



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
VFC Providers

March 2014

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New IZ Branch Leadership



Please join the Immunization Branch in warmly welcoming Acting Chief Carol Glaser, DVM, MPVM, MD. Dr. Glaser takes on her new role while continuing as Medical Officer of the Viral & Rickettsial Disease Laboratory (VRDL) and Communicable Disease Emergency Response (CDER) Branch, where she's served since 2009. Dr. Glaser is also an Associate Clinical Professor of Pediatrics, Infectious Disease at UCSF.

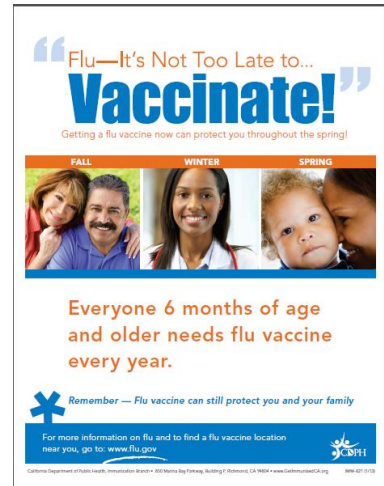
The Branch also thanks Field Services and Program Coordination Section Chief Maria Volk for her service as Acting Branch Chief throughout 2013. Maria kept the Branch on a steady course during a federal government shutdown, furloughs, and more. Maria continues to stay very busy in her additional role of Acting Assistant Branch Chief.



Influenza Update

Laboratory-confirmed influenza deaths in persons <65 years of age are reportable in California. In addition, laboratory-confirmed influenza intensive care unit admissions are voluntarily reportable, and most local health jurisdictions report such cases. Between October 1, 2013 through February 28, 2014, 302 deaths and 698 non-fatal intensive care unit admissions in persons <65 years of age had been reported in California. In the 2012-13 season, there were a total of 106 deaths reported.

Providers are urged to promptly treat persons with risk factors for severe influenza with antivirals if they develop an influenza-like illness. The results of negative rapid influenza tests should not be used to inform treatment decisions as falsely negative influenza rapid tests are common.



It's not too late to get vaccinated. The prevailing influenza virus this season has been H1N1, which is included in this season's vaccine, while other strains may circulate later in the season. A recent CDC "[Dear Colleague](#)" letter and CDPH messaging encourages providers to vaccinate pregnant women, who are at high-risk for influenza-related complications.

How Two LHDs are Meeting 2013-14 flu season Challenge

- ❖ By the February 22, **Sacramento County** had reported well over 100 ICU cases and 25 fatalities under age 65. CDPH Director, Dr. Chapman attended an area school flu clinic. IZ Coordinator Kate McAuley was interviewed in local television and newspaper in print. A local television station sponsored a clinic jointly with the LHD after the death to influenza of its employee. The County garnered support from a local legislator and radio stations. Said Kate, "demand for flu vaccine has been really high."
- ❖ At **Contra Costa County's** weekly influenza vaccine clinics, staffing tripled to accommodate increased demand for vaccine. This [video](#) from the LHD shows community members explaining why they need flu vaccine. IZ Coordinator Paul Leung reported roughly 500 people, including first-timers and entire families, were immunized during clinics housed at the RYSE Youth Center and four Head Start programs. Child care sites helped promote the events and prevention messages. Media requests included a radio spot, live radio interview, and TV news in English and Spanish. Contra Costa's Facebook ad, targeting pregnant women, "*Did you and your family get flu vaccines?*," received over 21,000 page views, 300 clicks, and 130 "likes."

Measles Advisory

Measles is a highly infectious airborne disease. A total of 21 measles cases, as of the end of February, in California emphasize the need for overseas travelers to be fully immunized. Providers should [suspect measles](#) in patients with fever and rash and clinics and hospitals should appropriately isolate suspected measles patients.

California Pertussis Update (excerpted from California's CD Brief, February 2013)

In February, CDPH was notified of a pertussis death in a young infant who became ill in December 2013. This is the first pertussis death reported in California since October 2010.

Pertussis incidence is cyclical, with peaks every 3-5 years. During 2010 more than 9,100 cases were reported in California. Case reports began increasing again in 2013, when 2372 cases were reported compared to 1022 in 2012. In 2013, 83% of reported cases were younger than 18 years old, and 12% were infants less than 6 months of age. For more information, see the [February 4, 2014 pertussis report](#).

As incidence increases towards a likely peak in 2014 or 2015, CDPH encourages local health departments to be prepared. Preventing severe pertussis in young infants should be a priority for public health efforts. Immunization of all pregnant women, preferably in the third trimester, is the best tool to prevent pertussis in young infants.



Meningococcal B Vaccine Campaign at UCSB

An outbreak of serogroup B invasive meningococcal disease occurred at UC Santa Barbara in late 2013. In response, CDC, with support from CDPH, UCSB, and the Santa Barbara Public Health Department, has applied to FDA to use a vaccine licensed abroad for the outbreaks at UCSB and Princeton University. The first dose of a two-dose regimen will be offered at UCSB from February 24 to March 7. No additional cases at UCSB have been reported since November 2013.



