



Immunization Branch, California Department of Public Health, 850 Marina Bay Parkway, Building P, Richmond, CA (510) 620-3737

To: Immunization Program Coordinators
California Immunization Coalition members
California VFC Providers

February 13, 2012

In this Issue...

Top Story: Preteen Vaccine Week, New Video, Tdap Informing

Statewide Immunization Campaigns

- Tdap Law, 7th Graders Only
- IZ Branch Takes Gold and Silver NPHIC Awards
- Late Season Flu Vaccination Still Important
- Planning Underway for NIIW/TIM 2012
- New on Shot by Shot

Assessments

- Fall Assessment Results Coming Soon
- Selective Review

Epi Update

- No Pertussis Death in 2011

Vaccine News

- NVAC Draft Recs for Health Care Worker Flu Vaccination
- Vaccine Bar Codes
- HPV Vaccine: More Education Needed
- New Law Expands Minors' Consent for STD Prevention

Provider Education

- 2012 ACIP Timing Schedules Now Available
- New EZIZ Job Aids

New Branch Staff

- New CAIR Staff

Calendar of Upcoming Events

New Materials and Online Resources

Preteen Vaccine Week 2012: New Video, Tdap Informing

February 12-18 is Preteen Vaccine Week (PVW), a statewide observance to remind parents to bring their preteen in for a check-up and *all* age-appropriate immunizations!

This year, the Immunization Branch is pleased to debut "**One Shot Heroes**," a new video targeting preteens. Watch it online in segments: [Act 1](#), [Act 2](#), and [Act 3](#).

Additional resources for PVW, include the

- newly re-launched mybestshot.org website
- [parent flyer on preteen vaccines](#) for *clinicians* (also in [Spanish](#)) to help parents learn about all recommended preteen vaccines
- [customizable parent flyer](#) for *schools* (also in [Spanish](#))
- [sample immunization classroom activity](#), suitable for teachers or peer health educators to lead.

During PVW the Immunization Branch and over 20 local health departments are informing schools, parents and providers about the 2012 7th grade Tdap school entry requirement. Find "talking points" in the [2012 Preteen Vaccine Week Kit](#).

For more information visit www.GetImmunizedCa.org or contact Rebeca.Boyte@cdph.ca.gov.



Statewide Immunization Campaigns

Tdap Law - Now for 7th Graders Only

The Immunization Branch reminds parents, students, health care providers, and education partners that starting July 1, 2012, and annually thereafter, **all** students



going into 7th grade must have proof of having had the Tdap booster shot before starting school unless they have a documented exemption.

The law applies to all public and private schools. The 2012-13 school year differs from 2011-12, when the law also included a catch-up requirement for 8th-12th graders. It's also important to note that, unlike last summer, there is currently no 30-day grace period for school entry in the existing law.

The Immunization Branch **encourages current 6th graders to get their routine immunizations, including Tdap, now** ahead of the back-to-school rush this summer. To help with this message, new and updated resources include:

- **Updates to ShotsForSchool.org** to reflect the new 7th grade-only requirement. Resources on the site include updated FAQs for [schools](#) and [parents](#).
- **Messages for schools with current 6th graders.** Visit ShotsforSchool.org to find [flyers](#) for schools to send home with students and sample [phone messages](#) for parents.
- **Promotional resources,** including a downloadable [web banner](#) for a school's homepage and template [newsletter article](#) to reach parents.

Immunization Branch Takes Gold and Bronze NPHIC Awards!

Drum roll please! The 2011 National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) awards winners included four contributions from the CDPH Immunization Branch. The awards showcase state-of-the-art communications in public health. The IZ Branch winners included:



- [ShotsForSchool.org website](#) (**gold medal** in Websites/New Media In-house production)
- [Monitoring Refrigerator Temperatures and Monitoring Freezer Temperatures](#) (**gold medal** in Webcasts /Web-based Training, In-House Production)
- [Measles Travel Poster](#) (**bronze medal** in Posters/billboards, Print Category)
- [An Ounce of Prevention, bilingual HPV Fotonovela](#) (**bronze medal** in Brochures, Outsourced Production)

Planning Underway for NIIW/TIM 2012

The Immunization Branch, the California Immunization Coalition, local health departments, and other partners are gearing up to celebrate National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW) and Toddler Immunization Month (TIM). NIIW is a national observance, held April 21-28. TIM, observed each May, is a California event. Both highlight the importance of protecting young children from vaccine-preventable diseases. This is also a chance to acknowledge and thank the immunization champions who help keep our children healthy. It's not too late to participate. Anyone interested in planning campaign activities may contact Suzi.Bouveron@cdph.ca.gov.

