

FACT SHEET 2025

"Armenian Pediatric Association" Non-Governmental Organization (ArmPA) was established in 2007. It has embraced various pediatric professionals from the field of child health care. Among the members of the Association's Council are leading pediatricians, pediatric surgeons and pediatric specialists from Yerevan and regional pediatric clinics, faculty members, public health experts and the Ministry of Health (MoH) authorities, and representatives of the relevant international NGOs.

The activities of the Association are targeted to tackling the problems in the field of child and adolescent health and improving quality of pediatric care in Armenia, and include:

- support to organization and providing effective pediatric care;
- developing evidence-based clinical guidelines and other educational materials;
- support to continuing medical education and professional development of pediatric staff;
- support and advocacy for developing the relevant national policies and improving quality of the medical services;
- support to research, reviews, surveys in the field of pediatrics and child health care;
- strengthening international collaboration.



ACTIVITIES (per January, 2025)

✓ National Pediatric Conferences with international participation

The large-scale national conferences with international participation were held in 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2018, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024 under support of the Ministry of Health, Yerevan State Medical University after M.Heratsi (YSMU), Zurich University Children's hospital and other partners. Up to 350-400 pediatricians, family doctors, pediatric surgeons, medical faculty and other specialists participated to each of them. Among speakers of the conferences were well-known pediatric specialists from Switzerland, Austria, USA, UK, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Russia, Georgia etc.





Starting from 2021 Pediatric Conferences are held annually, in hybrid format, in collaboration with Armenian EyeCare Project and Children's Hospital Los Angeles. In the frames of the International Pediatric Conference leading pediatricians from CHLA provided lectures and answered to the questions provided by audience.



On September 19-20, 2024 Joint Pediatric Conference took place with participation of more than 350 pediatric and family doctors, ediatric specialists from Yerevan and all regions of Armenia. Well-known professors from CHLA and California and local pediatricians provided lectures on the most actual pediatric topics, discuss clinical cases. During second day of the conference the Panel discussion on Child development, developmental assessment and surveillance took place.



✓ Pediatric Schools

Annual Pediatric Schools have been organized in Arabkir MC-ICAH from 2008 aimed to present the newest achievements of medical practice and science and evidence-based information to hundreds of local doctors. Well-known local pediatric specialists and invited from abroad professors lecture for Pediatric Schools on a regular basis.





Pediatric school held on May 31-June 1, 2024 hosted a famous pediatric gastroenterologist from Zurich University Childrens Hospital. More than 180 pediatric and family doctors from all marzes of Armenia participated in the event.



Other CME activities in a field of pediatrics and Child and Adolescent Health are organized in collaboration with Arabkir MC-ICAH and other leading pediatric health facilities. All teaching activities received the relevant accreditation from MoH.

On March 14, 2024 in the frames of the World Kidney Day, the Symposium dedicated to kidney health was held in collaboration with Arabkir MC, Armenian Association of Nephrologists, Hemodialysis and Transplant doctors under support of the International Society of Nephrology. Up to 100 pediatric and adult nephrologists, hemodialysis and intensive care doctors, surgeons and other specialists participated in the event.



On November 2, 2024 in collaboration with Georgean Respiratory Association the first Armenian-Georgean conference "Updates in clinical practice" was held in Dilijan. Lectures were provided by leading Armenian and Georgian professors. More than 50 medical doctors participated from Samzhe-Javakheti region and Tbilisi; from Armenian side - 39 doctors from Tavoush, Lori, Gegharkuniq regions and Yerevan. Possibilities of further cooperation, joint events and conducting researches were also discussed.



✓ Developing guidelines and other educational materials

The guidelines on management of Urinary Tract Infections, Cystic Fibrosis in children, Management of Pneumonia and Tonsillitis in children and some other pediatric topics have been developed and approved by MoH. Other clinical recommendations, guidelines and information materials are discussed and presented to doctors during above-mentioned educational events.



