

2. Share [cervical cancer stories](#) from the Shot By Shot story collection or explore social media options on this [CDC Thunderclap campaign](#).

3. Link to materials you can use!

- [How Important Is HPV Vaccine for Preteens and Teens flyer](#) | [Spanish](#) (for Parents)
- [More Information about HPV and HPV Vaccine](#) (In-depth for Parents)
- [HPV Vaccine: What Health Care Providers Need to Know](#)
- [9-valent Guidance Factsheet](#) (In-depth for clinicians)



Remember, studies highlight *providers* as the primary influencer in helping parents decide to get their preteens vaccinated against HPV. If you are a clinician, a strong recommendation for HPV vaccine can prevent cervical cancer and other cancers for years to come.

Statewide Immunization Campaigns

Flu Vaccine: It's Not Too Late to Get It, Branch Working with Local Health Depts



Flu season is underway, and influenza cases are increasing with elevated activity in some regions of the state. Before we reach the peak, it's imperative that health care providers continue urging their patients to get vaccinated. This year's vaccine appears to be a good match to circulating strains, and getting flu vaccine is the single most important thing people can do to protect themselves and their loved ones from influenza. Vaccine advocates or providers running low on flu vaccine can also refer patients to use the online [Flu Vaccine Finder](#) to locate local pharmacies that offer influenza vaccinations (also available on the homepage at [Flu.gov](#).)

The Immunization Branch has distributed all current orders of its 600,000-dose supply of state-purchased influenza vaccine to local health departments (LHDs) throughout the state. Limited quantities of both injectable and live vaccine remain for supplemental orders to CDPH by LHDs and their partners. The Branch requests that LHDs continue their important efforts to immunize as many uninsured and other underserved Californians as possible, and to work with partners who can utilize doses that have not been used by December and later months.

Two influenza-associated deaths in persons younger than 65 years have been reported (one adult and one child) to date this season in California, but many more can be prevented by ensuring our communities are protected. The evidence is clear: Getting vaccinated can reduce flu illnesses, doctors' visits, missed work and school due to flu, as well as prevent flu-related hospitalizations and deaths. Everyone six months and older should get a flu vaccine for best protection against flu. Stay current with [CDC's 2015-16 influenza season online training](#).

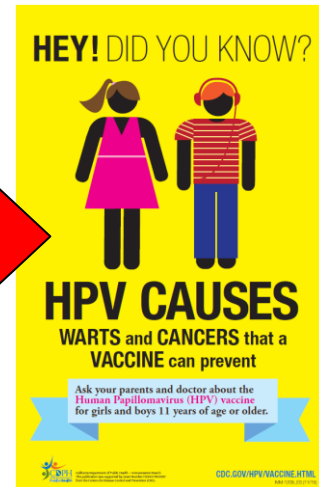
We encourage health care providers to utilize CDPH and CDC patient and staff [influenza education materials](#) downloadable from our eziz.org website.

Preteen Vaccine Week Coming in February!

California's Preteen Vaccine Week 2016, observed February 7-13 will promote immunization against human papillomavirus (HPV), pertussis, and meningococcal disease for 11- and 12-year-olds. Visit the [Preteen Vaccine Week webpage](#) to find these helpful resources:

- [Campaign Kit](#)
- [Web Banners](#)
- [Talking Points](#)
- [Suggested Social Media Messages](#)
- and more!

For information about the campaign, contact Jane.Pezua@cdph.ca.gov.

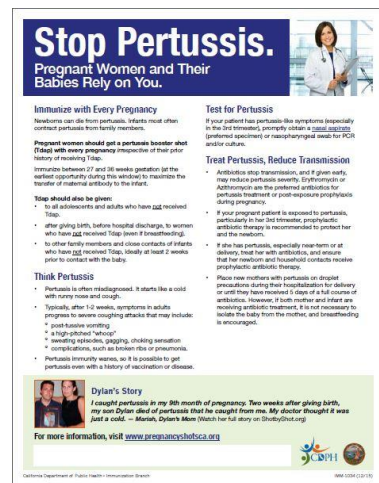


Epi News

California Focus on Preventing Pertussis in Infants < 4 Months of Age

Young infants are the most seriously impacted by pertussis. Providers are now recommended to immunize pregnant women with Tdap **at the earliest possible time** during the third trimester (27-36 weeks) to prevent these cases. (See [newly updated flyer IMM-1034](#)). This helps ensure that premature infants may also benefit from maternal antibodies crossing the placenta so the baby is born with protection before old enough for his/her own DTaP vaccination. Last October, CDPH issued a [press release](#) affirming the importance of Tdap during pregnancy, based on study findings from Immunization Branch researchers.