Late Season Flu Vaccination Still Important

Tragically, an adult male from Kern County was the first recorded death from influenza this season. This is a somber reminder to Californians that flu is dangerous, even in winter and spring, when news about flu becomes less visible and the motivation to get a flu shot can weaken.



Influenza disease typically peaks between January and March. Consider using a [Shot by Shot flu story](#) to educate local communities about the potentially deadly risks of flu and to remind them to get themselves and their family members vaccinated.

Clinicians and immunization advocates should take advantage of updated resources to assist in late season flu vaccination efforts. Materials include:

- [Flu Prevention Tips flyer](#)
- [CDC e-cards](#)
- [2011-12 Influenza Talking Points](#) and
- CDC's Online [Flu Finder](#) (Enter a zip code to find the nearest location to receive the flu vaccine.)

New on Shot by Shot

Last month, in recognition of Cervical Health Awareness Month, the California Immunization Coalition's Shot by Shot (SBS) site added seven new videos featuring women who have survived cervical cancer. Also new are stories about chicken pox, pertussis and flu. Keep up-to-date by visiting these videos in the ShotbyShot.org Story Gallery. Those who use SBS stories are encouraged to share new and creative uses by contacting Amanda.Roth@cdph.ca.gov.

- [Tricia's Story](#) (cervical cancer)
- [Susie's Story](#) (cervical cancer)
- [Quita's Story](#) (cervical cancer)
- [Maggie's Story](#) (cervical cancer)
- [Joslyn's Story](#) (cervical cancer)
- [Lisa's Story](#) (cervical cancer)
- [HPV Stories](#) (cervical cancer)



- [Susan's Story](#) (chicken pox)
- [Chelsea's Story](#) (influenza)
- [Brittney's Story](#) (influenza)
- [Debbie Jo's Story](#) (pertussis)
- [The Whooping Cough Song](#) (pertussis PSA)

Assessments

Fall Assessment Results Coming Soon

In addition to California's routine annual child care and kindergarten immunization assessments, in 2011 middle schools and high schools were tasked to report on Tdap immunization coverage for 7-12th graders.

Middle and high schools met the challenge to submit student Tdap vaccination data to the State. The Immunization Branch anticipates that 2011 assessment reports will be available and posted online in the next months. The Branch extends its appreciation to California Immunization Coordinators who conducted follow-up to ensure the most complete possible data reporting from schools and child care centers across the state.

Selective Review

Immunization Coordinators should be receiving materials necessary for the Spring Selective Review soon. For more information, contact Teresa.Lee2@cdph.ca.gov or Renee.Mehra@cdph.ca.gov.

California Epi Update

No Deaths from Whooping cough in 2011

After California's 2010 pertussis epidemic, data recently released for 2011 show a positive turn of events. Pertussis cases dropped from over 9,000 to about 3,000. And—for the first time in 20 years—there were no deaths at all.

Young infants are the most vulnerable to whooping cough complications. Of 575 whooping cough cases among infants 3 months of age or younger reported during 2011, 244 (42%) were hospitalized. That's a significant drop since 2010, when 59% of infected infants in that age group were hospitalized.

California's pioneering expanded Tdap vaccination recommendations for adolescents and adults, greater awareness of the disease, and more rapid diagnosis and treatment may have contributed to this positive public health outcome. For more information, read [CDPH's pertussis press release](#) or visit CDPH's [pertussis page](#).

Vaccine News

NVAC Draft Recommendations for Health Care Worker Flu Vaccinations

The National Vaccine Advisory Committee (NVAC) has issued a [draft report](#) and a summary of [public comments](#) on its preliminary recommendations for health care worker flu vaccinations. Among the preliminary recommendations are a goal of 90% coverage rate for influenza vaccinations among health care personnel and a call for health care facilities to "*strongly consider requiring*" influenza vaccination for their employees. The final report should be available later in 2012.

