



International Pediatric Association

# Newsletter

ISSN 2410-7069

Year 2021 Vol. 15 Issue 1 www.ipa-world.org

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#### International Pediatric Association Newsletter

Editor

Dr. Zulkifli Ismail

Write to US

editor.ipanews@ipa-world.org

#### ISSN 2410-7069

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## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**



The year 2020 was a difficult year. There were unrelenting challenges and pressures for the entire world, and the most vulnerable - the world's children – were uniquely tested. The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted all aspects of the very issues the International Pediatric Association (IPA) has been focusing on: displaced children, vaccine hesitancy, and Sustainable Development Goals. The amazingly rapid development of several vaccines gives hope that the spread of disease will gradually be controlled; however, they are still not available for use in children. The delicate properties of the vaccine, requiring two shots, and difficulty/ expense of getting to remote and displaced populations are all additional problems yet to be solved.

A Future for the World's Children<sup>1</sup>, that many of you helped create this past year, eloquently lays out a roadmap for the betterment of children's health worldwide. Merging the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) makes me optimistic that we will achieve a better, more sustainable future for all. The Convention has the force of law, while the SDGs are measurable and will guide our progress.

As President, I am extremely proud of the accomplishments of our association, the pediatric societies, and our pediatricians during this period. Though the COVID-19 pandemic has made "in person" meetings impossible, our Executive Director's office, in collaboration with both WHO and UNICEF, has led webinars on topics such as vaccine hesitancy in three languages. These webinars were attended by many member societies, empowering them to educate, inform and advocate in their own countries for the most current COVID-19 knowledge related to children. Our webinars have spread around the world thereby setting the standard for children's wellbeing, health and education during this challenging period. In the year 2021 we will continue to develop the technical advances the IPA has initiated to meet





## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

the ongoing needs of its members and the world's children.

The IPA, with your help, has shown it has the ability to step up and meet the challenge for children in the post pandemic years. The only proven effective method for the advancement of civilization is the care and education of the world's children.

To all pediatricians and those providing care for children: May we go places we've never been, succeed in ways we never dreamed, and leave no one behind.

Happy New Year

Dr. Errol R Alden MD FAAP
President
International Pediatric Association
ealden41@aol.com

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A Future for the World's Children-<u>Lancet, Volume</u> 395, ISSUE 10224, P605-658, Accessed: February 22, 2020





## PRESIDENT'S ACCEPTANCE SPEECH FOR DOGRAMACI AWARD 2020



As a longtime member of the International Pediatric Association, I knew of Professor Dogramaci's reputation, but it wasn't until we met in Ankara that I saw the results of his work firsthand.

He had just returned from Afghanistan (dangerous as it was) and had brought with him several Afghan pediatricians to work with the Turkish pediatricians and bring them up to date on modern specialty pediatrics.

The Turkish National Pediatric Society, which Ihsan Dogramaci started, and Enver Hasano luhelped grow, has lived up to their Founders' aspirations and produced some of the most insightful work on the mental status of refugee children.

Professor Dogramaci would be most impressed by the document A Future for the Worlds Children, which so eloquently lays out a map for the betterment of the world's children and that many of you, particularly Zulfiqar Bhutta, helped create.

Merging the Convention of the Child with the Sustainable Development Goals makes me optimistic that we will indeed achieve a better, more sustainable future for all, as the Convention has the force of Law, while the SDG's are measurable and will guide our progress.

Of course, the Covid-19 pandemic has further laid bare deep-rooted inequities and magnified all the soul-crushing medical, social and economic consequences. Making the lives of Refugee Children much worse, threatening the families and caretakers of the children already in grave jeopardy. And serving to make our work all the more vital, so that these children not only survive the pandemic but survive in a world worth living in.

Together, we have an unprecedented opportunity to tear down broken systems and structures and remake the world – and its health systems – so that every child can grow up to be healthy and have a bright future.

In closing I want to thank my fellow pediatricians and share this high honor with them International Pediatric Association Executive Director Dr. Naveen Thacker, the American Academy of Pediatrics, William Keenan, who has been my partner in life support, and AAP Executive Director Mark Del Monte.

Most important, I want to thank my wife, Judith Alden. Without her support, tolerance, and guiding wisdom, this would not have been possible.

And, of course, all of you, who have shared this journey with me. May we go places we've never been, succeed in ways we've never dreamed and leave no one behind.





## FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESK



Dear Colleagues,

I hope that all of you and your family are safe and healthy.

Many of us have had a difficult year with illness, loss, uncertainty and isolation due to COVID-19. The COVID-19 pandemic has created a new normal world which has affected our work and personal lives and made the year a challenging one.

This pandemic brought changes to IPA too but IPA did not stop!! As the saying goes, "In every adversity lies an opportunity" is true in this current scenario, so let's remember this year as a year of transition and openings. We accepted the changes with zeal and overcame the challenges. IPA recognizes that COVID 19 has accelerated the digital transformation. We too incorporated new approaches like virtual

meetings and online webinars to reach out and cope with current scenario.

In this current situation, IPA Vaccine Trust Project becomes even more relevant, and IPA's role becomes much more important in sensitizing healthcare professionals. We decided to organize courses virtually while taking care of the interactive component and including additional modules in the context of COVID-19 to the key modules of training.

The SABIN Vaccine Institute has also shown keen interest to work with IPA by collaborating in the IPA Vaccine Trust Project. The online courses will be conducted through a Learning Management System (LMS) and was launched on 15th December 2020 at 1:00 PM UTC along with IPA-SABIN collaboration.

In future, IPA will try to provide support to its member societies in developing high-quality educational content and will come up with recommendations and tools for delivering and evaluating it effectively. IPA will also focus on developing educational contents and activities which are in alignment with our strategic priorities and our specific goals and missions.

As IPA works for Every Child Every Age Everywhere, our next priority will be to reach every child (2 billion) and for that, we need to first reach all pediatricians (1 million) so with that objective, IPA will be working to identify countries that are not our members and bring them together with IPA to work for the betterment of children.





# FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Last but not least I am grateful to the IPA standing committee and member societies for their undying support during this pandemic which aided IPA to serve for the progress and benefit of children.

Thank you all and my heartiest season's greetings and wish for hopes and dreams for better days ahead in 2021!

With warm regards,

Dr. Naveen Thacker Executive Director International Pediatric Association adminoffice@ipa-world.org





### **EDITORIAL**



New Normal and Webinar Fatigue

Greetings from the Editorial Team of the IPA

Newsletter.

We are into the ninth month of the pandemic and it's been a year since the first case of COVID-19 was diagnosed in the now-famous city of Wuhan in China. A great deal of data and information has been generated and disseminated regarding this novel coronavirus in these few months. Along with it came misinformation and disinformation from many countries and nationalities, a phenomenon that is now called an infodemic.

Part of the new normal that we all have got ourselves accustomed to are webinars and online meetings. The IPA has had some online virtual meetings involving the executive committee and standing committee. Webinars are now a common site and there are a few every week leading to webinar fatigue among some of us.

This issue of the newsletter will report on a number of webinars held by IPA in collaboration with UNICEF, WHO and AAP. An analysis of the webinars was also prepared by Dr Jonathan Klein in this issue. The Indian Academy of Pediatrics (IAP) and Bangladesh Paediatric Association (BPA) have also been active in organizing webinars. The IAP has a webinar at least twice a week. Add in our own subspecialty webinars and online meeting commitments, it's a matter of time before webinar fatigue sets in.

National pediatric congresses are now either virtual or hybrid ones. In the Asia Pacific region, Taiwan started with their hybrid vaccinology course followed by the Northern Branch of the IAP and the Pakistan Pediatric Association (PPA) Biennial Congress. The Turkish National Pediatric Society (TNPS) just concluded their hybrid congress successfully. Although not as fulfilling as attending face-to-face, it is the next best thing to gather pediatricians and other allied professionals from many different countries in a single discussion topic.

We have reports by some regional and national associations in this issue, especially those that have been active with online teaching and webinars. In the next issue, we shall focus on other regions and countries so that we can share the experiences of different regions. As expected, the webinars mainly weave around COVID-19 and MIS-C (Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children). With the vaccine already in sight, more webinars are now discussing the different COVID-19 vaccines. Many of





## **EDITORIAL**

our colleagues in different countries have by now received their first dose of the new COVID-19 vaccine.

We now know that the virus has mutated and its current form is not the same as the first detected in Wuhan. The D614G mutation in Europe in February had slowly become the globally dominant form of the virus. The summer holidays in Spain spawned the A222V and this has spread across Europe. There are changes to the spike protein with N501Y altering the most important part of the spike called the receptor-binding domain. H69/V70 deletion suggests infectivity being increased two-fold in laboratory experiments. The newer B117 reported from the UK and 501Y.V2 from South Africa are also reported to be more contagious.