✓ Publication of the Pediatric Bulletin

<u>Pediatric bulletin</u> covers different pediatric topics with evidence-based approaches to diagnostics and treatment; each topic contains a quiz to check the knowledge. (The bulletin was published in 2008-2017 under support of the World Vision Armenia).



✓ Outreach seminars and care to children

Each year Association conducts visits to different regions of Armenia to provide up-to-date information to the health staff (pediatricians, family physicians, pediatric specialists) of the primary and secondary levels of health care. The teams of pediatric specialists also provide care and consultancy to children in different marzes and Artsakh; so far hundreds of sick children were among beneficiaries of the activity.



✓ Support to research, surveys and studies

The Association plays the important role in scientific research work participating in discussions around the current and planned scientific theses.



✓ Support to policy developing and advocacy, public health programs

In 2010-2011 in collaboration with World Vision Armenia within the frames of the "Child Health Now" campaign ARABKIR MC-ICAH and ArmPA prepared the analytical report on current situation and issues of pediatric health care, assessment of professional resources in Armenia. The round table was organized with participation of MoH, YSMU, representatives of the clinics and professionals from local and international organizations. The current issues

of pediatrics as well as the need to increase a role of Pediatric Association in child health policy, programming and development of clinical standards were discussed.

In 2012-2013 in collaboration with World Vision Armenia within the frames of the "Increasing a role of health professionals in improving quality of pediatric care in Armenia" program, ARABKIR MC-ICAH and ArmPA implemented regional level project, which aims to raise the problems of health care quality and accessibility of services for newborns and children, relying on the strength and active involvement of the Association's regional representatives, service providers and NGO-s. Meetings were held in Lori and Shirak regions. Results were summed up and presented on the national level. The issues and the guidelines policy documents of pediatric health care was elaborated; round table discussions with participation of different stakeholders were held.

Since 2015 under support of Open Society Foundations –Armenia/ Democracy Development Foundation, ArmPA is working to introduce **Pediatric Palliative Care** (PPC) in Armenia. In 2015 PPC needs assessment in Armenia was conducted, the situation analysis document with suggestions for the relevant model has been developed. The draft concept of the PPC in Armenia was presented and discussed on the national level at Round table held in 2016. The relevant actions were included in the National Strategy on Child and Adolescent Health and Development and Action plan for 2016-2020. ToT trainings were held on PPC for the relevant health and social care staff in 2017; educational materials and teaching modules for multidisciplinary team have been developed. PPC was introduced in pre- and post-diploma curricula of medical students of YSMU and medical colleges and pediatric residents.



In 2019 in collaboration with Armenian Association of Neonatal Medicine and the Armenian EyeCare Project under support of USAID a number of activities were realized on introducing contemporary integrated approaches of **Perinatal palliative care**, improving quality of life of patients and their families and raising awareness of the medical staff dealing with pregnant women and newborns to integrate palliative approaches to routine care. Educational module on "Principles of Perinatal Palliative Care" was developed; teaching course was held for the relevant staff in Yerevan. Visits and discussions with involved specialists enabled the project staff to come up with the needs and gaps in this field, including absence of guidelines and management protocols, lack of knowledge and skills among the personnel, absence of psychosocial services in maternities and pediatric hospitals etc. Findings and recommendations were shared with the respective bodies during Round table.



In 2020-2021 a public awareness campaign dedicated to PPC was held in social media; a short film and information booklet dedicated to issues of PPC in Armenia was developed, a special TV program on PPC was broadcasted.

ArmPA with partners participated in development of number of policy documents aimed at development and introduction of PPC services in Armenia.

In 2024 in collaboration with Arabkir MC and MoH the standards of organization and implementation of the pilot mobile pediatric palliative care services within medical serives provided in Armenia had been developed and approved, including patient selection criteria. Under support of Democracy Development Foundation a number of sensitization meetings and seminars for PHC providers and staff of social care institutons had been held to start selection of the patients who can benefit from the newly established services.

Pilot mobile PPC service will start fuctioning in 2025 on the base of the Hematology center after Yolyan.



In 2018 ArmPA implemented a small advocacy project in collaboration with NCD Child section of AAP (supported by CAF) to increase awareness of pediatricians and adolescents on issues of Healthy Lifestyle and NCD prevention.