Vaccine Bar Codes Coming

Some vaccine vials are getting a technology upgrade. Later this year, vials of sanofi pasteur DTaP and MCV4 vaccines are expected to display two-dimensional bar codes that can be read with a scanner. The codes will contain information on the vaccine's lot number and expiration date. The [American Academy of Pediatrics](#) (AAP) has prepared guidance for clinicians in using the new bar code technology. Download [AAP's guidance document](#) here.



HPV Vaccine: More Education Needed

A recent study suggests that few adolescents perceived less need for safer sexual behaviors after the first HPV vaccination. Education about HPV vaccines and encouraging communication between girls and their mothers may prevent misperceptions among these adolescents. [Read more.](#)

New Law Expands Minors' Consent for STD Prevention

A law ([Chapter 652, AB 499 Statutes of 2011](#)), expands California's Family Code relating to adolescents. Under the new law adolescents age 12 and older may consent to medical care to prevent a sexually-transmitted disease (STD). While prior laws allow minors to consent to *treatment* of STDs, the new law extends their ability to consent without parent or guardian permission to preventive measures such as :

- HPV vaccination series
- Hepatitis B vaccination series
- HIV post-exposure prophylactic medication
- Other preventive STD medical services that may become available in the future.

The law does not

- Require minors to seek or receive HPV vaccination, hepatitis B vaccination, or any other preventive services
- Provide additional funding or resources for the vaccinations and other STD prevention services. Moreover, the law explicitly states that the parents or guardians of the minor are not liable for the costs of such services.

In many cases, health care providers are not permitted to share information or records regarding a minor's STD prevention services with a parent or legal guardian without the minor's written authorization. Health care providers should be aware that:

- There is no law that requires providers to record an STD vaccination in the California Immunization Registry (CAIR).
- Insurance companies may share claims information about STD prevention services with primary policy holders, such as parents.
- Immunization data about minors in CAIR and other record systems may be accessible to parents.

Provider Education

2012 ACIP Immunization Timing Schedules Now Available

The 2012 ACIP immunization schedules for [children](#), [adolescents](#), and [adults](#) are now online on the CDC's Immunization Schedules page.

New EZIZ Job Aids

Two new resources for medical assistants and vaccinators are now available on EZIZ.org. These useful tools are great for both new staff and seasoned vaccinators alike. Check out:

- [Preparing Liquid Vaccines](#) and
- [Preparing Reconstituted Vaccines](#)

New Branch Staff

New Staff Join CAIR Team

Cheryl Scott, CAIR Help Desk Technician, worked most recently at Insmark, a software company. Cheryl has over 20 years of experience in customer and technical support. She studied at Diablo Valley College.

Karina Chavez, CAIR Help Desk Technician, came to the Branch from the UCSF Silver Avenue Health Center where she worked as a health coach. Karina has her BS from UC Berkeley.

Yunuen Garcia, CAIR Implementation Specialist for the Central Valley, previously worked for the Fresno County Migrant Education Program. Yunuen earned her MPH from Fresno State University.

Victoria Daher, Data Exchange Specialist, worked previously as UC Davis. Victoria has BS in Health Science and is currently completing her MS in Health Informatics at UC Davis.

Upcoming Events, Conferences, and Observances

Date	Event	Sponsors	Website/Contact Info
February 12-18	Preteen Vaccine Week	CDPH	CDPH Immunization Branch
February 23	Efficient Vaccine Ordering Webinar	ACIP	ACPOne
March 13	Applying Quality Improvement Principles to Immunization (webinar)	ACIP	ACPOne
March 28-29	NICO virtual conference	CDC	NICO
April 23-24 Sacramento	2012 California Immunization Coalition Summit	CIC	CIC Summit
May 9-10 Emeryville	2012 Immunization Coordinator's Meeting	CDPH	CDPH Immunization Branch (details TBD)
May 23-25 New Orleans	National Conference for Immunization and Health	Louisiana Shots for Tots Coalition	NCIHC

New Educational Materials and Online Resources

Downloadable Print Materials	Type of resource
Vaccines for Your Preteen also in Spanish	Flyer
7th grade AB 354 materials	Flyers, phone scripts, etc
AAP Immunization training guide	Guide
Hep B VIS revised	Flyer
Vaccine Bar Code Guidance Document	Report
On-Demand Webinars and Webcasts	
Rabies post-exposure prophylaxis online course (Maryland Dept. of Health)	Archived Webinar
Navigating Adolescent Vaccinations Through VFC Private and Safety Net Providers (California Immunization Coalition)	Archived Webinar