



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

July 2014

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California Declares Pertussis Epidemic

In June CDPH announced [a pertussis epidemic](#). By the end of that month more than 4,500 cases had been reported in California in 2014, including three infant deaths. Case numbers are updated weekly on the Immunization Branch website's [pertussis summary reports page](#).



Infants too young to be vaccinated are at the greatest risk of fatal pertussis. The most important strategy to protect vulnerable infants is to vaccinate with Tdap during the third trimester of every pregnancy. Placental transfer of pertussis antibodies from mother to fetus provides some protection against the disease until infants are old enough to be vaccinated. The first dose of DTaP may be administered as young as six weeks of age. Infants with pertussis typically do not have classic pertussis symptoms and may not have a noticeable cough, but may gag or gasp and their face may turn red or purple during an episode. The Immunization Branch has helpful [posters and handouts](#) for clinic and community settings.

MERS Update

A new CDPH [flyer](#) helps health care facilities promptly identify and isolate patients who may have Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS).

Measles Cases Continue to Climb

Measles cases in California are the highest since 1995, with 60 confirmed measles cases as of June 27. Nationwide, 288 cases nationwide have been reported so far to [CDC](#). The majority of 2014 cases have been travelers coming or returning from the Philippines or other overseas destinations, who then spread the disease to primarily unvaccinated persons. About half of cases have been 18 years and younger; 13 have been hospitalized.

Earlier this year, CDPH shared information with California's Consulates to the [Philippines](#) to help warn travelers.

Persons [travelling overseas](#) should check that they are up-to-date on all routine vaccinations. Anyone 6 months of age or older traveling to a potentially endemic country should receive MMR. Children 12 months or older should receive two doses of MMR separated by at least 28 days, instead of delaying the booster until 4-6 years of age. Adult travelers with no history of measles disease and born after 1957 are recommended to get two doses of MMR.

Fever and Rash?.....Consider Measles

Measles cases continue to be identified in California in returning international travelers. Measles is highly contagious. Please protect patients, visitors, and staff!

Keep an eye out for measles symptoms:

Suspect measles in patients with:

- fever and rash
- history of international travel or contact with international visitors in the prior 3 weeks.

Prodrome
Mild to moderate fever
Cough
Coryza
Conjunctivitis

Rash onset
Fever spikes, often as high as 104° to 105° F
Red, maculopapular rash that may become confluent—typically starts at hairline, then face and spreads rapidly down body
Koplik's spots (tiny blue/white spots on the bright red background of the buccal mucosa) may be present.

Note: A history of 2 doses of MMR vaccine does not exclude a measles diagnosis.

Act immediately if you suspect measles:

- Implement airborne infection control precautions immediately, mask and isolate patient—negative pressure room, if available.
- Permit only staff immune to measles to be near the patient.
- Notify your local health department immediately.
- Expedite measles serologic testing (IgM and IgG) at a public health lab; use of commercial labs may delay diagnosis.
- Safeguard other facilities: assure airborne infection control precautions before referring patients.
- Do not use any regular exam room for at least 1 hour after a suspected measles patient has left the room.

CDPH
Visit www.GetImmunizedCA.org for more information.
A message from California Department of Public Health, Immunization Branch. 07/10/14 11:41

Statewide Immunization Campaigns

Shot by Shot, 7 million stories viewed

The California Immunization Coalition's Shot by Shot project recently celebrated its fourth anniversary. Project stories have been viewed over 7 million times! The collection recently added a moving story from a Native American woman. [Sherron's Story about Katie](#) describes how difficult it can be to recognize pertussis in an adult.



Vaccine-preventable disease stories on Shot by Shot come from the community and are used by health care providers and educators in a variety of settings. If you have a story to share, or if you would like to use Shot by Shot stories to help you in educational efforts, contact info@shotbyshot.org.

Get Ready for NIAM!

August is National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM). Under a collaboration between CDC and the National Public Health Information Coalition, each week will highlight a selected population, with sample ready-to-distribute materials from the Branch listed below:

Week 1: Babies and pregnant women.

[Stop Pertussis flyer for providers](#),
[Expecting? Protect your baby from whooping cough](#)

Week 2: Children, preteens, and teens

[IZ Block schedule 2014](#)
[Vaccines for Teens and Preteens](#)
[How Important is HPV Vaccine?](#)

Week 3: Young adults

[Off to College? flyer](#)
[Visiting Another Country? measles poster](#)

Week 4: Adults

[Health Care Worker flu poster](#)
[Do You know What Adult Vaccines You Might Need?](#) (CDC)



NIAM is a terrific opportunity to share information with professional colleagues, educators, and your communities. Download the [2014 NIAM campaign toolkit](#) for key messages, sample news releases, articles, and social media messages (use Twitter tag: #NIAM14), plus resources from CDC and other partner organizations

Vaccine News

▪ CDC study shows flu vaccination prevents hospitalizations in older adults

A recent study estimated the effects of influenza immunizations for adults 65 years and older. During a more severe season, a low to moderately effective vaccine could have prevented between 13,000 and 60,000 hospitalizations. During a milder season between 2,000 and 11,000 hospitalizations could be prevented. [Read more.](#)

▪ Dutch study shows flu vaccine safe for pregnant women

The infants born to 1,800 pregnant Dutch women who received an H1N1 flu shot during 2009 were followed for one year for growth and developmental milestones. No differences were found when comparing them with infants from unvaccinated mothers. [Read more.](#)



- **Delaying first MMR or MMRV associated with increased risk of seizures**

Children who receive their MMR or MMRV vaccination after age 15 months may double their relatively low risk of post-vaccination seizures from 4 to 8 per 10,000 vaccinated. On-time MMR and MMRV vaccination at 12 to 15 months does not appear to increase the risk of post-vaccination seizures. [Read more.](#)

- **Oropharyngeal cancers show positive association with HPV**

Researchers found that 72% of invasive oropharyngeal cancer tissue samples identified in cancer registries between 1995 - 2005 were positive for HPV. Among these, 62% were either type 16 or 18, both included in the current HPV vaccines. [Read more.](#)

CAIR News

Kaiser Joins CAIR!

