



President's Bulletin – March 2017

Adrian Sandler, MD

Rest in peace, Denny. We shall miss you.

Denny was one of the great scholars of pediatric psychology. His early research focused on failure to thrive, with subsequent important contributions to adaptation to child health conditions (diabetes, cystic fibrosis and TBI), and to broader issues related to adherence to medical treatment. He authored hundreds of research articles, commentaries, chapters and texts.

Denny was totally committed to inter-professional research, training and care. He was a valued mentor to pediatric psychologists and developmental-behavioral pediatricians, and a colleague to researchers of several disciplines. He was President of SDBP, President of the Society of Pediatric Psychology (SPP) twice, and an esteemed annual research award given by SPP bears his name.

Immigrant children

We are all deeply concerned about the plight of immigrant families who are affected by the recent immigration-related executive orders. The response to these orders from AAP President Fernando Stein MD was swift:

[AAP Statement on Protecting Immigrant Children](#)

Members of SDBP are especially attuned to the trauma of immigrant and refugee children – an important and growing focus of our clinical work, advocacy and research. Here are two very timely articles. The first is interesting qualitative research by SDBP member and co-chair of the International SIG, Abby Kroening, highlighting cultural differences in perceptions of development. The second, from researchers in Sweden, is a clinical trial demonstrating the effectiveness of parenting interventions for Somali immigrants.

[Developmental Screening of Refugees: A Qualitative Study](#)

[A Support Program for Somali-born Parents on Children's Behavioral Problems](#)

Public health response to opioid use in pregnancy

Complementing some of the recent work on management of neonatal abstinence syndrome, this policy piece from the AAP speaks to the importance of a comprehensive, evidence-based public health response to this growing crisis.

[A Public Health Response to Opioid Use in Pregnancy](#)

SDBP joins other organizations to inform White House about vaccine safety

I am worried about the establishment of a White House Commission on vaccines that may seriously undermine immunization rates in the U.S., and I was glad to have the opportunity for SDBP to join this campaign and sign the letter to the President. The letter is included in the attached article from the Washington Post.

[Washington Post - More than 350 organizations write Trump to endorse current vaccines' safety](#)

SDBP Guideline on Complex ADHD

Thanks to Bill Barbaresi and others on the Guideline Committee who are working hard to develop SDBP's first clinical guideline on the evaluation and management of children with complex ADHD. The Committee has had a number of phone calls and its first in-person meeting. After extensive evidence review, key topics have been developed and draft action statements written. Anticipating publication of the Guideline in 2018, the Board will be working closely with Committees to plan dissemination and knowledge translation activities.

Workshop submissions open!

Roll up! Teaching DBP and half-day workshop proposals for Cleveland are now open! Workshop submissions are due March 28th, research paper and poster & concurrent session submissions will open in end of March. We are excited to be reorganizing some of the structure of the meeting to offer even more content than previous years!

[SDBP Workshop submission](#)

Discussion Board highlights

What an interesting array of new material on the Discussion Board! A survey of Arab-American caregivers, controversies and resources regarding nonverbal LD, mindfulness/yoga in DBP practice, and more. Also, our past-President Nate Blum has posted a thread about an important upcoming workshop at APPD on resident training in mental health, soliciting input from you regarding your ideas to improve behavioral/mental health competencies of residents. If you have suggestions, please share them on the Discussion Board.

March Announcements (see <https://www.disabled-world.com/disability/awareness/awareness-dates.php>)
March is Developmental Disabilities awareness month. Also, March 18 is US Trisomy 18 day, March 21 is World Down Syndrome day, and March 25 is Cerebral Palsy Awareness day. But my favorite is March 20, the International Day of Happiness! **Happy Happiness Day to you all!**