While complete 2015 pertussis case counts are not yet finalized, as of November 20, 246 pertussis cases in infants under 4 months of age were reported, including one death in an infant <3 weeks of age. In total, 4,417 pertussis cases with onset in 2015 had been reported to CDPH from 37 of California's 61 local health jurisdictions. Of these, 176 cases were hospitalized and 50 (28%) of those required intensive care. One hundred and twenty (70%) of hospitalized patients were infants <4 months of age. Find details of the most recent California [Pertussis Summary Reports](#) online. Visit [EZIZ.org's pertussis page](#) for pertussis educational materials to use for patients.



Vaccine News

California Thimerosal Exemption Lifted

In October, Dr. Karen Smith, Director of the California Department of Public Health, issued a [temporary exemption](#) to California's Health and Safety Code 124172. This exemption allowed California-based health care providers to vaccinate children under age three with influenza vaccine that contains the preservative thimerosal. During limited supplies of thimerosal-free vaccine, this exemption helped ensure that this vulnerable population could be vaccinated against influenza. The exemption was lifted on December 31, 2015 after delays in distribution of the thimerosal-free vaccine were resolved. Beginning in 2016, California reverts back to its presiding law, which prohibits giving thimerosal-containing influenza vaccine to pregnant women and children less than three years of age.



Anaphylaxis Risk After Flu Vaccination Very Rare

Children and adults receiving trivalent or monovalent inactivated influenza vaccine had a rate of about 1 to 2 cases of anaphylaxis per million doses given. [Read more.](#)

MenB Recommendation Published

Last October, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) published its recommendations that adolescents and young adults aged 16 - 23 years may be vaccinated with a serogroup B meningococcal (MenB) vaccine to provide short-term protection against most strains of serogroup B meningococcal disease. As reported previously, the recommendation is category B or “permissive.” Publishing their decision in the CDC’s *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* (MMWR) formalizes it. Refer to [MMWR October 23, 2015](#) for details. For details on ACIP MenB vaccine recommendations for high-risk persons 10 years and older, see [MMWR June 12, 2015](#).

Vaccine Adjuvants: Evidence of Safety

This review of the science makes a case for aluminum adjuvants as the “gold standard” with a strong safety record. Other adjuvants are examined, in turn, with recommendations for additional research. [Read more.](#)

Influenza Vaccine Protective Against Flu-Related Pneumonia

Researchers found that patients with influenza-related pneumonia were less likely to have received influenza vaccine. Therefore, getting a flu shot may not only protect against influenza, it can also substantially reduce the risk of hospitalization for influenza-related pneumonia. [Read more.](#)

Impact of Maternal Tdap

California infants whose mothers received Tdap vaccine during pregnancy were significantly less likely to be hospitalized, or need ICU care; none required intubation or died. Among their hospitalized infants, hospital stays were shorter (median 3 vs. 6 days). [Read more.](#)

Flu and Tdap Vaccination of Pregnant Women Influences Cocooning

A survey of new mothers showed maternal vaccination and obstetrician recommendation are associated with infant cocooning. [Read more.](#)

Co-Administration of Flu and Tdap During Pregnancy: No Increase in Adverse Events

Data on over 36,000 pregnant women showed no increase in adverse effects when administering influenza vaccine and Tdap vaccine at the same visit. There was also no increase in pre-term or low birth weight babies. [Read more.](#)

Provider Education

2016 CIC Summit in April; Abstracts due in January



The 2016 California Immunization Coalition (CIC) Summit will be held April 24–25 in Sacramento. The Summit's theme is "Celebrating Healthier Tomorrows." The deadline to submit [abstracts](#) is January 13.

IZ Branch Approved for HPV Vaccine Reminder Pilot

In December, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) approved the Immunization Branch to develop a 12-month pilot project to test the effectiveness of text message and email reminders for parents whose child needs to complete the three-dose Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine series after the initial dose. The project is scheduled to begin in the spring. For more information, contact

Tammy.Pilisuk@cdph.ca.gov or Rebeca.Boyte@cdph.ca.gov.



‘Dear Colleague’ Letter Promotes MCV4 (or MenACWY)

Last November, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) along with the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), American College Health Association (ACHA), Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine (SAHM), and the Immunization Action Coalition (IAC) joined in signing a [Dear Colleague letter](#) encouraging health care providers to give two doses of meningococcal conjugate (MCV4 or MenACWY) vaccine to protect adolescent patients against meningococcal meningitis types ACWY. The rate for the booster dose, recommended at age 16, is just over 25% nationwide, leaving most teens not fully protected.

