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Immunization Bulletin

Topic: MMWR Recommendations: Tdap for Pregnant & Postpartum Women

Background: The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) released recommendations for vaccination of pregnant and postpartum women with Td/Tdap in the MMWR 57 (04): on May 14, 2008. Vaccination with Tdap prevents pertussis among recipients and family members. Pertussis frequently results in significant morbidity with lost time from work and school. Parents are the source for over 40% of identified cases of pertussis among infants. Infants accounted for over 90% of pertussis deaths been 2000-2006. It is very important that new mothers be protected from developing pertussis in order to protect their infants. Providers should encourage vaccination of household and child care contacts for infants <12 months. Available evidence does not yet address the safety of vaccinating pregnant women or fetuses with Tdap.

ACIP Recommendations:

For pregnant women who have not yet been immunized with Tdap:

1. Routinely immunize women postpartum (including women breastfeeding) with Tdap prior to discharge from birthing center.
2. Tdap can be administered as short as 2 years after Td; shorter intervals may be used if indicated (such as pertussis outbreak in the community).
3. During pregnancy, defer Td and substitute Tdap postpartum if the woman is likely to have sufficient protection for tetanus and diphtheria.
Sufficient Protection: 1. Td within 10 years; 2. if <31 years of age & completed childhood series & ≥ 1 Td; 3. if ≥ 31 years & completed childhood series & ≥ 2 Td 4. complete 3 dose Td series as adult or adolescent 5. Protective serum tetanus level (≥ 0.1 IU/mL by ELISA).
4. Give Td during pregnancy for insufficient tetanus protection or travel to areas with endemic diphtheria.
5. For wound management in pregnant women a Td booster is recommended if >5 years has elapsed since the previous Td.
6. For pregnant women with unknown & incomplete Td status— complete a series of 2 doses of Td, separated by 4 weeks, followed 6 months later (postpartum) with Tdap.

Contraindications for Td & Tdap :

- A history of a serious allergic reaction to vaccine or components.
- A history of encephalopathy within 7 days of pertussis vaccine without another attributable cause.

Precautions for Td & Tdap:

- Guillain-Barré onset within 6 weeks of tetanus toxoid vaccine.
- Unstable neurologic condition/disorder or uncontrolled epilepsy.
- Arthus reaction to tetanus/diphtheria toxoid vaccine within 10 years.

Additional Information:

MMWR Summary of ACIP recommendations of Tdap for pregnant & postpartum women & their infants

http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5704a2.htm?s_cid=rr5704a2_e

MMWR Complete ACIP recommendations of Tdap for pregnant & postpartum women & their infants

Download bulletin at <http://www.SDIZ.org/HealthcarePros/bulletins.html>