

**Physician Advisory Committee (PAC)  
of the San Diego Immunization Branch (SDIB)  
Meeting Minutes**

*Our mission: Reduce vaccine-preventable diseases by raising immunization coverage rates of all San Diego County residents*

Website: [www.sdiz.org](http://www.sdiz.org)

Date: September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010

Time: 7:30-8:30 a.m.

Place: Harbor Room

**Attendees:** Janet Battey, MD; Linda Bethel, PHN; Liz Dodson, RN; Nancy Graff, MD; Linda Hill, MD; Henry Ng, MD; Kimberly Ralston; Elizabeth Rosenblum, MD; Mark Sawyer, MD; Mark Shalauta, MD; Florencia Sisterson, PHN; John Tueller, MD; Karen Waters-Montijo; Robert Wester & Josef Zwass, MD

Agenda Item	Discussion
Welcome and Introductions	<i>Dr. Sawyer</i> welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending.
Influenza	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The pediatric dose of the Flu vaccine made by CSL will not be released in United States. This is because in Australia and New Zealand it's been associated with febrile seizures and high fever. No explanation yet on why and it has not been seen in any other areas or any other flu products. This means there will be a slightly less amount of pediatric flu doses, but there should still be plenty.</li> <li>• 2010-2011 Recommendations – Give vaccine to everyone. Influenza A and B are currently circulating in the Southern Hemisphere and in any other areas H1N1 is the predominant strain. There is expected to be an ample supply of vaccine and some clinics are already getting vaccine. Message is to start giving it early, as soon as you have vaccine give it out. CDC denies any studies showing that the vaccine protection wanes over the course of the season.</li> <li>• MMWR put out a new article revising the number of deaths every year from influenza. It's always been quoted at 36,000 now the new range is approximately 4,000-25,000.</li> <li>• CDC has a good amount of useful flu materials on their website that targets various age and demographic groups.</li> <li>• High does flu vaccine to seniors – doctors are still not sure about ordering many believe that it is too expensive and hasn't really proven to protect seniors better.</li> <li>• For children under age 9 dosage recommendation samples were reviewed. Many good insights on how the documents can be improved were brought up on how to simplify the documents and make them more clear.</li> </ul>
Pertussis Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This continues to be a record breaking year with over 3,000 cases in California and 468 in San Diego. It is not showing any signs of waning. There have been 8 deaths all in infants. 75% of hospitalizations have been Hispanics. One speculation is that Hispanics generally have large families that get together a lot which would be a good opportunity to spread the disease.</li> </ul>

	<p>There is a lot of attention on Tdap vaccine use. Many hospitals have a Tdap post partum program. The state has a program that offers free Tdap vaccine to birth hospitals. The program has extended to December 31<sup>st</sup>. UCSD in addition to ordering vaccine for post partum women have also opened an evening vaccine clinic on the post partum floor and as of August they have immunized 541 family members. The vaccinating is done by pharmacy students. In July the State came out with extended guidelines for use of Tdap vaccine including women who are pregnant and seniors above the age of 64 even though the vaccine is not licensed for it. As well as children 7-9 who are not yet fully immunized with Dtap and are still needing a dose, they should now receive a Tdap. This may turn into something done on the national level. California is leading the way. Some pediatricians are also immunizing parents as long as they are patients too including Scripps and Kaiser. It is recommended to keep bombarding community and doctors with pertussis information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Excluding kids from schools who are unimmunized with pertussis during an outbreak is not likely. The person with pertussis is excluded for 5 days once they've gotten treatment. Everyone is notified for exposure and things to watch for. They should exclude anyone who is symptomatic.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Current Legislation Related to Immunization Delivery</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pertussis Bill – The bill has been amended and it is now a middle school mandate for pertussis. It requires schools in the first year of implementation to check all grade levels 7-12 to make sure kids have been immunized. It has made it through both houses of the legislature and is at the governor's office and there is concern he may veto it. It is recommended to send letters to the governor in support of the bill.</li> <li>• Vaccine Reimbursement Bill – Sets floor for minimum reimbursement for administration fees. Mandating health plans to reimburse physicians at a certain level. This is also at the governor's office. The vaccine purchase price section got taken out in the legislative process.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Registry Update</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UCSD, Scripps &amp; Sharp have been awarded the Beacon contract. The package is from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and the Beacon contract is under the High Tech Act. The High Tech Act is health information technology for economic and clinical health which is trying to build information exchange for the medical community. UCSD, Scripps &amp; Sharp are setting up a regional health information exchange and have been awarded \$15 million for a 3 year project. Only 15 groups throughout the US have been awarded this. There will be inner operatability between health records. This is the new information super highway for medical records. The government has set up "meaningful use" which is criteria and one component is to connect to an immunization registry. Immunizations that are placed in their system or in our system will be shared. First group is anticipated to come on July 2011. Medicaid and Medicare providers will also need to bring their medical records up to a certain standard or they receive less funding.</li> </ul>
<p><b>San Diego Immunization Coalition Update</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coalition is expanding. It's a group of community partners that are interested in immunization activities and has been around for 15 years. Everyone is encouraged to find anyone in their organization that wants to get more active. It doesn't have to be someone within the medical community it can be anyone who is interested in seeing immunizations in San Diego County increase. There will be a regular report from the group. On Friday the annual Kick the Flu Event will be occurring at Scripps Spectrum. A lot of nurses, physicians and people in the public health field will attend. It's the unofficial launch of the influenza season. The nuts and bolts of influenza will be covered and it gets people motivated to get flu vaccine. The coalition is responsibly for putting event on. One of the coalition partners, The Black Nurses Association puts on a flu clinic in order to jump start the community, this will take place on Sept 24<sup>th</sup>. This should get publicity in the news. There is also a Parent Forum coming up that engages parents who have vaccine concerns. There is one scheduled in El Cajon in September.</li> </ul>

<b>Other Business</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Measles is still alive and well in the world. There have been 5 cases of measles in San Diego County since May. Everyone is reminded to be alert of symptoms of children going into the clinics. Most of the cases are from children who have traveled out of the country.</li></ul>
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**Next Meeting: November 4, 2010**