

TO: EZIZ Users

FROM: CDPH

SUBJECT: Please Join us in Celebrating Preteen Vaccine Week, February 9-15, 2014

DATE: 2/6/14



Please join us in celebrating Preteen Vaccine Week, February 9-15, 2014. This is an excellent opportunity to alert families of your 11- and 12-year-old patients that they should schedule a preteen doctor visit and get immunized against dangerous diseases:

- Human Papillomavirus (HPV)
 - [HPV](#) is the most common sexually transmitted infection and can lead to cancers of the cervix, vulva, vagina, penis, anus and oropharynx. According to the CDC, HPV causes more than 20,000 cancers in women and about 12,000 cancers in men annually in the US.
 - See [CDC's new tip sheet for talking to parents about HPV vaccine](#)

- Pertussis
 - [Whooping cough \(pertussis\)](#) can cause severe coughing spells that lead to vomiting or broken ribs. Preteens suffering from whooping cough can be hospitalized and miss weeks of school. The California Department of Public Health recommends that everyone 11 years of age and older receive a booster shot against pertussis (also known as Tdap). **Under state law, all incoming 7th grade students** will need proof of a Tdap booster shot before starting school. More information is available at www.ShotsforSchool.org.

- Meningococcal
 - Bacterial meningitis can cause brain damage, arm and leg amputations, kidney damage, and death. Preteens need one shot now and a booster at age 16.

- Flu
 - Flu is widespread in California. Everyone 6 months of age and older need to be immunized against flu as soon as possible.

Please utilize every opportunity, including sports physicals, to provide immunizations to preteens. To download preteen education materials, please visit:

<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/immunize/Pages/PreteenVaccineWeek.aspx>

Thank you for helping to raise awareness about life-saving vaccines and for supporting Preteen Vaccine Week!

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