Statewide Immunization Campaigns

Preteen Vaccine Week Highlights HPV and More



This year's Preteen Vaccine Week (PVW) was celebrated in early February. Twenty-five local health departments across California distributed materials to WIC agencies, and parent registration packets, displayed fence banners, and distributed educational materials to school nurses, parents, teachers, and providers. The Branch debuted two HPV vaccine educational materials, an [HPV Flyer for Parents of Preteens](#) and an [HPV Poster](#), to support PVW's 2014 emphasis: *HPV is Cancer Prevention*.

A provider's recommendation to vaccinate is the single most influential factor in a parent's decision to vaccinate children. The Immunization Branch encourages providers to use PVW tools year-round to help make a *strong* immunization recommendation during every visit. For more information on preteen immunization materials, contact Christina.Moore@cdph.ca.gov.

NIIW/TIM 2014 Coming Soon!

To commemorate the 20th Anniversary of *National Infant Immunization Week* (NIIW) on April 26 - May 3 and *Toddler Immunization Month* (TIM) in May, the [NIIW/TIM online kit](#) includes special CDC 20th Anniversary web banners and icons. Under this year's theme, "*Immunization Power to Protect*," activities and messages focus on protecting children and the importance of [pregnant women to be vaccinated against Tdap](#) in the third trimester of pregnancy. To learn more or get involved, contact Kerdlyn.Henry@cdph.ca.gov.



Provider Education

Webinar on New School Exemption Law Available On Demand

In February, the Immunization Branch held a webinar for schools and child care facilities about the new California law modifying the exemptions process for immunizations required for school or child care.

Personal Beliefs Exemptions to Immunizations Required in California: Changes for 2014 and Beyond



Missed it? No problem! View the archived program *on demand* at www.shotsforschool.org. Topics covered include: immunization requirements and exemptions, when exemption documentation is needed, how to complete documentation, and where to find additional resources. The program is suitable for school nurses, administrative staff, and health care providers who want to understand more about practical application of the law. Also, check the site for [updated FAQs](#). Don't see the answer to your question? Submit new school law questions to: info@shotsforschool.org.

Test Your IZ Knowledge

The Immunization Action Coalition has made available these two fun quizzes to test your knowledge on immunizations and vaccine administration. Download to share with staff or give them a try!

- [Quiz for Clinicians #1: Immunization](#)
- [Quiz for Clinicians #2: Vaccine Administration](#)



Assessments

Selective Review: Kindergarten Students & Retrospective Survey

Immunization Coordinators received materials related to the 2013-14 Spring Selective Review and Kindergarten Retrospective Survey in February. Coordinators are asked to return completed surveys and records by **May 1** in order to allow for follow-up on any records before school is out. For questions or assistance, contact Teresa.Lee2@cdph.ca.gov.

Branch Staff Updates

Janet Kehinde Ajao is a new Local CAIR Representative (LCR) in Los Angeles County. Prior to working for the Branch, Janet worked in health systems in the US, Africa, Latin America, and Asia. She earned her MPH from Columbia University and her BA in public health from UC Berkeley.

Upcoming Events, Conferences, and Observances

Date	Event	Sponsor
March 21-23 (Seattle WA)	Clinical Vaccinology Course	NFID
April 26-May 3	National Infant Immunization Week	CDC
May 1-31	Toddler Immunization Month	CDPH
May 4-5	CIC Summit	CIC
May 11	Mother's Day	
May 22-23 (Seattle WA)	11th National Conference on Immunization and Health Coalitions	www.withinreachwa.org
May 22 (Ashland OR)	Western Regional Epidemiology Network (WREN) Conference	
June 15	Father's Day	
August 19-21 (Atlanta GA)	National Conference of Health Communication Marketing and Media	CDC

New Online Resources

New Print and Web Resources	Type of Resource
New HPV Informing Materials	
HPV vaccine reminder cards (IMM-1129) Order from your local health dept	Postcards
HPV poster (11X17) or (8.5X11)	Poster
HPV Flyer for Parents of Preteens	Flyer
HPV for Boys and Young Men (Childrens Hospital of Philadelphia)	Brochure
You Are the Key (HPV web resource for providers from CDC)	Webpage
CDC Grand Rounds: Reducing the Burden of HPV-Associated Cancer and Disease	White paper
Dear colleague letter "Give a strong recommendation for HPV vaccine"	Letter
Other New Informing Materials	
2014 ACIP Childhood 0-18 Immunization Schedule	Chart
2014 ACIP Adults 19-65+ Immunization Schedule	Chart
Clinical Practice Guideline for the Vaccination of the Immunocompromised Host	Clinical guide
2014 Materials Catalog (materials produced by CDPH)	Catalog
On-Demand Training	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hepatitis B: Reducing Perinatal Transmission (HepBUnited.Org) 	Archived webinar
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What Causes Autism? The Role of Environmental Exposure (UC-TV) 	Archived webinar
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HPV is Cancer Prevention: So What's the Hold Up? (VICNetwork) 	Archived webinar