



**Boston
Children's
Hospital**

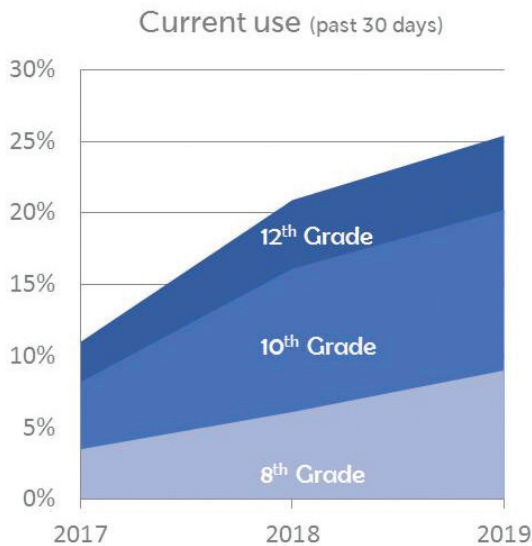


Pediatric addiction medicine: Seizing the opportunity

The vaping epidemic has brought national attention to a long-simmering crisis. Teen substance use problems are common and can lead to addiction. Yet there is little focus on prevention and early intervention during adolescence, while the brain is still very malleable and future addiction can be avoided. Health care providers who care for youth are not trained in addiction medicine, and addiction medicine physicians are not trained in pediatrics. Consequently, providers often overlook or misinterpret warning signs of addiction in youth and rarely intervene.

Help is on the way. At **Boston Children's Adolescent Substance Use and Addiction Program (ASAP)**, we seek to eliminate addiction through prevention and early intervention. ASAP has developed an effective model to prevent and treat substance use disorders in youth. In partnership with the American College of Academic Addiction Medicine and the American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry, we can train the next generation of physicians in pediatric addiction medicine, grow clinical programs and expand capacity. In doing so, we can reach youth and provide them access to professional advice, guidance and treatment. We can save and improve lives and prevent future epidemics. But our model is not yet widely available. You can help change that.

Trends in nicotine vaping



"We need this program (ASAP) like we need the air we breathe."

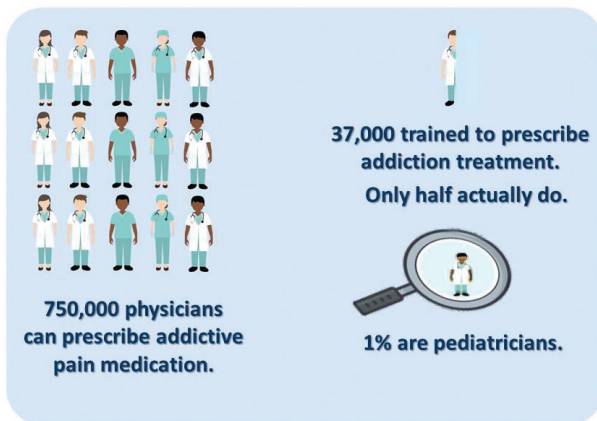
–pediatrician in response to youth vaping

Life-changing impact

"She has had several fairly substantial traumas in the past year, and while we watched with apprehension, she had all the skills in place to get through each situation without setbacks. We are very proud and very grateful." –an ASAP parent



The workforce challenge



Disseminating the ASAP model across the United States and addressing gaps in the workforce will help youth avoid future addiction and limit future epidemics.

A sound investment

The health, social and economic costs of addiction in the United States exceed that of any other disease. The existing model is designed to address chronic, often treatment-resistant problems in adulthood. Targeting youth saves lives and money.

Each \$1 spent saves \$18 in later costs.

Investment	Impact
\$1 million	Create 2 new pediatric-focused addiction medicine fellowship training programs at children's hospitals
\$5 million	Establish dedicated pediatric substance use disorder clinical programs at 5 academic medical centers
\$10 million	Establish dedicated pediatric substance use disorder clinical programs at 15 academic medical centers

Your philanthropic partnership can make a tremendous difference in preventing and treating youth with substance use disorder. We are happy to discuss how to scale your gift to achieve maximum impact.

The chart illustrates various philanthropic opportunities.

Boston Children's Adolescent Substance Use and Addiction Program provides national leadership in the identification, diagnosis and treatment of substance use problems and disorders in children and adolescents.

To learn more, please contact: <http://www.childrenshospital.org/asap> | ASAP@childrens.harvard.edu