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IMMUNIZATION BULLETIN

New CDPH Policy Expands Tdap Vaccination Efforts

Background:

California Department of Public Health (CDPH) reports 910 confirmed cases and 5 infant deaths from Pertussis in 2010. San Diego County has seen 183 cases of Pertussis in 2010 as of July 14. Pertussis is a highly contagious disease and is often spread from adults with waning immunity to infants who are at higher risk of experiencing serious complications. It is especially important that infants who are too young to be immunized be protected by vaccinating people around them with Tdap vaccine.

CDPH Tdap Policy: Supports Legal “Off-Label” Uses of Tdap

Given the seriousness of the epidemic, CDPH has enacted a new Tdap policy effective July 19, 2010. See attached pages for the official policy. Expanded uses of Tdap include:

- Tdap for children 7-9 years old
- Tdap for adults over 64 years of age
- Tdap for pregnant women *during* pregnancy
- No minimum interval between Td and Tdap administration

High-Priority Groups for Tdap

- Women of childbearing age before & immediately after pregnancy
- Healthcare Personnel; especially those who have direct contact with infants
- Household contacts & caregivers of infants

Practical Applications for Clinics

In addition to vaccination, it is critical that providers screen and test patients for Pertussis. Complete a Confidential Morbidity Report (CMR) form for suspected and confirmed cases of Pertussis and fax to San Diego County Public Health Services Epidemiology & Immunization Services Branch at (619) 692-5677. Questions about diagnosing or reporting Pertussis can be answered by a Public Health Nurse at 1-866-358-2966.

Additional Information

San Diego Immunization Branch: www.sdiz.org/healthcarepros/

California Vaccines for Children Program: www.eziz.org (Materials section)

California Department of Public Health: www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/immunize (About Pertussis & Vaccination section)

Centers for Disease Control & Prevention: www.cdc.gov/vacines/ (Vaccines & Preventable Diseases section)

Please contact SDIB's Immunization Management Consultancy Team with questions or to request consultancy services:
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