How these mutations will affect the new vaccines is to be seen. We are indeed living in interesting times. Talking about vaccines, please read about the IPA Vaccine Trust Project in this issue too, and encourage as many colleagues as possible to participate.

In the meantime, we hope you enjoy perusing through the pages of this issue of the IPA newsletter. We are aiming to publish the newsletter three times a year for 2021, increasing when we have the capacity and enough news.

Happy Holidays, Happy New Year and stay safe.

Dr. Zulkifli Ismail Editor IPA Newsletter





IPA, UNICEF, and WHO Collaboration on COVID-19 and Children

The IPA, UNICEF, and WHO launched a new collaboration in May 2020 to address the needs of children and adolescents during the pandemic of COVID-19 disease caused by SARS-CoV-2 Coronavirus. The overall goals of this new effort are to ensure accurate information is available to both child health professionals and the general public, and to ensure essential services for children and youth are available and accessible to all. The IPA is doing this by helping disseminate guidelines and updates to national, regional and global pediatric professional associations, in coordination with UNICEF and WHO outreach to their national/country and regional offices child health leaders.

The new collaboration includes:

- Producing a series of webinars in English, French and Spanish to summarize and translate emerging evidence and WHO guidelines into summary 'state-of-the-art' presentations to help national pediatric society leaders identify priorities for practice and policy for newborn, child and adolescent health care delivery during COVID19.
- Producing several short, written products that synthesize and summarize WHO and UNICEF guidelines on newborn, child and adolescent health care delivery to help countries and national pediatric societies coordinate delivery of evidence-based care so that children and families get the care they need.
- 3. Strengthening the technical relationships between WHO, UNICEF and IPA, and collaborating to bring pediatrician's voices to WHO processes that identify future research and guideline needs.

Webinar series on child and adolescent health during COVI D19

The webinar series has focused on content that addresses priorities that were identified by IPA leadership and by UNICEF leadership. The webinars are archived on the IPA YouTube Channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdILbIZMM7LvMkXbTJwjRtQ

Each session included several IPA technical experts, along with speakers from WHO and UNICEF. The session question and answer periods are also on the archived recordings. To date, these sessions have





been viewed more than 35,000 times by audiences in more than 75 countries.

The first webinars in April and May 2020 addressed newborn and perinatal issues, including breastfeeding and rooming in policy recommendations, and personal protective equipment (PPE) and infection control practices at newborn deliveries and in primary health care settings. Later May sessions addressed COVID clinical care recommendations, the multisystem inflammatory response being seen in some children from the perspective of emergency room and intensive care, and recommendations for clinical management of these severe presenting cases.

June and July 2020 webinars covered immunization, and adolescent and mental health issues. The immunization sessions addressed both delays in ongoing immunization programs, policy recommendations for restarting routine immunization services during the pandemic, and development of COVID-19 vaccines. The sessions also addressed the importance of following the evidence and avoiding misinformation, because of the many anti-vaccine advocates active around the world. The adolescent and mental health sessions addressed the impact of the pandemic and of social isolation and school closures on adolescent psychosocial development, and on the need to monitor closely for increased rates of depression, anxiety, and posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) among both young people and adults.

In July, webinars addressed the theme of "Do No Harm" during COVID-19. These focused on

perinatal, newborn and child survival issues, and considered ways that breastfeeding, newborn resuscitation, skin to skin care, oxygen therapy, and other innovations should be used during the pandemic. These sessions included technical experts from USAID, and was designed to support their ongoing 'Do no harm' series, in addition to UNICEF and WHO partners.

The most recent webinars, addressed in August in English and in October in Spanish and French, were on Safe Schools during COVID19. These sessions included new data from UNICEF and UNESCO on the status of school opening and closings, emerging evidence on transmission and spread and the impact of closure on children, and new WHO recommendations on mask use recommendations for children and adolescents.

Forthcoming session in November and December 2020 to complete the webinar series include a session on Disruption of Routine Services, which will address newborn and child health, and both infectious disease and non-communicable disease prevention and treatment systems. We are also planning an overview of COVID-19 issues for child health in Russian, and the final session for 2020 will discuss the impact of Environmental Health on COVID-19, and will also provide an update on clinical management and vaccine development. Please subscribe to the IPA YouTube Channel to be notified about upcoming webinars.

