



Health Alert

June 21, 2010

Pertussis Update

Department of Health Services
Public Health Division
(510) 981-5300

Janet Berreman, MD, MPH
Health Officer

Please distribute to all providers in your practice

Current Situation

- **CDPH declares pertussis epidemic in California**
- As of 6/15/2010, there have been **910** cases of pertussis reported in 2010; this is a **4-fold increase** from the the same time period in 2009 when **219** cases were reported.
- There have been five 2010 deaths to date, all in Hispanic infants <3 months of age. Age at symptom onset was 5 days – 8 weeks.
- **Healthcare providers may consider an accelerated infant DTaP schedule.** Per the American Academy of Pediatrics 2009 Red Book, “If pertussis is prevalent in the community, immunization can be started as early as 6 weeks of age, and doses 2 and 3 in the primary series can be given at intervals of 4 weeks.”
- Increases are being reported from all over the state but seem to be highest in the Bay Area and Central Valley

Updates

- Studies have shown that half of the infants with pertussis are infected by their parents, particularly their mothers. **Therefore, vaccinating parents and caregivers for pertussis before or at the birth of the child is the most important way to protect infants.**
- In addition to the five doses of pertussis vaccine recommended before kindergarten, a booster dose of the vaccine is recommended for all adolescents between 11 and 18 years of age, and for all persons who will have close contact with young infants.
- Pregnant women may be vaccinated with Tdap, which includes Pertussis, during pregnancy or after giving birth.
- A typical case of pertussis in children and adults starts with a cough and runny nose for one-to-two weeks, followed by weeks to months of rapid coughing fits that sometimes end with a whooping sound. Fever is rare. Symptoms and disease characteristics in young infants are more variable.

Guidelines

- **VACCINE**
 - CDPH: <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/HealthInfo/discond/Pages/Pertussis.aspx>
(Facts about the DTaP vaccine)
 - CDPH: http://www.immunize.org/vis/td_tdap.pdf
(Facts about the Tdap vaccine)
- **PERTUSSIS**
 - CDPH: <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/HealthInfo/discond/Pages/Pertussis.aspx>
 - CDC: http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dbmd/diseaseinfo/pertussis_t.htm
 - California American Academy of Pediatrics: http://www.aap-ca.org/clinical/pertussis/pertussis_in_young_infants.html
- **REPORTING**
 - City of Berkeley Public Health Division: <http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/ContentDisplay.aspx?id=13896>



Health Alert

June 21, 2010

Pertussis Update

Department of Health Services
Public Health Division
(510) 981-5300

Janet Berreman, MD, MPH
Health Officer

Please distribute to all providers in your practice

Educational Materials

(IMM-847) Tdap Flyer for Parents

<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/immunize/Documents/IMM-847.pdf>

[http://www.eziz.org/PDF/IMM-847S%20\(7-07\)_WEB.pdf](http://www.eziz.org/PDF/IMM-847S%20(7-07)_WEB.pdf)

(IMM-843) Tdap Flyer for Grandparents Under 65

<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/immunize/Documents/IMM-843.pdf> *(English)*

[http://www.eziz.org/PDF/IMM-843S\(7-07\)_WEB.pdf](http://www.eziz.org/PDF/IMM-843S(7-07)_WEB.pdf) *(Spanish)*

(IMM-846) Tdap Flyer for Health Care Workers

<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/immunize/Documents/IMM-846.pdf> *(English)*

[http://www.eziz.org/PDF/IMM-846S%20\(9-06\)%20WEB.pdf](http://www.eziz.org/PDF/IMM-846S%20(9-06)%20WEB.pdf) *(Spanish)*

(IMM-874E/S) Childcare Worker Flu & Whooping Cough Flyer

<http://www.eziz.org/PDF/IMM-874.pdf>

(IMM-887) Immunizations for a Healthy Pregnancy

<http://eziz.org/PDF/IMM-887PregnancySwineFlu.pdf>

(Has pertussis info for before and after pregnancy. Also available in Spanish and Chinese)

For Immunization Coordinators

(IMM-817 E/S) <http://izcoordinators.org/pages/branch-store/?id=149>

Resources

- Center for Disease Control (CDC): <http://www.cdc.gov/>
- California Department of Public Health (CDPH): <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/>
- City of Berkeley Public Health Division: <http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/publichealth>
- CDPH Pertussis Quicksheet:
<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/HealthInfo/discond/Documents/Pertussisquicksheet.pdf>
- CDPH Lab Testing:
http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/immunize/Documents/CDPH_Pertussis%20laboratory%20testing_Nov08.pdf