



School Nurse UPDATE

#15 March 23, 2023

Greetings!

March features **National Poison Prevention Week and Brain Injury Awareness Month** (p. 10). This week is **National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week** (p. 12).

Many of you might read about **the illegal employment in meat packing and other dangerous industries** that has been in the news lately. No Wisconsin companies have been implicated, yet it is something school staff including school nurses could be on the lookout for unusual numbers of absences, sleeping in school, or injuries would be clues, as would kids dropping out. Undocumented youth seem to be at highest risk. Schools in communities with meat processing plants may want to pay particular attention. [Young Worker's Guide to Working Safely in WI](#) might be a resource to share with working youth or their parents.

Besides the Relentless School Nurse blog another one I follow is **Your Local Epidemiologist** (p. 8). I've shared a recent blog from this epidemiologist on Long COVID. Within the blog is a link to a heart wrenching firsthand account of the effects of Long COVID. Schools will be seeing students who eventually get diagnosed with this condition. Do not forget your Child Find obligations.

The Division of Learning and Support which is the division my team is located, has hired new individuals and also is seeking new talent for empty positions. The Wisconsin School Social Workers Association is seeking nominations of **their School Social Worker of the Year** award. See DPI News for these announcements.

Several articles including Practice Points discuss the ending of the Public Health Emergency and what that means for families' healthcare coverage.

Louise

FEATURED STORIES

PRACTICE POINTS – Unwinding of Medicaid Enrollment FOMO

Measles Health Alert
(DHS News)

Child & Adolescent Health Emergency Planning Toolkit
(p.11)

Summer Camp Nurse Positions (flyer)

SAVE THE DATES

DiSH Webinar 4/19/2023
3-4 PM

WASN Annual Conference April 26-28, 2023 Green Bay, WI

NASN Annual Conference June 30- July 3, 2023 Orlando, FL

DPI News

Nominate the 2023 School Social Worker of the Year!

Promote a colleague whom you feel is deserving of the **SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER OF THE YEAR AWARD!**



Celebrate a social worker who you think deserves this special recognition.

On the form, please share how the nominee is exceptional in 2 of the 4 areas on the Wisconsin School Social Worker Evaluation Framework. Read about past recipients in the [awards](#) section of the website. The school social worker must be member of WSSWA to be an eligible candidate.

Candidates must have over two years' experience as a school social worker and must also demonstrate innovative practices.

Deadline to nominate: June 30th, 2023.

Complete the [Nomination Form here](#).

New Grant Specialist on the Student Services/Prevention and Wellness Team

Hafsa Mohamed joined the SSPW team as a Grant Specialist at the end of February. Hafsa has experience working with the International Organization for Migration as a Senior Project Assistant and Durable Solutions Intern. She has also worked as Community Outreach Personnel and Security & Risk Analyst Intern. She has a Bachelor of Arts in International Relations and holds a Certificate in Planning for Monitoring and Evaluation and in Project Management. We are excited that Hafsa joined the SSPW team and DPI.

New Special Education Assistant Director

We want to announce that Sarah Okonkwor will be our new Assistant Director on the Special Education Team! Sarah will be overseeing special education compliance. Sarah has a Master's Degree in Education and holds a license as a Director of Special Education and Pupil Services and a license in Administrative Leadership and Director of Instruction. Sarah began her career as an early childhood special education teacher. She then served as a principal at an independent charter school. Since coming to DPI in 2012, Sarah has primarily worked as a consultant in special education compliance, including conducting complaint investigations and developing and implementing our compliance monitoring system. In addition, Sarah has served as the lead consultant in providing training and monitoring of Milwaukee Public Schools and, through this work, has developed strong and collaborative relationships. Sarah begins her new role on March 13, 2023.

DPI News



Seeking School Administration Consultant Position on the DPI Special Education Team

The Special Education Team within the Division for Learning Support is currently seeking applicants for a School Administration Consultant, who is responsible for data and grant management. In this position, you will have the opportunity to collaborate with smart and dedicated team members to close equity gaps for students by developing deep and strong connections. If you are looking for a career where no two days are the same, where you will have collaborative opportunities, and where you help ensure all students receive an equitable education, please consider applying.