Kaiser Permanente in Northern California and Southern California are now submitting electronic vaccination records to CAIR from their Epic electronic health record systems. Their contributions are estimated to eventually increase the proportion of childhood immunization records in CAIR by 15% or more, increasing its value for all users. Congratulations CAIR!



Provider Education

PBE Webinar Encore and Updated Blue Card

The Immunization Branch held an encore webinar about the new California Personal Belief Exemptions (PBE) law that included a discussion with two school nurses who shared their experiences managing the new education requirements and counseling parents. IZ Branch experts were also on hand to answer participant questions.

Missed it? The archived program can be viewed on demand at ShotsforSchool.org.

Also, the updated [blue CSIR card](#) is also available for download from the [“Tools for Schools”](#) page of the website.



IZ Branch wins AIM award for excellence!

The Immunization Branch received the Association of Immunization (AIM) [Bull's Eye Award of Innovation and Excellence in Immunization](#) for the much acclaimed EZIZ online immunization education for medical assistants and other clinicians. EZIZ currently has six lessons covering vaccine administration, storage and handling, inventory, and temperature monitoring. The training has been used by thousands of providers and is required for California VFC providers.



California Meningococcal Recommendations for MSM

CDPH issued a [clinician health advisory](#) in April 2014 to protect men who have sex with men (MSM) from meningococcal disease. Physicians caring for high-risk MSM in Southern California are advised to provide 1 dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine or 2 doses if HIV positive. A booster is recommended if the most recent vaccination was more than five years ago.

CIC Summit Presentations Available

The California Immunization Coalition (CIC) recently held its annual Summit meeting, *Harnessing the Power of Community*, in Sacramento. Presenters included Dr. Mark Sawyer, Pediatrician and Infectious Disease Specialist, and Dorit Reiss, Attorney at Law. [Summit PowerPoint presentations](#) are now viewable on CIC's website, ImmunizeCA.org.



Assessments

2013-14 Fall Assessment Reports Online, New PBE Reporting

The 2013-14 reports showing results from California's child care, kindergarten and 7th grade immunization assessments are now posted on the [Immunization Branch webpage](#). California has an 90.2% rate for vaccines required at kindergarten. The personal belief exemption (PBE) rate was 3.2% overall and 5.9% at private schools, with substantial variations by county. For 7th graders, 96.6% received the required Tdap vaccine.

To measure the impact of California's new PBE law, beginning fall 2014 child care and school staff will be asked to report personal beliefs exemptions in three categories:

1. pre-January 2014 PBEs (child care, Kindergarten only)
2. Health care worker counseled PBEs
3. Religious exemption PBEs.

Kudos to all involved: 2013-14 Selective Review of Kindergarten students' completed forms and surveys have all been received! The Branch thanks California's Immunization Coordinators, school nurses and school personnel who worked diligently to collect and submit selective review and assessment data. For questions about assessments or new PBE reporting, contact Teresa.Lee2@cdph.ca.gov.

Branch Staff Updates

Jane Pezua is a new Health Educator. She recently returned from Ecuador as a Peace Corps Volunteer in family planning education. Jane previously was a Vaccine Specialist with Merck. Her BS is from the University of Wisconsin and her MPH is from the University of Virginia.

Arlisha Adams is the new Data Exchange Specialist for the Northern California, Greater Sacramento, and Bay Area regions of CAIR, assisting users in transfer EHR data to CAIR. Previously, Arlisha worked at the CAIR Help Desk. She is a UC Davis graduate with a BA in African American Studies.

Upcoming Events, Conferences, and Observances

Date	Event	Partners/ Sponsors
July 30, 9am (PT)	Immunization Business & Clinical Strategies for Ob-Gyn Practices Free webinar with CME	American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG)
August	National Immunization Awareness Month	CDC
August 19-21 (Atlanta, GA)	National Conference of Health Communication Marketing and Media	CDC
September 22-24 (Chicago, IL)	National Public Health Information Coalition and Annual Conference	National Public Health Information Coalition
September 21-27	National Adult Immunization Week	Department of Public Safety
September 29-30	National Immunization Conference Atlanta, GA	CDC
October 7-9 (Denver, CO)	IIS and Public Health Conference	American Immunization Registry Association

New Online Resources

New Print and Web Resources	Type of resource
Immunization Timing Schedule	Chart
Notice of Immunizations Needed / Spanish	Form
Temperature Monitoring Requirements	Memorandum
Screening Checklist for Contraindications to Vaccines for Children and Teens (IAC)	Checklist
Wrong About Vaccine Safety: A Review of Andrew Wakefield's Callous Disregard J.A Harrison, <i>Open Vaccine Journal</i> , 2013	Literature Review
Survey of Immunization Reporting to IIS by Major US Pharmacies (AIRA)	Report
Accelerating HPV Vaccine Uptake: Executive Summary (President's Cancer Panel)	Report
Video on pain reduction techniques during infant immunization	Video
Tips for a Less Stressful Shot Visit (CDC)	2-page guide
On-Demand Training	
Why Measles Matters CDC Net Conference	Archived Webinar
Vaccine Storage and Handling video (CDC)	Archived Webinar