Two members of APA Board of are acting members of the Public Council under the Minister of Health. Vice-President of APA is the elected member of the Board of the Armenian Medical Association.

✓ International cooperation and programs

In 2010 by invitation of the Georgian Respiratory Association joint conference and check-ups were held; about 100 children of Javakhety region of Georgia were consulted.

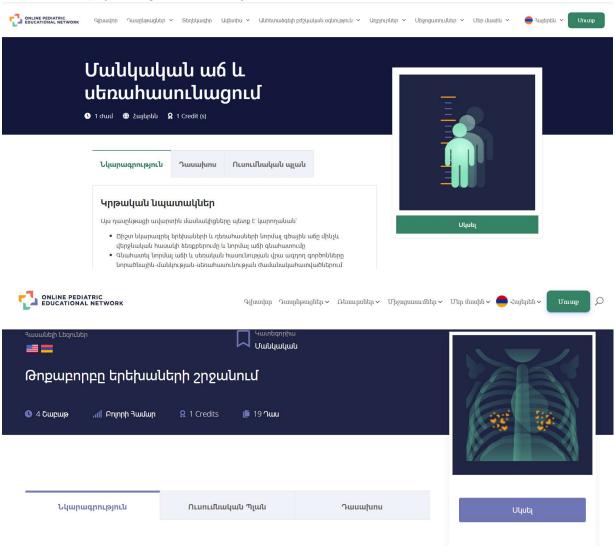
Numbers of teaching courses, seminars and other CME events are held every year in collaboration with international professional associations, our partners from Zurich University Children's Hospital and leading Pediatric clinics. Hundreds of pediatricians, family doctors, pediatric specialists and residents participated in these educational events.

In 2021 within the frames of the project "Improving health and socialization of children and adolescents of Armenia through promotion of organized team sports" (eActs) in partnership with Armenian Healthcare Association of the Bay Area, USA (AHABA) the situation analysis report and the relevant plan of actions to promote team sports among schoolchildren in the pilot sites was developed.

Since 2021 in collaboration with Armenian EyeCare Project and Children's Hospital Los Angele ArmPA has started the Online education in Pediatrics project (https://learnwithopen.org/) aimed to create pediatric online courses for local pediatricians and family doctors. In the frames of the program pediatricians from the USA and Armenia develop online courses, podcasts and newsletters (OPEN Minute) and provided evidence-

based approaches in pediatrics. Thanks to online self-education activities, local doctors have opportunity to get acquainted with news and earn CME credits.

As for 2025 more than 44 accredited online educational courses on pediatrics have been published including teaching modules, lecture courses, podcasts, also online teaching materials on psychological health, eye care and others.





Երեխաների թոքերի ինտերսթիցիալ հիվանդություն

Երեխաների թոքերի ինտերստիցիալ իիվանդությունները (ԵԹԻՅ) շնչառական հիվանդությունների տարասեռ խումբ են, որոնք ախտահարում են թոքերի ինտերստիցիումի, մազանոթների, ալվեոլների և պերիալվեոլային հյուսվածքի վրա։



Կենտոոնանան հիաոտոնիա

Այսօրվա թեման ներառում է ուրերային հիարտոնիայի, կենտրոնական հիպոտոնիայի, բարորակ բնածին հիպոտոնիայի և թույլ նորածնի (floppy

Since 2007 the Association is an acting member of the European Pediatric Association – Union of European Pediatric Societies (EPA-UNEPSA), the European Academy of Pediatric Societies, and the International Pediatric Association. Association regularly participates in the General Assemblies, conferences, round table discussions and other events held by international organizations.

✓ Our Partners

Armenian Pediatric Association is supported by a number of local and international organizations, Arabkir MC-ICAH, leading pediatric clinics of Armenia, Yerevan State Medical University after M.Heratsi, and the University Children's Hospital in Zurich (Switzerland), Children's hospital of Los Angeles, Armenian Eyecare Project, Democracy Development Foundation, other organizations.

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