This position has the option to work 100% remotely with a requirement that the employee is expected to have access to secure high-speed internet. [This position is posted on wisc.jobs.](#)

Applications are due by March 28.

For questions, contact Jessica Tanner, DPI Human Resources Specialist, Phone: (608) 266-2813, Jessica.Tanner@dpi.wi.gov.

Part-time Customer Service Position on the DPI Special Education Team

The Special Education Team within the Division for Learning Support is seeking applicants for a limited-term, part-time (approximately 20 hours/week) Customer Service Consultant position. This position works closely with the DPI Special Education Customer Service workgroup to assist educators, special education directors, and administrators with understanding special education requirements and resources. This position requires advanced knowledge of state and federal special education regulations and procedures.

This position has the option to work 100% remotely with a requirement that the employee is expected to have access to secure high-speed internet. [This position is posted on wisc.jobs.](#)

Applications are due by March 28.

For questions, contact Maria Butters, DPI Human Resources Specialist-Senior, Phone: (608) 266-2690, Maria.Butters@dpi.wi.gov.

If you are looking for a career where no two days are the same, where you will have collaborative opportunities, and where you help ensure all students receive an equitable education, please consider applying.

DHS News

Respiratory Report

The [Weekly Respiratory Report](#) for the week ending on March 11, 2023 (Week 10) is now published.

School-Based Restorative Dental Clinics: Increasing Access to Care

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services Oral Health Program is using the School-Based Restorative Dental Clinics: Increasing Access to Care Grant funding opportunity (GFO) to award Grants to dental clinics that are working to reduce the number of children with untreated dental decay.

The purpose of these funds is to ensure that children served by Wisconsin Seal-A-Smile programs have access to and receive the restorative dental care they need. The application deadline is May 8, 2023. More information on the School-Based Restorative GFO can be found on Wisconsin's [Public Notices](#) webpage.

Join Us for Our Chronic Disease Partner Call on Tuesday, March 28

During this month's call, Special Olympics Wisconsin (SOWI) will present Inclusive Health for People With Intellectual Disabilities. Several presenters from SOWI will give a basic overview of the organization, health programming, health disparities that people with intellectual disabilities face in the state of Wisconsin, and how SOWI is working on combating the barriers that lead to these disparities by offering Inclusive health trainings to health care professionals, students, and other organizations. You are invited to a Zoom for Government meeting.

Topic: Special Olympics Wisconsin: Inclusive Health for People With Intellectual Disabilities

When: March 28, 2023, 9 a.m. Central Time

[Register in advance](#) for this meeting.

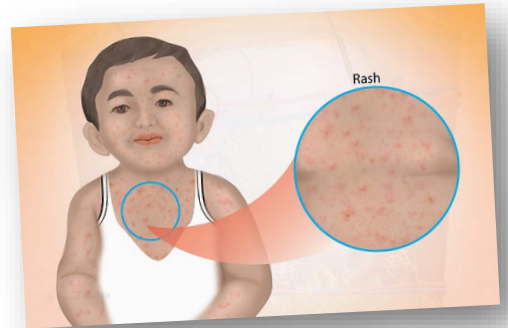


The purpose of these funds is to ensure that children served by Wisconsin Seal-A-Smile programs have access to and receive the restorative dental care they need.

DHS News

Health Alert Network-Confirmed Measles Case at a Large Gathering

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has issued a [Health Alert Network \(HAN\) Health Advisory](#) to notify clinicians and public health officials about a confirmed measles case at a large gathering. On February 24, 2023, the Kentucky Department for Public Health (KDPH) identified a confirmed case of measles, in an unvaccinated individual with a history of recent international travel. While infectious, the individual attended a large religious gathering on February 17–18, 2023, at Asbury University in Wilmore, Kentucky. An estimated 20,000 people attended the gathering from Kentucky, other U.S. states, and other countries during February 17–18, and an undetermined number of these people may have been exposed. This Health Advisory also highlights other recent large global measles outbreaks and associated U.S. importations, and the importance of early recognition, diagnosis, and appropriate treatment. CDC recommends that clinicians be on alert for cases of measles that meet the [case definition](#).



