

## PECARN Pie: COVID and Child abuse

In this bonus COVID piece from Hippo Education and the PECARN Network, pediatric emergency physicians, Drs. Julia Magana and Jason Woods chat with Dr. Barbara Chaiyachati, a child abuse pediatrician at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at University of Pennsylvania. They discuss a June 2022 article on child abuse during COVID, published in *Pediatrics* and titled "Emergency Department Child Abuse Evaluations During COVID-19: A Multicenter Study." Dr. Magana was also a collaborator on this project and an author on the paper!

### Highlights:

- Overall abuse encounters in the ED reduced 19% during the pandemic. But, the encounters for abuse were reduced in school-aged children and were unchanged in children <2 years and >13 years of age.
- Lower severity abuse injuries decreased the most across all measures.
- Higher severity abuse injuries did not change.
- Skeletal survey rates did not change. Clinicians were able to screen despite the concerns about resource availability.

### References:

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