#### Technical Briefs

IPA is also developing evidence syntheses and short technical briefs summarizing key facts in WHO and UNICEF evidence reviews and guidelines for use by national and community stakeholders in child health care delivery systems. The first brief summarized





the evidence on diagnosis and management of COVID-19 related Multi-inflammatory Syndrome in Childhood (MIS-C).

It is available online at: https://www.unicef.org/bulgaria/sites/unicef.org.bulgaria/files/2020-07/UNICEF IPA\_COVID\_brief\_WEB\_29June\_ENG.pdf, the brief was released on June 29, 2020, and will be updated as the evidence evolves in the coming months. The second brief, Doing No Harm in Newborn and Child Health during COVID-19, is being written in collaboration with UNICEF and USAID, and will be published and posted on-line in November, 2020. A third and final one in the initial series will address transmission and prevention issues for children, with particular attention to lessons that are being learned from school settings across different countries.

Recognizing the need for urgent action to support the world's children, IPA is also providing input from national pediatric society leaders and from pediatric content experts to UNICEF and WHO on pending evidence-based guidelines and to help inform technical reviews

of evidence for COVID-19 treatment and societal and health systems responses. Please forward any suggestions about priority issues that should be addressed to Dr. Klein or to the IPA office at adminoffice@ipa-world.org

The IPA UNICEF WHO COVID-19 collaboration project steering committee includes Drs. Jonathan Klein and Zulfiqar Bhutta for IPA, Drs. Wilson Ware and Anshu Banerjee for WHO, and Drs. Gagan Gupta, Stefan Peterson (May-June), and Lu Wei Pearson (June-present) for UNICEF. Technical support is provided by IPA's professional staff and IPA Executive Director Dr. Naveen Thacker. Spanish webinar leadership is provided by Drs. Oswaldo Revelo Castro and Carlos Alonso Rivera, and French webinar leadership is provided by Drs. Joseph Haddad, Madeleine Amorissani Folquet, and Ousmane Ndiaye.

Dr. Jonathan D. Klein MD, MPH Coordinator of Development Executive Committee International Pediatric Association





# **IPA Standing Committee Virtual Meeting**

With due consideration to the current pandemic situation a 2 day successful virtual meeting of IPA Standing Committee was conducted via Zoom on 26-27 September 2020









Webinars in collaboration with FIGO, UNICEF and WHO

Due to the current pandemic and the inability to gather in groups, IPA organized various Webinars in collaboration with FIGO, UNICEF and WHO. You can view all previous webinars on IPA Youtube channel. Please subscribe to the IPA Youtube channel IPAWorldorg











IPA-UNICEF-WHO Webinar on Adolescent and Mental Health during COVID19 (English)

unicef @

# 29th June 2020

#### Time:

06:00hrs PDT(UTC-7) 09:00hrs EDT(UTC-4) 15:00hrs CEST(UTC+2) 18:30hrs IST(UTC+5.30) 23:00hrs AEST(UTC+10)

Subscribe to our YouTube channel - International Pediatric Association (IPAWorldorg) to watch live streaming

Send your questions to ipadigitalcell@gmail.com latest by 28th June 2020

#### LISTEN TO ....











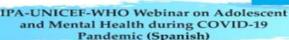


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Pandemic (Spanish)

9th July 2020

20:00hrs Chile & New York Time (UTC-4) 19:00hrs México & Colombia time (UTC-5) 18:00hrs Central América time

- LISTEN TO -Dra. Paz Robledo, ALAPE
- Dra. Iliana Curiel, ALAPE
- · Dr.Ronald Pérez, ALAPE
- Dra. Alejandra Trossero, UNICEF
- · Dr. Fabrizzio Canaval, UNICEF
- · Dra. Claudia Cavetano, OPS
- · Dr. Carlos Rivera, IPA Dr.Renato Olivier, OPS

Subscribe to our YouTube channel – International Pediatric Association (IPAWorldorg) to watch live streaming Send your questions to ipadigitalcell@gmail.com latest by 8th July 2020

Follow us for more updates:













IPA Member societies from Latin American Pediatric Association (ALAPE) Region



A virtual informative meeting with the presidents of the Pediatrics Societies members of ALAPE on 29th September, 2020



Webinars conducted and supported by ALAPE. Link of Webinars <a href="http://webinar.alape.org/">http://webinar.alape.org/</a>





Argentine Society of Pediatrics celebrated 109 years of foundation and service to children and adolescents