Given the situation, and the extremely high transmissibility of measles, there is potential for additional cases and spread to communities with lower vaccination rates. Therefore, we encourage you to take the following steps:

1. Encourage all health care providers to be on the lookout for [signs of measles](#) in their patients.
2. Urge all vaccinators to give a [strong recommendation](#) for all childhood vaccines, especially MMR, and review [answers to common vaccine questions](#).
3. Review and share the resources below.

Communications:

- Find information for the public about measles on the [DHS website](#).
- Use this DHS [measles fact sheet](#) available in English, Hmong, Somali, and Spanish.
- Encourage parents and caregivers to check on a child's record through the [Wisconsin Immunization Registry](#).
- Post and distribute additional patient educational materials: [Put Measles On the Spot](#) flyer, [Wear a Mask if You Suspect Measles](#) (for doctor's office) flyer.
- Share positive immunization messaging on your social media: [English](#), which includes a guide for how to use the social media materials, and [Spanish](#). These materials were developed in partnership with the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Wisconsin Immunization Program, and Wisconsin Medicaid and HMO programs.

Surveillance and Control:

- Review the DHS [Measles Surveillance and Control Guidelines](#)
- [Suspect Measles?](#) Review the quick guide for providers.

Relevant Data:

[MMR vaccination rates](#) by 24 months of age, 2021 by county.

DHS News

BadgerCare Plus and Medicaid Members Should Update Contact Information if it Has Changed To Ensure They Get Benefit Renewal Instructions

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) is notifying all Wisconsinites enrolled in BadgerCare Plus or another Medicaid program they will need to renew their benefits by an assigned due date between June 2023 and May 2024. **Members should wait until they receive their renewal packet to complete their renewal.** Members should also make sure DHS has their current address, phone number, and email so they can get essential information and renew their benefits by their assigned due date. The easiest way for members to update their contact information is at access.wi.gov or by using the free MyACCESS app. During the COVID-19 public health emergency, the federal government required DHS to allow BadgerCare Plus and Medicaid members to maintain health care coverage. This policy is ending due to federal legislation passed in December 2022 (Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023). As of January 2023, there are over 1.6 million members enrolled in BadgerCare Plus or Medicaid.

“We are asking all members to watch their mailbox, read the letters from DHS, and act by their renewal deadline,” said DHS Deputy Secretary Deb Standridge. “The earliest BadgerCare Plus and Medicaid members will begin to renew their benefits is mid-May 2023. Our priority is ensuring Wisconsinites continue to have health care coverage – whether through our state programs, an employer, or through HealthCare.gov. Free help is available through our partners for anyone who will need health care coverage and need assistance to understand their options and how to enroll.”

“We appreciate all our partners, and we have been working closely with our local, tribal, and regional agency partners to prepare for what will be unprecedented levels of activity,” said Medicaid Director Jamie Kuhn. “All our partners have been working hard to prepare for this first of its kind transition. We are all ready to serve.”

View the entire [news release](#).



Our priority is ensuring Wisconsinites continue to have health care coverage – whether through our state programs, an employer, or HealthCare.gov.

DHS News

Sexual Risk Avoidance Education Program (SRAE) Funding Opportunity

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) [Adolescent Health Team](#) is announcing a [funding opportunity](#) for Project WISE (Wisconsin Initiative for Student Empowerment), funded by the Wisconsin Title V State Sexual Risk Avoidance Education (SRAE) grant.



Project WISE will utilize [Wyman's Teen Outreach Program \(TOP\)](#) to promote the positive development of adolescents through curriculum-guided, interactive group discussions; positive adult guidance and support; and community service learning. TOP is delivered by trained adult facilitators to groups of teens called TOP clubs and has been implemented successfully with diverse communities and in both urban and rural environments. TOP is focused on key topics related to adolescent health and development, including building social, emotional, and life skills; developing a positive sense of self; and connecting with others.

The development of supportive relationships with adult facilitators is a crucial part of the model, as are relationships with other peers in the program. TOP is inclusive and sensitive to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, queer and questioning (LGBTIQ+) youth.

