

American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN™



Kentucky Chapter

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Dear Kentucky AAP Chapter Member:

Through a new partnership between the Kentucky Chapter of the AAP, the Kosair Children's Hospital Child Abuse Task Force and the UofL Department of Pediatrics, the KY AAP and its child abuse and neglect leaders is now offering access to materials, training and support to any physician office, clinic or hospital interested in becoming a No Hit Zone.

Have you ever been in a situation where a parent or caregiver raises his or her voice, begins to yell, uses profanity and becomes angry? Perhaps you have faced situations in your office when children are hit in your presence and you're left without clear guidelines on how to handle it. Medical school includes little training in how to handle or prevent these types of situations. We find ourselves hoping the situation will diffuse itself or that others will intervene. We're happy to report that thanks to our involvement with the No Hit Zone initiative at Kosair Children's Hospital, we now have a different approach.

We invite you to learn more about what it means to be a No Hit Zone, a program originally created by Lolita McDavid, M.D., professor of pediatrics at Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital, in 2005 and implemented at Kosair Children's Hospital in October 2012. Put simply, a No Hit Zone is an environment in which "no adult shall hit another adult, no adult shall hit a child, no child shall hit an adult and no child shall hit another child."

The program, which has been adopted by many primary care and subspecialty clinics in Kentucky, has three primary components:

1. Training of physicians and staff via PowerPoint presentations with case scenarios that are adaptable to clinics or hospital settings. This training focuses on a technique called "interruption" used to de-escalate situations *before* anyone is hit.
2. Posters and pamphlets visibly placed in offices and readily available for reference. Your practice name can be added to personalize these materials.
3. Office/clinic champions responsible for ongoing promotion of the initiative and arranging training for new hires.

Training for physicians and office staff is available via a 20- to 30-minute onsite presentation or video link.

To access materials, visit the KYAAP website, www.kyaap.org, click on Pediatric Resources and Log In to access the No Hit Zone materials.

Thank you for your consideration. Please feel free to contact us for more information.

Sincerely,

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