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To:

Immunization Program Coordinators
California Immunization Coalition members
California VFC Providers

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High Marks for School Tdap Requirement

Over 7,000 schools across California have reported on the new Tdap requirement (AB 354) for the 2011-12 school year. Provisional data indicate that about 98% of the 3.1 million students in 7th-12th grades had documentation of Tdap vaccination, while about 2% had personal belief or medical exemptions. *Note: Results are provisional and subject to final review.*

The Immunization Branch extends its gratitude to schools, local health departments, the California Department of Education, school nurses, California providers, and many other partners across the state for their success in implementing this challenging new law and protecting Californians from pertussis.



Statewide Immunization Campaigns

Get Ready for the Ongoing 7th Grade Tdap Requirement

Following last year's rollout of the new Tdap school requirement for California 7th-12th graders, the law now narrows to 7th graders for 2012-13 and future school years.



To help prepare for the 7th grade Tdap requirement, the Immunization Branch has posted an [online training presentation](#) to inform school personnel about the law and their responsibilities. More than 800 individuals registered for the March debut of the 20-minute video, which was followed by a live Q&A session with experts from the Immunization Branch and the California Department of Education.

The Branch is sending schools and health care providers frequent reminder e-mails through the start of the school year. Materials and FAQs on the ShotsforSchool.org website have been updated. Anyone may email questions about the Tdap requirement to TdapLaw@cdph.ca.gov.

Shot By Shot Pertussis Story Goes Viral!

During one week in April 2.5 million people across the globe went to the California Immunization Coalition's Shot By Shot (SBS) website to view the tragic [story of baby Kahlia](#)'s death from pertussis. Over 4,000 people now "like" the SBS Facebook page. The amazing response highlights the power of SBS' gallery of stories about vaccine-preventable diseases.



Educators and health care professionals can [use the SBS stories](#) in a variety of ways. Other recent additions to the storybank collection include:

- [Carter's Story](#) (pertussis)
- [Don't Let Flu Get to You](#): a Native American's story (Flu)
- [Laura and Audra's Story](#) (cervical cancer)
- [Ratnesh's Story](#) (polio)
- [Rotavirus Vaccine's Remarkable Impact](#)



For more information, contact Amanda.Roth@cdph.ca.gov.

New Preteen Video PSA Supports Tdap

"Kids Say the Darndest Things!" is CDPH's new one-minute video on the Tdap school law. The video features 7th graders answering questions about pertussis disease and vaccinations.

The PSA is available to schools, public health departments and social media outlets. Local health departments and schools may use the video as a parent and kid-friendly tool to remind students to get a Tdap vaccination before the 2012-13 school year begins. View the [video](#).



Preteen Vaccine Week 2012 Recap

The Immunization Branch and more than 20 local health departments (LHDs) promoted [Preteen Vaccine Week](#) (PVW) from February 12-18. A CDPH [press release](#) highlighted the importance of preteen immunizations. PVW was featured on popular morning TV and radio programs. The Lucille Packard Foundation for Children's Health [reported on PVW](#) in its *Kids Data Points* blog.



The Branch distributed nearly 2,000 copies of the new DVD, [One Shot Heroes](#), to schools, provider offices, and LHDs. Nearly 15,000 copies of the [HPV Bilingual fotonovela](#) have been distributed to promotoras, community based health centers and other audiences. These items may be ordered for free from [local health departments](#).

The California Department of Education distributed lessons about germs, vaccines, and the spread of disease to middle schools. LHDs also worked closely with providers and schools to disseminate immunization information to teachers, parents, and preteens via school-based health vans, food banks, libraries, laundromats, and ethnic-specialty supermarkets.

Other innovative activities included using social media, blog entries, training school nurses and promotoras, and hosting immunization clinics. For more information on promoting preteen immunizations throughout the year, contact Rebeca.Boyle@cdph.ca.gov.

NIIW/TIM 2012 Global to Local



[National Infant Immunization Week](#) (NIIW), April 21-28, went global! While the U.S. celebrated NIIW, countries around the globe celebrated the first [World Immunization Week](#), an effort led by the World Health Organization.