TOP Curriculum topics include:

- Healthy relationships
- Communication and assertiveness
- Critical thinking and external influences
- Goal setting
- Decision-making and personal reflection
- Health, wellness, and self-understanding (including medically accurate sexuality education)
- Community service learning

Funding Application

A revised application for interested partners is now available on [Wisconsin's Public Notice site](#).

Completed applications should be submitted by email to margaretj.smith@dhs.wisconsin.gov by 11 a.m. on April 14, 2023.

Please send questions to [Maggie Smith](#) (margaretj.smith@dhs.wisconsin.gov), adolescent health coordinator. A virtual information session will be held March 29 [at 11 a.m. via Zoom](#).

The anticipated project start date is July 1, 2023.

SRAE Details

SRAE is funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families. Funding is expressly dependent upon the availability of funds to DHS from a federal funding appropriation. Title V State SRAE projects are implemented using a [Positive Youth Development \(PYD\)](#) framework and must be in accordance with the [Title V State SRAE legislation](#).

NASN News

[Some ADHD Medications Are in Short Supply](#). School nurses are keeping a close watch on the shortage. Frequently, they're taking the lead in communicating updates and offering insight to parents, school staff, and health care providers.

"It is a lot for school nurses to do. We navigate the healthcare and education system and know how to bring them together," said Kate King, NASN president-elect. "This is why we need a full-time school nurse in every building, every day." rate.



WASN News

Make plans to join WASN in April at the Annual Conference in Green Bay. REGISTRATION IS OPEN for the 2023 WASN Conference! [Register here](#).

Introducing our Keynote Presenter:
We're School Nurses, Hear Us Roar: Embracing Power, Advocacy, and Influence
Keith Carlson, BSN, RN, NC-BC

In this keynote presentation, we will discuss embracing the potential and power held by school nurses for influencing and advocating within the context of Wisconsin society. School nurses deserve to feel valued and respected, and a sense of purpose and personal agency is key to embracing that power in a profound way.



Your Local Epidemiologist Blog

Catch Up Quick: Long COVID

COVID-19 is not the common cold. Here's an effort to keep you up-to-date on long COVID developments. [Read blog](#).



COVID-19 Public Health Emergency to End on May 11

Since January 2022, daily COVID-19 reported cases are down 92%, COVID-19 deaths have declined by over 80%, and new COVID-19 hospitalizations are down nearly 80%.

As a result, the **U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)** announced that the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) will end on May 11. To prepare for this transition, HHS has released [Fact Sheet: COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Transition Roadmap](#) detailing what will and will not be affected by the end of the PHE.

MMWR

[School-Based Interventions to Increase Student COVID-19 Vaccination Coverage in Public School Populations with Low Coverage – Seattle, Washington, December 2021–June 2022](#)

What is already known about this topic?

Vaccination decreases risk for COVID-19 illness, severe disease, and death. U.S. pediatric COVID-19 vaccination coverage remains low.

What is added by this report?

Seattle Public Schools implemented a COVID-19 vaccination program through multiple community engagements. During December 2021–June 2022, completion of the primary COVID-19 vaccination series among Seattle Public Schools students aged 5–18 years increased from 56.5% to 80.3%.

What are the implications for public health practice?

School health programs can provide critical information about and access to vaccinations. School health providers might also be able to leverage community partners and relationships with families to increase vaccination coverage.

Since January 2022, daily COVID-19 reported cases are down 92%, COVID-19 deaths have declined by over 80%, and new COVID-19 hospitalizations are down nearly 80%.

Children's Safety Network

March features National Poison Prevention Week and Brain Injury Awareness Month.

Ahead of [National Poison Prevention Week](#), March 19-25, CSN released a [new poisoning prevention fact sheet](#). Children and adolescents ages 10-19, male children, and Hispanic children had the highest rates of unintentional poisoning deaths in 2020 ([Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2019-2020](#)). This fact sheet features the most recent data regarding unintentional poisoning deaths in infants, children, and adolescents, and provides both individual-level and system-level prevention recommendations to guide states and jurisdictions in their poisoning prevention efforts.

