



Mumbai 2021 Call for Action: Addressing the Need to Incorporate 'Nurturing Care for Early Childhood Development' in Pediatric Office Practice

We, the members of IAP participating in Mumbai PEDICON 2021 in collaboration with WHO and UNICEF, are committed to adopt all the components of the WHO/UNICEF Framework for Nurturing Care for Early Child Development in pediatric practice. In continuity with the IAP Consensus Statement on Early Childhood Development 2020, we commit ourselves and our team members to provide an optimal healthy, safe, enabling, and nurturing environment for all children from birth till three years of age.

We recognize that pediatric care should include the promotive, preventive, curative and rehabilitation services to address the holistic health needs of all children and help them attain their maximal growth and developmental potential.

We the concerned stakeholders, IAP, WHO, UNICEF and NNF, do solemnly pledge to ensure that all the components of NC for ECD are incorporated in our practice (2021-2023). To achieve this goal, we submit the following actions that will be integrated with existing practice.

Action 1: Change knowledge and perception of member pediatricians

- Sensitise IAP members on domains of NCF through various IAP platforms and journals;
- Consultative meetings
- Development of a position paper

Action 2: Change attitudes and practices of pediatricians

- Undertake nationwide capacity building by National, Zonal, State and District level training workshops for paediatricians on NC for ECD.
- Strive to make our facilities ECD compliant through innovative approaches.

Action 3: Change perceptions and practices of parents

- Counsel and teach parents activities that promote good health, adequate nutrition, safety and security, responsive caregiving and early learning, for their children by:

Action 4: Change perceptions and practices of medical students and allied professionals

Action 5: Documentation for Knowledge Management

We believe that this Mumbai 'Call for Action' will ensure improvement in outcomes related to child health, growth, and development, and that we will move one step forward towards attaining 2030 Sustainable Developmental Goals. Not even one child should be left behind.

07 February 2021

