

Dr. Edisa Tokovic Padder, MD, FAAP completed medical school at Wayne State University in Detroit, MI. During medical school, she spent endless hours volunteering at a free clinic and teaching science to children living in poverty. In 2006, she was elected to The Gold Humanism Honor Society and she received The Cheryl H. Hack, MD Pediatric Award. She moved to Washington, D.C. to complete her pediatric training at Children's National Medical Center, one of the nation's top ranked Children's Hospitals. During her residency, she has developed award winning workshop teaching children and their families how to read food labels in order to make healthy food choices. She has also implemented multiple Quality Improvement (QI) projects at Children's Health Center, including developing hypertension screening algorithm and initiation of nutrition surveys for families during well visits. She has done special training from the Center for Mind-Body Medicine in order to integrate food as medicine in her clinical practice. Dr. Padder has worked at Howard County Hospital's Emergency Room prior to starting her own practice in Howard County. Dr. Padder is a member of medical staff at Howard County General Hospital.

Dr. Padder has served on Maryland's committee for childhood obesity as well as Governor's Council on Heart Disease and Stroke. Her interests include developmental screening, sports medicine, adolescent health and promoting early literacy. She is an author of the Children's Health and Wellness blog. As the Chapter Child Care Contact for the Maryland chapter of American Academy of Pediatrics, Dr. Padder helps build bridges with the early childhood systems. She also supports legislative efforts around early childhood and serves as a spokesperson on childcare and early education issues. Dr Padder has special training as a child care health consultant, through the University of North Carolina School of Public Health.

Dr Padder has served on the Maryland State Department of Education's Advisory Council or the Office of Child Care since August 2011. She has attended Howard County Early Childhood Advisory Board meetings, with the goal to help early childhood community advocates share resources with the community pediatricians. One effort they are working on is to develop a referral algorithm for pediatricians to use to refer high risk mothers to appropriate community organizations without duplicating services. Dr Padder has participated in a variety of workshops and conferences within the state related to early childhood development, developmental screening, healthy nutrition and physical activity in early childhood, and breast-feeding promotion. During 2013, she worked with the AAP Maryland Chapter lobbyist to help educate the legislature about why a particular piece of legislation should not be supported (related to the number of children who could be cared for in a family child care home). The legislation was withdrawn by the sponsor.

Additionally, Maryland Chapter was a recipient in 2013 of the Building Bridges Among Health & Early Childhood Systems project chapter grants. Building Bridges is a collaborative effort between AAP chapters and state early childhood systems. The goal of the project was to build new or strengthen existing relationships between these systems to establish leadership in early brain and child development at the state level. The project was made possible due to supplemental funds from the Maternal and Child Health Bureau. In first year of the project, 20 AAP chapters were awarded funds to strengthen systems between health and a variety of early childhood systems. The second year of the project focused on building relationships between health and Home Visiting programs,

and 10 AAP chapters received funding.

With the Building Bridges support and collaboration with DECD/MSDE and the Maryland Family Network, a training on the foundations of social and emotional early learning (SEFEL) was provided for 50 early care and education service providers in the greater Baltimore Area. Dr Padder noted that the funding made it possible to offer EBCD training to child care providers for free. They also presented on EBCD at their state Head Start meetings. The grant also helped them focus on informing pediatric health and child care professionals about the resources and initiatives available to support their work.

As the Chapter Child Care Contact for Maryland, Edisa Padder, MD, FAAP helps build bridges with the early childhood systems. She also supports legislative efforts around early childhood and serves as a spokesperson on childcare and early education issues. Dr Padder is a community pediatrician and also has special training as a child care health consultant, through the University of North Carolina School of Public Health.

Dr Padder has served on the Maryland State Department of Education's Advisory Council or the Office of Child Care since August 2011. She has recently joined the Howard County Early Childhood Advisory Board, with the goal to help early childhood community advocates share resources with the community pediatricians. One effort they are working on is to develop a referral algorithm for pediatricians to use to refer high risk mothers to appropriate community organizations without duplicating services. Dr Padder has participated in a variety of workshops and conferences within the state related to early childhood development, developmental screening, healthy nutrition and physical activity in early childhood, and breast-feeding promotion. During 2013, she worked with the AAP Maryland Chapter lobbyist to help educate the legislature about why a particular piece of legislation should not be supported (related to the number of children who could be cared for in a family child care home). The legislation was withdrawn by the sponsor.

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Other early childhood successes in Maryland include USDA Team Nutrition Wellness Training for child care providers as well as development of preschool wellness toolkit.

She lives with her husband and three children in Ellicott City, MD.