Last month, CSN released [a new fact sheet focusing on traumatic brain injury \(TBI\)](#), a form of injury that plays a role in nearly 33% of infant, children, and adolescent injury-related deaths ([Cheng, Li, Schwebel, Zhu, & Hu, 2020](#)). In this resource, CSN explored emergency department visits related to TBI among 0 through 19-year-olds by demographics, activity and object involved, and intent. Facts, statistics, disparity data by sex and race-ethnicity, and prevention practices related to TBI can be referenced in this fact sheet.

Immunization Action Coalition

FDA Approves Intramuscular Injection as an Option, in Addition to Subcutaneous Administration, for M-M-R II, Varivax, and ProQuad Vaccines

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved intramuscular (IM) injection as an option for M-M-R II (measles-mumps-rubella vaccine), Varivax (varicella vaccine), and ProQuad (measles-mumps-rubella-varicella vaccine) from Merck. Previously, these vaccines were only licensed for subcutaneous injection.

Two brands of MMR vaccine are distributed in the United States. Only Merck's brand is licensed for either IM or subcut administration. Priorix from GSK is licensed for subcut administration. In coming weeks, Immunize.org will update its resources on vaccine administration to reflect this new route of administration option.



[Pixabay.com](#)

Children and adolescents ages 10-19, male children, and Hispanic children had the highest rates of unintentional poisoning deaths in 2020.

Miscellaneous

HHS Child and Adolescent Health Emergency Planning Toolkit

The [HHS Child and Adolescent Health Emergency Planning Toolkit](#) addresses the needs of children and youth with special health care needs (CYSHCN) in emergency preparedness, response, recovery, mitigation, and community resilience activities.

Pfizer-BioNTech Bivalent Booster Authorized for Kids Under 5 Years

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has authorized the use of the bivalent Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine as a booster dose for children 6 months through 4 years of age.

This age group is now eligible to receive the booster dose at least 2 months after they complete primary vaccination with 3 doses of the monovalent Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine. [Read more.](#)

FDA Clears Single-Use PCR Test That Rapidly Detects STIs in Women

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has cleared the Visby Medical Sexual Health Test, a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) diagnostic test for the detection of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) caused by Chlamydia trachomatis, Neisseria gonorrhoeae and Trichomonas vaginalis in women

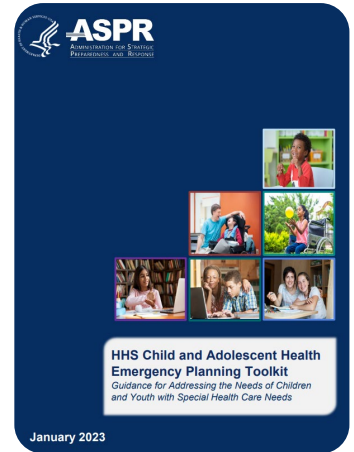
The single-use, point-of-care test delivers results in under 30 minutes using patient-collected female vaginal swab specimens. The test will only be available in CLIA-waived point-of-care settings. [Read more.](#)

New Publication Features Systematic Review Evidence for School Dietary and Physical Activity Interventions

A new article in the American Journal of Preventive Medicine outlines systematic review evidence supporting school-based dietary and physical activity interventions to prevent and control obesity.

The Community Preventive Services Task Force (CPSTF) recommends meal or fruit and vegetable snack interventions combined with physical activity interventions in schools. Interventions increase students' physical activity and fruit and vegetable consumption and decrease the number of students who are overweight or have obesity. Read the full-text article on The Community Guide website:

Buchanan LR, Wethington HR, Finnie RKC, et al. [A Community Guide systematic review: school dietary and physical activity interventions.](#) *American Journal of Preventive Medicine* 2023;64(3):441–51.



The HHS Child and Adolescent Health Emergency Planning Toolkit addresses the needs of children and youth with special health care needs (CYSHCN) in emergency preparedness, response, recovery, mitigation, and community resilience activities.

