



## Ohio Chapter

### Ohio Chapter

450 West Wilson Bridge Road  
Suite 215  
Worthington, OH 43085  
Phone: 614/846-6258  
Fax: 614/846-4025  
E-mail: [chapter@ohioaap.org](mailto:chapter@ohioaap.org)

### President

Gerald Tiberio, MD, FAAP  
Muskingum Valley Health Centers  
716 Adair Avenue  
Zanesville, OH 43701  
Phone: 740/454-5893  
Fax: 740/455-7693  
Email:  
[gtiberio@mvhealthcenters.org](mailto:gtiberio@mvhealthcenters.org)

### President-Elect

Judith Romano, MD, FAAP  
222 N Fifth St., Suite 101  
Martins Ferry, OH 43935  
Phone: 740/633-6482  
Fax: 740/633-6475  
Email: [drjtromano@gmail.com](mailto:drjtromano@gmail.com)

### Treasurer

Andrew Garner, MD, PhD, FAAP  
960 Clague Rd Ste 1850  
Westlake, OH 44145  
Phone: 440/808-9228  
Fax: 440/808-9234  
Email:  
[Andrew.Garner@uhhospitals.org](mailto:Andrew.Garner@uhhospitals.org)

### Chapter Executive Director

Melissa Wervey Arnold  
450 West Wilson Bridge Road  
Suite 215  
Worthington, OH 43085  
Phone: 614/846-6258  
Fax: 614/846-4025  
E-mail: [marnold@ohioaap.org](mailto:marnold@ohioaap.org)

### Immediate Past-President

Terry P. Barber, Sr., MD, FAAP  
5489 Sierra Drive  
Westerville, OH 43082  
Phone: 740/507-2160  
Email: [tpbarber@aap.net](mailto:tpbarber@aap.net)

### Chapter Web site

[www.ohioaap.org](http://www.ohioaap.org)

### AAP Headquarters

141 Northwest Point Blvd  
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007-1098  
Phone: 847/434-4000  
Fax: 847/434-8000  
E-mail: [kidsdocs@aap.org](mailto:kidsdocs@aap.org)  
[www.aap.org](http://www.aap.org)

### For Immediate Release

**Contact: Melissa Wervey Arnold or Elizabeth Kelleher (614) 846-6258**

### *Ohio AAP addresses parental refusal of vaccines with new brochures*

The pediatric community is facing an ever-growing problem — parental refusal of vaccines. Physicians are seeing outbreaks of previously dormant infectious diseases because children are not receiving the recommended vaccines on schedule.

The Ohio Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) is addressing this concern with three new brochures for physicians to distribute to their patients. The brochures target three groups: parents who follow the immunization schedule; parents who choose to delay the schedule; and parents who refuse to vaccinate their children.

With grant money obtained from National AAP, entitled Health People 2010, the Ohio AAP developed these materials after gathering information about parental concerns from physicians, parents, and child advocates in focus groups.

These brochures, which were rolled out at the Chapter's Annual Meeting in November, are supplemental information designed to help the pediatrician streamline the vaccine discussion during the office visit.

Parents are looking for reassurance that they are making the right choice for the health and safety of their child. The Ohio AAP believes that between the information in these brochures, and the pediatrician's expertise, lives can be saved and the immunization rates in Ohio can increase.

Ari Brown, MD, pediatrician and author of the *Baby 411* book series, commenting on the brochures said, "Educated parents are empowered parents. But they need to turn to a reliable source. The Ohio AAP's parental refusal brochures give families timely, accurate vaccine information to address their questions and concerns."

In January 2011, one of each of the brochures (both in black and white and 4-color format for copying purposes) will be included in the Maximizing Office Based Immunization (MOBI) program packets that MOBI trainers distribute to offices where they conduct MOBI presentations. The MOBI program is a statewide quality improvement continuing education program developed for health-care providers with a focus on office-based practice. The program's mission is to raise the overall immunization rate among Ohio's 2-year-old children to 90% or greater by suggesting ways to improve existing office policies and practice. The MOBI program is provided by the Ohio AAP, funded by the Ohio Department of Health with assistance from the National Immunization Program of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Samples of each brochure will be mailed directly to Ohio AAP members. The brochures are available on the Ohio AAP website (<http://www.ohioaap.org/program-initiatives/healthy-people-2010>) for FREE download. If physicians would like to make numerous copies, the Ohio AAP can send original artwork so that they can have the brochures printed on their own.

