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Paediatric eTOC Bulletin

September 2026

Archives of Disease in Childhood ~ European Journal of Pediatrics ~
JAMA Pediatrics ~ The Lancet ~
The Lancet: Child & Adolescent Health ~
New England Journal of Medicine ~ Pediatrics



Archives of Disease in Childhood

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THE LANCET

The Lancet [September 05, 2026](#)

The Lancet [September 12, 2026](#)

The Lancet [September 19, 2026](#)

The Lancet [September 26, 2026](#)

PERSPECTIVES

Disability expertise: a paediatrician with cerebral palsy in Japan

SK, the lead author of this article, was born with cerebral palsy, is supported by personal assistants for daily living activities, and uses a power wheelchair. Thanks to his family's advocacy and steadfast belief in his capacities, he was educationally mainstreamed with peers, which was atypical at the time in Japan. His application to medical school sparked a debate about whether he could become a doctor. A faculty member visited SK's apartment to assess him and met the group of people who were part of his care community. After observing SK's many relationships, the faculty member advocated for his admission.

Full text options: [https://libkey.io/libraries/1656/10.1016/S0140-6736\(26\)01775-7](https://libkey.io/libraries/1656/10.1016/S0140-6736(26)01775-7)

CORRESPONDENCE

Evidence no longer matters: newborn screening in England

In February, 2025, we reported in *The Lancet* the human toll of the UK's prolonged refusal to introduce newborn screening for spinal muscular atrophy, despite overwhelming international evidence supporting its clinical and economic benefits. We are delighted that England announced in July 2026 that it would implement newborn screening for spinal muscular atrophy.

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COMMENT

Early-life primary prevention of childhood asthma

Asthma-related symptoms, such as wheezing, are highly prevalent among preschool children. Asthma is a complex disease and originates from genetic susceptibility combined with different environmental exposures. Early life is a specific critical period for development of later-life asthma. Population studies have identified various fetal and early-childhood risk factors for asthma, including early-life respiratory tract infections.¹ Early-life respiratory tract infections have not only short-term consequences, but seem also to affect the development of both the respiratory and immune systems, and subsequently predispose individuals to chronic respiratory diseases in later life

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ARTICLE

Use of the bacterial lysate OM-85 for the primary prevention of wheezing lower respiratory illness in preschool children: a randomised, placebo-controlled trial

Wheezing lower respiratory tract illnesses are a major health concern in preschool children. We report the results of the ORBEX trial which evaluated the safety and efficacy of the bacterial lysate, OM-85, in the primary prevention of wheezing lower respiratory tract illness.

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THE LANCET

Child & Adolescent Health

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New England Journal of Medicine

[NEJM September 3, 2026](#)

Phase 3 Trial of Oral Infigratinib in Children with Achondroplasia

Achondroplasia is a genetic skeletal condition caused by *FGFR3* pathogenic variants. Infigratinib, an oral FGFR1–3 tyrosine kinase inhibitor, down-regulates key pathways in the pathogenesis of achondroplasia.

Full text options: <https://libkey.io/libraries/1656/10.1056/NEJMoa2604565>

Balanced Fluid or 0.9% Saline in Children Treated for Septic Shock

Whether treatment with balanced crystalloid fluid leads to better outcomes than 0.9% saline in children treated for septic shock is debated.

Full text options: <https://libkey.io/libraries/1656/10.1056/NEJMoa2601969>

CORRESPONDENCE

Childhood Vaccine Hesitancy

To the Editor: O'Leary and Danchin (June 4 issue)¹ offer an approach to vaccine hesitancy: recommend clearly, listen respectfully, give accurate information, and maintain trust. Their case vignette, involving a parent who does not want her 12-month-old child to receive the measles–mumps–rubella (MMR) vaccine, raises a distinct issue — the role of emotion. The parent is responding to a recent autism diagnosis in her 2-year-old son and may be struggling with guilt, fear that a decision made to protect that child resulted in autism, and the legitimate wish to protect her younger child. In such cases, I would follow a . . .

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More on Causes of Death among Children and Adolescents in the United States

To the Editor: As reported by Raymond-King et al. (May 14/21 issue),¹ firearms were the leading cause of death from 2020 through 2023 among persons 1 to 19 years of age in the United States. However, the age range for which this is true actually extends to 32 years
Full text options: <https://libkey.io/libraries/1656/10.1056/NEJMc2608518>

[NEJM September 10,2026](#)

Exa-cel in Children with Transfusion-Dependent β -Thalassemia or Sickle Cell Disease

Exagamglogene autotemcel (exa-cel) is a cell therapy in which autologous CD34+ hematopoietic cells are engineered through ex vivo clustered regularly interspaced short palindromic repeats–Cas9 editing of the erythroid-specific enhancer region of *BCL11A* to express fetal hemoglobin. In phase 3 studies involving participants 12 to 35 years of age with sickle cell disease or transfusion-dependent β -thalassemia, exa-cel eliminated vaso-occlusive crises and the need for red-cell transfusions.

Full text options: <https://libkey.io/libraries/1656/10.1056/NEJMoa2603387>

Advancing Gene Editing for Children with Hemoglobinopathies

Sickle cell disease and β -thalassemia are highly prevalent inherited conditions associated with serious complications and a shortened life span. Transfusions in patients with severe β -thalassemia and hydroxyurea therapy in those with sickle cell disease can improve outcomes for many of these patients, yet early diagnosis, consistent access to safe blood products, and effective disease-modifying therapies are not universally available. Chronic organ injury and iron overload ultimately add to the disease burden on persons with these conditions, which affects their quality of life and longevity. Until recently, access to curative options had been limited primarily by the lack of a suitable . . .

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[NEJM September 17,2026](#)

The Epstein Files Transparency Act and the Health of Trafficked Children

Policymakers have so far failed to hold perpetrators in Jeffrey Epstein's trafficking network accountable, but the medical and public health community should confront the resulting health crisis.

Full text options <https://libkey.io/libraries/1656/10.1056/NEJMp2605483>

[NEJM September 24,2026](#)

Declining Child Health in the United States — Addressing the Developmental Ecosystem

To address drivers of poor child health, society should move from responding to health crises one symptom and one child at a time to reimagining ecosystems in ways that facilitate healthy development.



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