Allergy & Asthma Network



Albuterol in Short Supply: Here's What You Can Do

People with asthma and hospitals may experience a shortage of liquid albuterol medication used for nebulizers. The shortage is not impacting availability of albuterol inhalers -- at least not yet. Find out why it's happening and what you can do if you're not able to get your albuterol medication.

[Read more.](#)

5 Myths About Spring Allergies and How to Treat Them

Is it spring and you have a runny nose, nasal congestion, sore throat, or red, itchy, watery eyes? Are you coughing and sneezing? These types of allergic reactions are typical for people with spring allergies or seasonal [allergic rhinitis](#) (also called hay fever). [Read article.](#)

Miscellaneous

Introducing the CESA Purchasing Blog

To help you learn more about best purchasing practices, **CESA Purchasing** has launched the [CESA Purchasing Blog](#). We'll post announcement regarding new vendor partners, articles based on top purchasing questions, and more.

National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week

This week is National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week, and it's the perfect time to have a conversation with kids to prevent underage drinking and underage cannabis use.

[Ask, Listen, Learn](#) resources are ideal for starting and continuing conversations about alcohol and the negative effects of underage drinking and cannabis on their developing brains. The great news is that with your help, today's kids are making good decisions, as demonstrated by the decline in underage drinking rates over the past decade.

People with asthma and hospitals may experience a shortage of liquid albuterol medication used for nebulizers. The shortage is not impacting availability of albuterol inhalers -- at least not yet.

Practice Points

By Louise Wilson

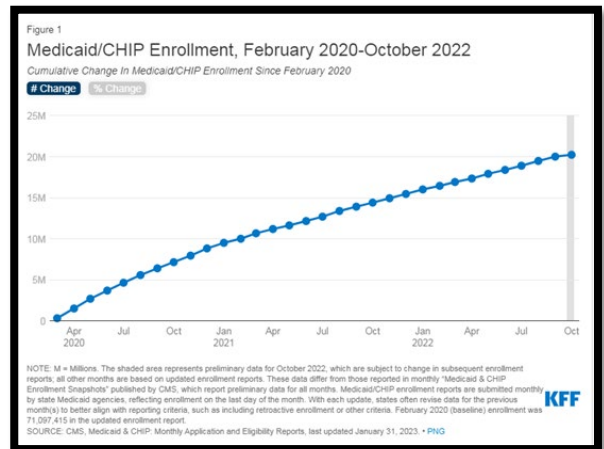
Unwinding of Medicaid Enrollment FOMO

It is interesting to me how and when I get ideas for the topics I address in these Practice Points. Lately, I have been reading about the Public Health Emergency unwinding that will start in just a week. I've pondered what I can do about that, what influence or action I can take. Then, I received an email from a school nurse who was writing newsletter articles to communicate how the wind down will impact families in her district. That motivated me to share information with you all so you too can communicate with families to lessen the negative impact of this change.

At the start of the pandemic, Congress enacted the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA), which included a [requirement](#) that Medicaid programs keep people continuously enrolled through the end of the month in which the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) ends, in exchange for enhanced federal funding. Medicaid enrollment has grown substantially compared to before the pandemic and the [uninsured rate](#) has dropped. When the continuous enrollment provision ends, millions of people including children could lose coverage that could reverse recent gains in coverage ([Kaiser Family Foundation](#)). The deadline for that policy to end is March 31, 2023.

States are required to check whether every person currently enrolled in Medicaid is still eligible, then either renew or terminate that person's coverage. Families who are no longer eligible for Medicaid may lose their coverage and/or be moved to other forms of coverage, like CHIP or the marketplace. This process of redetermining the eligibility of all [90 million Americans enrolled in Medicaid](#) is being called the "unwinding." [Wisconsin](#) plans to start this process in April, with June being the first month individuals may be disenrolled.

Eligible individuals are at risk for losing coverage if they do not receive or understand notices or forms requesting additional information to verify eligibility, or do not respond to requests within required timeframes. People who have moved since the start of the pandemic, those with limited English proficiency (LEP) and people with disabilities, may be at greater risk for losing Medicaid coverage when the continuous enrollment provision ends ([Kaiser Family Foundation](#)).