School Immunization and Assessment News

Law Eliminating PBEs Begins January 1, 2016

Beginning January 1, 2016, a new law known as SB 277 (Chapter 35, Statutes of 2015) takes effect. Under the law, exemptions based on personal beliefs, including religious beliefs, will no longer be an option for the vaccines that are currently required for new entrants into child care or school in California. This law will not affect most families because their children have received all required vaccinations. Personal beliefs exemptions on file for a child already attending child care or school will remain valid until the child reaches the next grade span, typically at kindergarten (including transitional kindergarten) or 7th grade.



Senator Richard Pan, author of SB 277, American Academy of Pediatrics legislator of the year 2015.

Students will no longer be required to have immunizations for entry if they attend a home-based private school or an independent study program without classroom-based instruction. **However, parents or guardians must continue to provide immunization records for these students to their schools, and schools must continue to maintain and report records of immunizations that have been received for these students.** In addition, the immunization requirements do not prohibit pupils from accessing special education and related services required by their individualized education programs. For more information about SB 277, see our online [Frequently Asked Questions](#). To learn about school immunization requirements and resources, visit shotsforschool.org, or contact your [local health department](#) or [county office of education](#).

Fall 2015 School and Child Care Immunization Data Coming Soon!

Reports on fall 2015 immunization status, conditional entrants and personal belief exemptions for child care, kindergartens and seventh grades, will be available later this month on the [CDPH school assessment webpage](#).

Events, Conferences, and Observances

Date	Event	Sponsor
January	National Cervical Health Awareness month	National Cervical Cancer Coalition
January 19, San Francisco Jan 20, Sacramento Jan 22, Los Angeles Jan 23, San Diego	Take a Stand! Using Standing Orders to Vaccinate Adults (free workshop in multiple cities)	Immunization Action Coalition
February 7-13	Preteen Vaccine Week	CDPH
April 16-23	National Infant Immunization Week	CDC
April 24-25 Sacramento	California Immunization Coalition Summit	CIC

New Online Resources

New Materials/Online Resources	Type
<p>Vaccine Educational Information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hey Did you Know? HPV Causes IMM-1205 E/S (CDPH) ▪ Updated! Vaccine Safety: Top Ten Questions for Parents Spanish IMM-916S (CDPH) ▪ Updated! http://www.cdc.gov/vaccinesafety/index.html (CDC) ▪ Updated! Multi Pediatric Vaccines VIS Multiple Vaccines (DTaP, Hib, Hepatitis B, Polio, and PCV13) ▪ www.VaccinateYourFamily.org (formerly VaccinateYourBaby.org, from Every Child By Two) ▪ Meningococcal Vaccine Q&A (Immunization Action Coalition) ▪ Updated! Notice of Immunizations Needed and Spanish IMM-1140 (CDPH) ▪ Updated! Stop Pertussis IMM-1034 (CDPH) ▪ At-a-Glance Resource Guide: Vaccine Administration and Storage and Handling (CDC) ▪ www.OneandOnlyCampaign.org (CDC) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poster Fact sheet Web page Fact Sheets Website Fact sheet Form Fact Sheet Resource Sheet Suite of materials
Online Training/Archived Webinars	
<p>Influenza</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Influenza Vaccine: Giving the Right Dose at the Right Time (National Foundation for Infectious Diseases) ▪ Update on Influenza Activity and Antiviral Policies in the US (CDC) ▪ Becoming FLUent: Communicating Prevention Messages (NFID) ▪ The Role of Rapid Diagnostic Testing in Influenza Treatment (NFID) <p>General/Misc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Addressing Antimicrobial Resistance through Vaccines (NFID) ▪ Meaningful Use 101 (American Immunization Registry Association) <p>Adolescent Immunization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ New School Rules: What Providers and Parents Need to Know (California Immunization Coalition) ▪ New School Rules Part II: What School Personnel Need to Know (CIC) ▪ Understanding HPV Vaccination Successes in North Carolina (Cervical Cancer-Free Coalition) <p>Adult Immunization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A Successful Quality Improvement Example (Cervical Cancer-Free Coalition) ▪ Current Issues in Immunization NetConference: Vaccination in Adults with Altered Immunocompetence and Updates Between PCV13 and PPSV23 Vaccines (CDC) ▪ Maternal Immunization: Protecting Mother and Baby (NFID) 	