Pediatric Association of Guatemala conducted first Virtual Congress on the occasion of its 75<sup>th</sup>anniversary









Bi-monthly Bulletin and Newsletter of ALAPE. For more information visit <a href="https://alape.org/">https://alape.org/</a>



On 14<sup>th</sup> November 2020, ALAPE conducted virtual conference with 4000 registered pediatricians from Latin America, Spain and other parts of the world



# IPA Member societies from Asia Pacific Pediatric Association (APPA) Region



Indonesian Pediatric Society, together with Asia Regional Collaborative Learning member societie



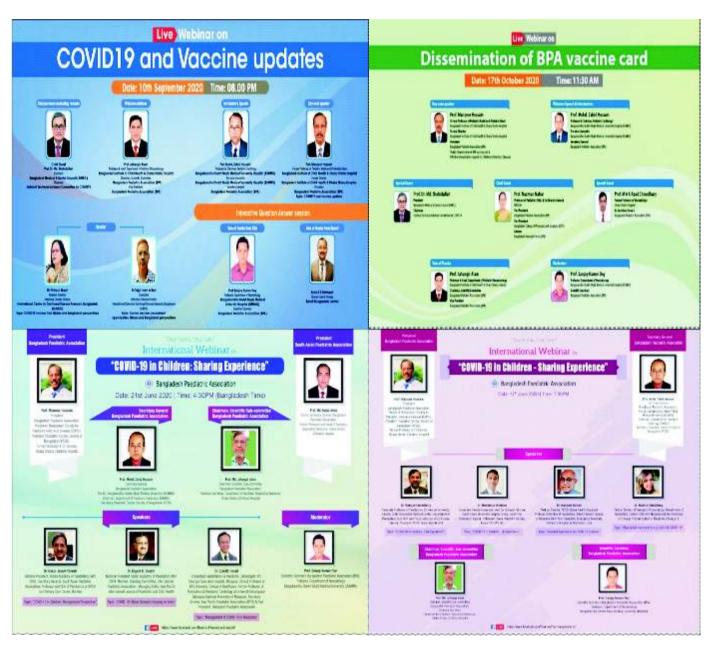
Celebrating 66th anniversary of the Indonesian Pediatric Society, together with APPA member societies



Pakistan Pediatric Association organized the 25th International Pediatric 3D Virtual /
Hybrid Conference 2020 on 28th – 29th November, 2020







Webinar on "COVID19 and vaccine updates organized by Bangladesh Pediatric Association







APPA Bulletin released. Visit APPA website <a href="https://www-a-p-p-a.org">www-a-p-p-a.org</a> to read the full bulletin

Union of National Pediatric Societies of Turkish Republics – UNPSTR Region









Beginning with March 2020, the TNPS has organized more than 12 webinars on different aspects of pediatrics, emphasizing the impact of the Coronavirus infection in childhood.

American Academy of Pediatrics

A successful AAP virtual conference was conducted on 2-5 October, 2020. Conference recordings, including those from the on-demand and live sessions, will be available through January 31, 2021.







# Sub Specialty Member Societies



The World Federation of Pediatric Intensive & Critical Care Societies (WFPICCS) 2020 virtual congress was conducted on 1-3 December 2020



The International Society of Paediatric Oncology (SIOP) 2020 Virtual Congress was conducted on October 14-17, 2020





## **WHAT'S NEW**

### **UPDATE ON IPA VACCINE TRUST PROJECT**

What is IPA Vaccine Trust Project?

IPA Vaccine Trust Project led by Dr. Naveen Thacker, Project Director and Dr. Walter Orenstein, Co-chair Immunization Strategic Advisory Group (SAG), IPA and Program Advisory Group with active leaders across the globe in the field of immunization, aims to increase and utilize the communications and advocacy skillsets of healthcare professionals providing or promoting vaccines and immunization with the training of healthcare professionals.

Why I PA Vaccine Trust Project?

With large research body, it has been known that the foundation of vaccination acceptance is a public trust and healthcare professionals (HCPs) plays a vital role as the cornerstone of public acceptance of vaccination as their recommendations are most trusted. Recently, WHO highlighted the importance of effective communication as a priority component in WHO's COVID-19 roadmap to enhance trust and enable the public to make informed choices based on recommendations.

The underlying problem is that most pediatricians and medical professionals are not trained in communication approaches to determine the specific concern and then to address them in a collaborative manner that can build trust, pass on standard messages to build vaccine confidence and identify strategies to address vaccine hesitancy, as it was not part of their medical school curriculum or their training.