Eligible individuals are at risk for losing coverage if they do not receive or understand notices or forms requesting additional information to verify eligibility, or do not respond to requests within required timeframes. People who have moved since the start of the pandemic, those with limited English proficiency (LEP) and people with disabilities, may be at greater risk for losing Medicaid coverage when the continuous enrollment provision ends.

So, what can school nurses and schools do about this? Families need to hear this information from a variety of sources for the information to “stick.” Think about your most vulnerable students and families. I imagine many of them receive healthcare coverage under these benefits and many probably fall in a risk category mentioned in the above paragraph. Now is not the time for children or their families to be without healthcare coverage!

Find ways to communicate about this unwinding and potential loss of benefits. It might be by writing newsletter articles. It might be hosting a table at third quarter parent teacher conferences, or a health fair. You could post the link to the [Connecting Kids to Coverage National Campaign 2022 Back-to-School Toolkit \(insurekidsnow.gov\)](https://insurekidsnow.gov) to your district’s website.

The American Association of School Administrators (AASA) [Unwinding Toolkit for Schools](#) proposes the key messages to be shared with children and families include:

- Families with children or other family members on Medicaid will once again need to complete the eligibility renewal process for Medicaid or risk losing their coverage.
- Families with Medicaid should contact their state Medicaid office now and make sure their contact information and mailing address is up to date.
- Families should make sure to check the mail, fill out a renewal form if they receive one and return it ASAP to avoid losing Medicaid or CHIP coverage.
- If you no longer qualify for Medicaid or CHIP, you may be able to get affordable health coverage through the Affordable Care Act Marketplace. (See BadgerCare information below.)

Wisconsin specific resources to share with families include:

- [BadgerCare Plus: Member Information](#)
- [Outreach Flyer](#)
- [Website Portal Partner Toolkit](#)
- (800) 362-3002

School nurses do not have time to act as Medicaid or BadgerCare connectors. The purpose of me writing this Practice Points is not to have you help families enroll. (Though I do know some school nurses who have done this.) But, knowing and communicating with those families you know to be most at risk of not understanding the need to renew their status, or most at risk of not receiving an email or letter telling them of this need is something you can do. The more people at your school who understand the need the better. Put up signs in shared workspaces or send a staff email. School staff may be those who need to reenroll or have family members who do. Informed school staff can share this information in other venues such as with community organizations .

I have developed FOMO on behalf of our Wisconsin children and their families. Please think about how you can make sure families and children do not miss out on the opportunity to stay enrolled in Medicaid.

This publication is available from:
Learning and Support
Student Services Prevention and Wellness Team
(608) 266-8857
<https://dpi.wi.gov/sspw/pupil-services/school-nurse>



March 2023 Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

The Department of Public Instruction does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, creed, age, national origin, ancestry, pregnancy, marital status or parental status, sexual orientation, or ability and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts of America and other designated youth groups.

Hiring RNs and LVNs/LPNs for Summer Camp Positions Throughout the US

Apply Here: WhizResources.com | [Medical Staff Application](#)

The Rewards of Working as a Camp Nurse

- *Impact the lives of children and adults*
- *Salary of \$1300-1800/week and free tuition for children (worth appx. \$1200-1500/week for each child)*
- *Round-trip airfare or ground transportation provided*
- *Lodging and meals furnished*
- *Build on your pediatric nursing experience*

Over the past 20 years hundreds of NPs, RNs and LPNs have worked at camps through WhizResources. They have made a difference at camps while fully utilizing their nurse experience. Many are school nurses who have the summer available, and others are nurses who travel or are retired or are new graduates. Some even have a full-time job but carve out a few weeks to work at a camp. We place NPs, RNs and LPNs/LVNs as camp nurses.

More Information: www.whizresources.com

rick@whizresources.com

214-709-5559

Finding the Right Fit for Your Needs

- *Many top-notch camps in locations across the United States:*
[*Here's our link to current list of openings*](#)
- *Assignments from two weeks (sometimes shorter) up to ten weeks*
- *Primarily traditional "healthy kids" camps*
- *Some camps accommodate children younger than camp age through childcare or day camp*
- *Friends and family members can work at a camp together*
- *Assistance with licensing in another state if needed (including payment of license fees)*

Ready for an amazing summer?

