



# AAP INFECTION CONTROL ACTIVITIES: PROJECT FIRSTLINE

**Did you know the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) serves as a virtual training center on infection control?**

The AAP is a partner on a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) training collaborative for health care infection control. This initiative, Project Firstline, aims to educate all US health care workers with the foundational understanding of infection control to protect the nation from infectious disease threats, such as COVID-19.

What does this mean for pediatricians? This effort allows the AAP and participating AAP chapters to expand and strengthen the capacity, collaboration, and coordination of pediatric health care providers and improve the health of all children and their families.

Learn more about the AAP efforts and ways to get involved.

Project Firstline is a national collaborative led by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to provide infection control training and education to frontline healthcare workers and public health personnel. American Academy of Pediatrics is proud to partner with Project Firstline, as supported through Cooperative Agreement CDC-RFA-OT18-1802. CDC is an agency within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The contents of this program do not necessarily represent the policies of CDC or HHS and should not be considered an endorsement by the Federal Government.

## ENGAGEMENT



### Get Involved

Visit the AAP Project Firstline web page ([www.aap.org/ProjectFirstline](http://www.aap.org/ProjectFirstline)) to find resources, including podcasts, videos, and template presentations.



### Interact on Social Media

Share critical infection control updates or retweet content from the AAP (@AmerAcadPeds) and CDC (@CDC\_Firstline) Twitter accounts using the hashtag #WEAREFIRSTLINE.

## EDUCATION



### Resource Development

Bookmark AAP and CDC Project Firstline web pages to view new educational materials, collaborative learning opportunities, and clinical practice enhancements. New resources are released frequently.



### Project ECHO

Sign-up for future Project Firstline ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) sessions to improve knowledge of infection prevention and control.

## COLLABORATION



### Partner Engagement

Involve your community. The AAP is leveraging trusted partners and channels across health care settings to ensure training content and tools meet the needs of and are delivered to pediatric health care workers who need them.



### Mentorship

Share your knowledge gains with others. The Academy focuses on training and connecting pediatric infection control experts with their local health care community so that they may become an ongoing resource.

# New Resources Available from the Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Units (PEHSU) on Safer Cleaning and Disinfecting

Safer cleaning and disinfecting can minimize the chances of adverse health effects that can be caused by disinfectants. It is important for pediatricians to discuss proper techniques and safer products with families to help prevent the spread of infectious diseases while also decreasing the likelihood of health risks caused by potentially harmful chemicals. Many bacteria and viruses can be removed with soap and water which can avoid the need for disinfectants. If disinfection is needed, there are safer and effective disinfectant choices.

The PEHSUs are a national network of experts in the prevention, diagnosis, management, and treatment of health issues that arise from environmental exposures from preconception through adolescence. The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) serves as the PEHSU National Program Office (NPO). As the NPO, the AAP coordinates and supports each of the [regional PEHSUs](#). The NPO works closely with the PEHSUs to effectively address the complex, multifaceted environmental health challenges facing children and families. The PEHSU program has partnered with Project Firstline to promote infection prevention and control efforts and safer disinfectant use for pediatricians, communities, and families.

Below is a resource on safer cleaning and disinfecting developed by the PEHSUs to share and discuss with families and to post in exam rooms. There are a total of 6 comic strip pages with one example below. There is also an [infographic](#) and [fact sheet](#) that have been endorsed by the AAP. To download these and other free resources and to learn more about PEHSUs and their reproductive and children's environmental health activities and services, visit [https://www.pehsu.net/Safer\\_Disinfectants.html](https://www.pehsu.net/Safer_Disinfectants.html).



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