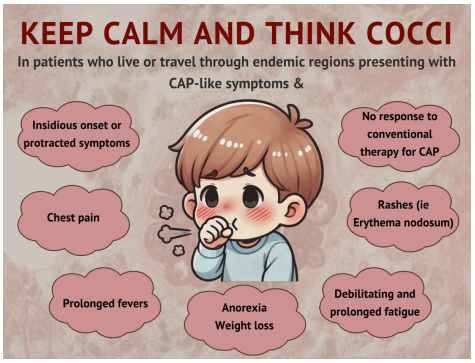
Coccidioidomycosis and It's Impact on Your Community

Ruzan Adam, MD, MPH



Frontline pediatric providers play a critical role in recognizing, diagnosing and managing pediatric coccidioidomycosis, particularly in regions with limited subspecialty services. **We are seeking participants for an IRB approved study to understand the baseline pediatric provider knowledge, attitudes, and practices regarding pediatric coccidioidomycosis.** In the setting of limited medical and public health resources, this information is vital to guide targeted educational interventions to improve awareness, early detection, and management of this disease. If you are a **California frontline pediatric provider (MD, DO, NP, PA) working at least part time in any outpatient pediatric, family medicine, or combined medicine/pediatrics clinic or urgent care**, we need your help to improve care for pediatric patients with coccidioidomycosis. No prior knowledge or experience with coccidioidomycosis is necessary. To participate, you will fill out an **online, one-time, anonymous survey (10-15 minutes).** For more information and to enter a gift card drawing, please see the attached recruitment flyer. You can **access the consent form and survey directly through this LINK or via the QR code below**. Additional educational resources are attached.

Coccidioidomycosis (Valley Fever) is a fungal infection caused by inhalation of *Coccidioides* spores. It is endemic to Central California and Arizona, but in the setting of climate change, it is emerging throughout the state, particularly in northern San Joaquin, Southern California, and Central Coast. Lower incidence among pediatric patients leads to reduced clinical familiarity among pediatric providers and potential delays in diagnosis and treatment. Pediatric coccidioidomycosis presents with a range of phenotypes that mimic more common childhood illnesses, thus complicating recognition and diagnosis. Children can have asymptomatic infection, mild self-limiting respiratory or febrile illness, CAP-like symptoms, and other constitutional signs/symptoms. A minority develop more severe respiratory symptoms or disseminated disease, which leads to significant morbidity, mortality, and long-term antifungal use among previously healthy children. To learn more about coccidioidomycosis and it's impact on your community, visit this CDPH website.



Ruzan Adams, MD, MPH
Fellow, Pediatric Infectious Disease
Paul and Yuanbi Ramsay Endowed Fellow