Apply Here: [**WhizResources.com | Medical Staff Application**](#)

Or send your resume to rick@whizresources.com

- *We will contact you to set up a phone interview*
- *There are no fees to you*

More Information: [**www.whizresources.com**](http://www.whizresources.com)

rick@whizresources.com

214-709-5559

MEDICAID CHANGES ARE COMING

How Pediatricians Can Help Children Stay Covered



Background

Since the onset of the COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE) in 2020, states have kept all individuals with Medicaid enrolled in exchange for enhanced federal funds. Now, states are redetermining eligibility for all 90+ million Medicaid enrollees. States have the option to begin this process – called “the unwinding” – in February, March, or April of 2023, and have up to 14 months to complete the process. This means that individuals could be disenrolled beginning April 1, 2023.

The Concern for Pediatric Patients

As many as 5.3 million children may lose their Medicaid coverage during this redetermination process; 3.8 million of these losses are expected to be due to “procedural” reasons (i.e., enrollees cannot be reached or did not return re-enrollment forms). All Medicaid-enrolled patients must:

1

Update their contact information with the state Medicaid agency and/or Medicaid managed care plan;

2

be on the lookout for official notices from the state;

3

promptly complete and return any forms requested by the state; and

4

know that other affordable coverage options may be available should they lose coverage.

Enrollees who are no longer eligible for Medicaid may still be eligible for a Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) plan or a subsidized Marketplace plan.

An Unprecedented Challenge

AAP and its partners will continue to support its members in managing the administrative, operational, and payment-related challenges that pediatric practices face in this process, while ensuring that patients retain their coverage.



Key Roles for Pediatricians, Pediatric Practices, and AAP Chapters

Prepare Your Practice to Help Patients



- Ensure that your practice staff understand the implications of the unwinding for patients.
- Work with your **state AAP chapter** to identify all options for patients to report contact information. See this [up-to-date list](#) of state options for reporting information.
- Work with [managed care organizations \(MCOs\) in your state](#) to verify and update contact information.
- Get copies of official state notices so staff can be familiar with what's being communicated to patients.
- Educate other stakeholders about the potential impact of the unwinding.

Amplify Key Communications



- Remind patients to update their contact information, be on the lookout for official communications from the state, and return any necessary forms:
 - Post or hand out informative flyers [such as the ones created by AAP and the Georgetown Center for Children and Families](#), as well as links to states' official communications toolkits (if available). Your state AAP chapter may have its own customized materials.
 - Update office automated messages or voicemail to include reminders.
 - Include reminders in patient communications (e.g., newsletters, patient portals, websites).
 - Offer a phone, tablet, or internet access for patients to update their contact information while in your office.

Refer Patients to Assistance Resources



- Help patients who lose coverage understand the options for re-enrolling or transitioning:
 - Patients who lose coverage because they did not respond can submit the needed information during the 90-day reconsideration period without re-applying.
 - Patients who are no longer eligible for Medicaid may still be eligible for a CHIP or Marketplace plan. The state should transfer ineligible patients to one of these two options.
 - If the patient is not eligible for Medicaid or CHIP, they may enroll in a Marketplace plan through July 2024 without waiting for an open enrollment period.
- [Work with your AAP chapter](#) to identify and partner with consumer assistance resources (state call centers and eligibility offices; navigators; certified application counselors; enrollment counselors in community health centers and hospitals) and community partners (schools; WIC offices; community centers; immigrant services).

Assist in Monitoring the Unwinding, Providing Feedback, and Participating in Advocacy



- Track themes and recurring problems reported by patients:
 - Are patients experiencing unreasonable call center wait times?
 - Are many patients losing coverage suddenly? Are they aware that they have lost coverage?
 - Are there other barriers, bottlenecks, and system issues?
- Work with [your state AAP chapter](#) and partners to consolidate feedback to the state.
- Connect patients who are willing to share their experience with advocacy groups collecting stories.
- Be willing to talk with the media about what patients in your practice are experiencing.

