with evaluation, management, and directing appropriate and timely referrals when necessary.

**Visit our webpage** to learn more Or contact:

Florence Stevens at 847/434-4790 or [fstevens@aap.org](mailto:fstevens@aap.org)

**REGISTER NOW!**

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### ***Louisiana Academy of Family Physicians' Annual Assembly / August 1-4, 2013 / New Orleans, La***

The 66th Annual Assembly & Exhibition  
August 1-4, 2013 at the Hotel Monteleone  
New Orleans, LA

The Louisiana Academy of Family Physicians invite you to join us at the 2013 Scientific Assembly, August 1-4, in New Orleans, Louisiana at the Hotel Monteleone. This year's Assembly is undergoing changes with some exciting new additions and we want you to be a part of it!

Features of this year's conference include:

- High quality education sessions targeted towards the hottest topics in the specialty
- A full day of Practice Management sessions on Saturday (NEW!)
- An opportunity to hear important updates regarding the ABFM Maintenance of Certification (MC-FP) Part II requirements
- A Welcome Reception on Thursday evening where you can enjoy a taste of Louisiana enjoying a delicious dinner buffet and a chance to mingle with colleagues while listening to the dueling pianos at Pat O's on the River!
- An exhibition hall featuring vendors and products to assist you in your practice
- And more!

With more evening activities at this year's conference there are ample opportunities for you to expand your network of colleagues, and share your best practices with one another in an effort to continue to advance family medicine in Louisiana. Discover new ideas, refresh your skills and walk away with valuable knowledge you can put into practice immediately. For information and to register, go to: <http://www.lafp.org/content/cme-a-events/66th-annual-assembly-a-exhibition>

*Registration:*

Registration fee covers CME offerings, syllabus, daily continental breakfasts and coffee breaks, as well as one complimentary ticket to the Social Events.

**Program Objectives & Information:**

This activity is designed for the specialty of family medicine, but may also be of educational interest to the specialties of internal medicine, pediatrics and other primary care fields. It is designed to introduce providers to the latest information, techniques and technology applicable to office-based patient care through didactic lectures and interactive discussions. Upon completion of this program, participants should have a working and applicable comprehension of these topics. Specific objectives for each topic will be included in the participant syllabus.

*Accreditation:*

Application for CME credit has been filed and being reviewed for Prescribed Credits by the American Academy of Family Physicians. Determination of credit is pending. AAFP Prescribed Credit is accepted by the American Medical Association (AMA) as equivalent to AMA PRA Category 1 Credit toward the AMA Physician's Recognition Award. When applying for the AMA PRA, prescribed credit earned must be reported as prescribed credit, not as Category 1.

*Syllabus & Materials:*

The LAFP has received numerous requests to Go Green and we are excited to make it happen. Not only will this environmentally friendly initiative save on natural resources, the LAFP will save a significant amount in printing costs. By Going Green, we will NOT be providing a complimentary printed syllabus. We will be offering our program syllabus & conference materials online. Registered participants will receive an email with a web link approximately one week prior to the conference. The email will include a username and a password that will enable you to download, save and/or print your preferred program materials and course handouts. These online materials will be available for 90 days after the program. We highly recommend that you download your conference materials in advance as sometimes Internet speed can be slow in large meeting rooms. We appreciate your support as we go green this Spring.

The General Session Lecture Hall will offer complimentary wireless internet service. Please keep in mind, often times in large conference centers, WiFi access can be slow or intermittent when large groups access the internet at once. For this reason, we highly recommend that you download your conference materials in advance of the event.

*ADA Compliance:*

The Louisiana Academy of Family Physicians is fully committed to the principle of equal educational opportunities for all individuals and does not discriminate on the basis of any characteristics protected by federal or state law. If you require any of the auxiliary aids or services identified in the Americans with Disabilities Act in order to participate in this conference, please contact Jammie Olsen at 225.923.3313 no later than ten business days before for the start of this conference.

Refunds (less a \$100 administrative fee) will be made upon receipt of a written request until Monday, July 1, 2013. Tickets to any social events and workshops cannot be refunded unless they are resold.

*Exhibitors and Sponsors:*

Exhibit booth applications are now being received- send your application in today! Early bird discount fee is now in affect- take advantage while you can. We have sponsorships for every budget, including donated items for the daily drawings and live auction.

Contact Jammie Olsen <mailto:jolsen@lafp.org> with any questions, we will gladly work with you to meet your marketing needs whatever the budget is. You may find all sponsorship levels outlined in the 2013 meeting prospectus as well as the exhibitor application.

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***Academic Distinction Fund Distinguished Speaker Series / 9/9/13 / Baton Rouge, La***

Academic Distinction Fund - Distinguished Speaker Series

Mind in the Making: Executive Functions- How Parents and Teachers Can Help a Child Succeed

Date: Monday, September 9, 2013

Times: Registration- 4:00 - 4:30pm  
Program- 4:30 - 6:00pm

Location: Renaissance Baton Rouge Hotel (7000 Bluebonnet Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70810

Distinguished Speaker:

Ellen Galinsky

President and Co-Founder of Families and Work Institute

Author of *Mind in the Making: The Seven Essential Life Skills Every Child Needs*

In her highly acclaimed book, *Mind in the Making*, Ellen Galinsky identifies seven life skills that are essential to success—in school, the workforce and in life:

1. Focus and Self Control
2. Perspective Taking
3. Communicating
4. Making Connections
5. Critical Thinking
6. Taking on Challenges
7. Self-Directed Engaged Learning

In her presentation, Ellen will use an interactive approach that is based on research-based principles of adult learning. Participants will be engaged in direct experiences that help them think about their own learning in relation to the seven essential skills. They will see videos of researchers “in action” sharing studies on the same topic, and they will be able to apply what they have learned to their own lives.

Professional Credits will be offered.

EBRPSS CLU's  
Child Care Provider clock hours  
Social Work CEU's  
Counselor contact hours

For more information and to register, go to: [www.adfbr.org](http://www.adfbr.org)

ADF's Distinguished Speaker Series provides critical information on the latest early childhood development research and best practices. Launched in 2011 as the first series of its kind, Distinguished Speaker Series expanded in 2012 and continues in 2013 to provide free community education in East Baton Rouge Parish. Research-based presentations engage nationally-recognized scholars to address what it takes for pre-kindergarten children to be successful in kindergarten and first grade, regardless of their socio-economic and racial backgrounds.

We encourage you to share news of this event with your communication links, colleagues and networks. Thank you, and we look forward to seeing you at the presentation.

If you have any questions, please contact ADF at [info@adfbr.org](mailto:info@adfbr.org) or call 225.922.4560.

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***Pediatric Potpourri on the Bayou / 9/27-29/13 / Lafayette, La***

Mark Your Calendar! The Annual Pediatric Potpourri sponsored by the Louisiana AAP Foundation and co-sponsored by Woman's Foundation will be held in Lafayette, LA on Friday, September 27, 2013 through Sunday, September 29, 2013.

Watch your inbox and mailbox for more details.