Thus, it reinforces the need for positive and meaningful interpersonal communication (IPC) skills in healthcare professionals along with social media engagement to build trusted relationships and increase the likelihood that children will receive the recommended vaccines on time.

What activities are planned under the implementation of the IPA Vaccine Trust Project?

- Online Training on Vaccine Trust Course
   (Level 1) on IPA Learning Management
   System
- 2. Global Vaccine Trust Leadership Forum
- 3. Vaccine Misinformation Surveillance and Response

What is in the IPA Vaccine Trust Online Course?

IPA Vaccine Trust Online Course consists of 7 modules:

Module 1 - Infodemiology

Module 2 - Behavioural science behind vaccine acceptance interventions

Module 3 - Interpersonal communication (IPC)

Module 4 - Social media engagement

Module 5 - Dealing with vocal vaccine denier





## **WHAT'S NEW**

Module 6 - Interacting with Media

Module 7 - Building vaccine value – Advocacy and messaging to effect change

And 2 living-learning modules: (available on IPA Website Vaccine Trust Project)

- 1. Update on the status of COVID-19 Pandemic and its impact on Children
- 2. Immunization During and Post COVID-19 Pandemic

Who can apply for the course?

Pediatricians, Nurses, Program Managers from Partner organizations

In what languages is the course available?

At present the course will be available in English, Spanish, Russian, French, Portuguese, and Turkish for the participants

What is the course duration?

The participant would require 8-10 hrs of individual time to complete the course and will be given the span of 2-3 weeks for completion of the course. The participant will be able to attempt the course in multiple sittings.

Where is the course available and how can I apply for the course?

IPA Vaccine Trust Online Course will be offered for free on IPA LMS (Learning Management System) for the members of IPA member societies. Members can apply by signing up the course on https://ipa-world.org/ipa-vaccine-trust-project.php.

What is Global Vaccine Trust Leadership Forum?

The vaccine champions trained in online training of IPA Vaccine Trust Course will serve as a member of the Global Vaccine Trust Leadership Forum on the platform, to interact, share knowledge and best practices and discuss issues and strategies to address the problems.

What is Vaccine Misinformation Surveillance and Response?

IPA soon would be launching a platform for surveillance and response for misinform-ation trends to monitor the impact of misinformation on the public trust, i.e. low impact, moderate impact, or high impact, and developing the response based upon the impact of misinformation and finally mobilizing the cadre of the HCPs to mitigate the adverse impact through evidence-based messaging with a coordinated response.

Whom should I contact for any queries related to the course?

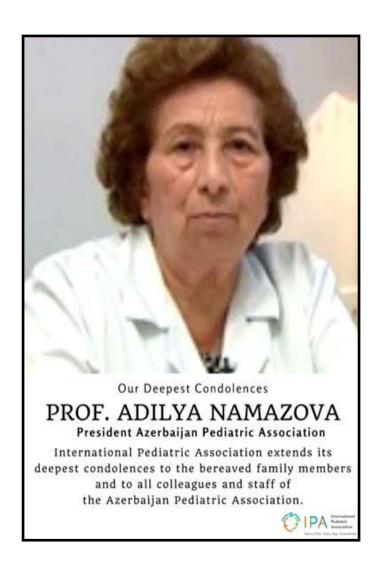
ipavaccinehesitancy@gmail.com

Regards Amruta Vadnerkar Ankita Tiwari Shraddha Uttekar



# **OBITUARY**

Our condolences to the families and friends of the following senior pediatricians and leaders









## **ANNOUNCEMENT**

IPA Congress 2021 Postponed



As per the decision of the IPA Standing Committee which met virtually on 26-27 September 2020, keeping in view of the ongoing SARS-CoV2 pandemic, IPA will NOT hold its 30th International Pediatric Congress (IPA2021) which was scheduled to be held on 22-26 August 2021 in Glasgow.

# IPA Virtual Council of Delegates Meeting 2021

Due to the current pandemic situation, IPA will be holding a virtual Council of Delegates meeting on 08th May 2021, 07:00am -10:00 am
Chicago time, 12pm UTC/GMT

This Council will hold important elections for:

- 1. President-Elect
- 2. Regional Representatives for the Standing Committee (SC)
- 3. Pediatric Subspecialty Representatives for the Standing Committee

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