



Immunization Management Consultancy
3851 Rosecrans Street, MS P573
San Diego, CA 92110-3115
Phone: 619-692-8661
Fax: 619-692-5677

IMMUNIZATION BULLETIN

OB/GYN Immunization Resources

New OB/GYN Immunization Website:

The San Diego Immunization Branch (SDIB) has recently posted a new webpage specifically for OB/GYNs containing immunization resources and updates related to women including pregnant women. The website provides several pages and links to ACOG and CDC immunization recommendations, treatment guidelines, patient education materials, H1N1 updates, and other resources. Materials are free or can be downloaded. SDIB immunization experts are available at no charge to assist providers in improving immunization services. The webpage can be found at www.sdiz.org under HealthCare Providers then click on Immunizations for OB/GYNs.

HPV Vaccination Rates:

The vaccination rates for HPV continue to increase significantly for adolescents but remain low for adults 19-26 years of age. According to the 2008 National Health Interview, 37.2% of females 13-17 years of age reported receiving at least one HPV dose. 17.9% reported receiving 3 doses of HPV. California rates are even higher at 46.6% and 22.1% for HPV1 and HPV3, respectively. Nationally, for females 19-26 years of age only 10.5% reported receiving at least one dose of HPV. Links to the reports can be found at the SDIB OB/GYN website.

H1N1 Disease in Pregnant Women:

ACOG & CDC officials urge OB/GYNs to continue to vaccinate pregnant women for H1N1. In the first 4 months of the outbreak, 28 pregnant women died from H1N1 and over 100 were admitted to ICUs. As H1N1 vaccine supplies continue to increase and disease rates appear to be declining, experts re-emphasize the need to continue to protect pregnant women. Influenza season usually peaks in February and the disease rates may rebound back to epidemic levels. See ACOG update at http://www.acog.org/departments/dept_notice.cfm?recno=20&bulletin=5020

Initial Study Shows H1N1 Vaccine Highly Effective in Pregnant Women:

Healthy pregnant women show a "robust immune response" after one dose of H1N1 vaccine. According to Anthony Fauci, MD Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, the vaccine results for pregnant women are very reassuring and vaccine has been well tolerated. See the HHS report at <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2009pres/11/20091102a.html>

California Extends H1N1 Thimerosal Exemption until September 2010:

California has extended the exemption for the use of thimerosal-containing H1N1 vaccine for pregnant women and children under 3 until September 2010. Supplies remain short of the preservative-free H1N1 vaccine and due to the serious threat of H1N1 the exemption has been extended. While California normally requires the use of thimerosal-free vaccine for pregnant women, the CDC recommends either form. Free H1N1 vaccine can still be ordered at <http://www.sdiz.org/HealthcarePros/H1N1.html#>

Resources:

SDIB OB/GYN website: <http://www.sdiz.org/HealthcarePros/OBGYN/OBGYNs.html>

CDC H1N1 Resources for Clinicians: <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/clinicians/>

H1N1 Vaccine Ordering & Reporting: www.CalPanFlu.org

CA Department of Public Health: <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/HealthInfo/discond/Pages/SwineInfluenza.aspx>

San Diego County PHS H1N1 news <http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/portal/news/swineflu.html>

San Diego Immunization Branch: <http://www.sdiz.org/HealthcarePros/H1N1.html>

Please contact SDIB's Immunization Management Consultancy Team with questions or to request consultancy services:
Daniel Wurm: daniel.wurm@sdcounty.ca.gov, (619) 692-5730

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