



President's Bulletin - December 2016

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November was an unsettling and tumultuous month, culminating in much-needed time with our friends and families over Thanksgiving. I would like to share with you a letter from AAP Past-President and long-time SDBP member Dr. Benard Dreyer. Benard, thank you so much for your enormous contributions as AAP President! [AAP Letter Benard Dreyer](#)

My in-box last week included several important new documents that I want to share with members. The first is a Policy statement and Technical Report on *Addressing Early Childhood Emotional and Behavioral Problems*, from the AAP, highlighting the effectiveness of specific family-focused therapies, and the lack of access to such care in the US. Congratulations to lead author Dr Ed Goldson, and other SDBP members who contributed to these important reports:

<http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/early/2016/11/17/peds.2016-3023>

<http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/early/2016/11/17/peds.2016-3025>

Also from the AAP Council on Children with Disabilities is a new Clinical Report entitled [Recognition and Management of Medical Complexity](#). Many of our members take care of children with complex chronic conditions, and this comprehensive report brings renewed focus on these children and their families and strategies to improve healthcare outcomes.

Earlier this year, the Global Professional Education Programme (GPEP) sub-group of the International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability (IAACD) conducted a survey of global disability professionals. The results highlight the need for resources to support education and training in childhood disability: [GPEP Report](#).

In the current issue of JDBP, I read with interest the study from Nate Blum and DBPNet supporting the validity of a brief parent-completed measure of their children's peer relationships. This is an example of the kind of research that is needed in DBP to enhance measurement and quality. [JDBP Article](#)

Thank you for contributing to our strategic planning process via our "moonshot survey!" Members' most highly rated ideas included

- developing DBP care pathways/guidelines
- collaborating with others to demonstrate value of DBP and obtain fair compensation
- developing DBP courses and programs for primary care providers and advance practice nurses
- emphasizing and promoting functional versus categorical diagnosis.

The Board and I are exploring potential initiatives in these areas, with a goal of selecting and investing in actionable projects that will establish products and resources of value to you, our members. **More on this to follow...**