To coincide with NIIW, CDC launched a new [parent website](#) that features information on vaccine safety issues, VPDs, comfort measures for infants, and FAQs. The CDC offered parent-friendly [print ads](#), [posters](#), [radio PSAs](#), and [Television PSAs](#) in English and Spanish for immunization programs and partners to distribute locally.

At the [state and local level](#), California counties held a variety of NIIW events:

- **Imperial County:** Used NIIW coloring sheet for a contest in child care centers. Prizes were books from the NIIW book list.
- **Los Angeles:** Distributed materials to during targeted trainings. LHD staff conducted trainings, integrating how to use Shot By Shot stories for the county's Black Infant Health program through May. Staff conducted presentations at WIC clinics and organized an "I Choose" photo shoot at two WIC sites. Other activities including participating in an NIIW program at Mexican consulate and holding a mobile clinic on "Day of the Child."
- **Placer County:** Distributed posters and materials to local providers and organized an "I Choose" photo shoot at WIC sites.
- **San Diego:** Shared a book list with county libraries to use in story time and in displays.
- **Yuba County:** Also used the NIIW book list and campaign posters.

The celebration continues through May with Toddler Immunization Month (TIM). Visit CDPH's [TIM page](#) for sample messages, templates and resources. For questions, contact Suzi.Bouveron@cdph.ca.gov.

Future Graduates Reminded About Vaccinations

The Immunization Branch, in partnership with the California School Nurses Organization, will shortly release [Vaccinate_B4_U_Graduate](#) materials that remind high school seniors, eighth graders and parents about the immunizations needed before graduation. These materials will be shared with schools and school nurses statewide. Flyers are customizable, copy well in black-and-white, and can help promote local immunization clinics. To learn more, contact Rebeca.Boyte@cdph.ca.gov.

Epi Update

Hepatitis B and C Investigation Recommendations from CDC

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently published [Recommended Steps for Investigating Single Cases of Hepatitis B Virus \(HBV\) or Hepatitis C Virus \(HCV\) that are Suspected to be Related to Healthcare Delivery](#). Investigation of single cases can result in identifying an outbreak or unsafe clinical practices that put additional patients at risk. The guidelines address a variety of inpatient, outpatient, and long-term care settings.

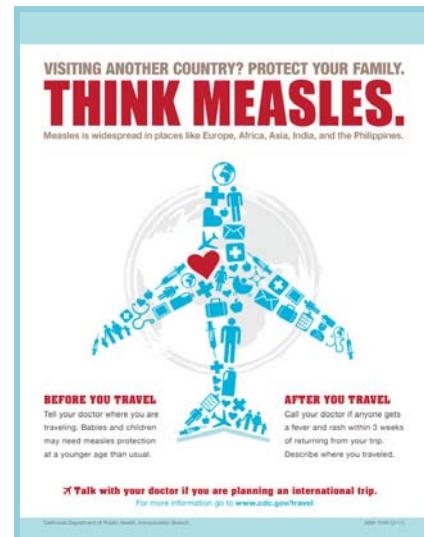
Measles: A Continuing Concern

An unvaccinated British preteen became ill with measles while visiting Southern California recently, infecting two unvaccinated siblings and exposing two infants too young to be immunized. Surveillance is ongoing.

A visitor to the 2012 Super Bowl in Indiana infected 13 others. None of the cases had been vaccinated. This raises concerns about the 2012 Summer Olympics in London. Several European countries, including the UK, have had widespread measles in recent years due to declining rates of vaccination. France alone had over 15,000 cases and 6 deaths in 2011. Travelers to the Olympics and other overseas venues should consult their doctor to make sure that they have been vaccinated before departure.

In 2011, 222 cases of measles were reported from 31 states, the highest number of US measles cases in 15 years. Of these, 90% were associated with importations from other countries (including US residents traveling abroad and foreign visitors). About 75% of those infected were unvaccinated or had unknown vaccination status, and 11% were too young to be vaccinated. Of those infected, 32% were hospitalized. As a reminder:

- MMR vaccine is recommended at ages 12–15 months and again at 4–6 years.
- Two doses of MMR vaccine are recommended for unvaccinated health care personnel, international travelers, and students at post-high school educational institutions.
- Adults without evidence of measles immunity should receive 1 dose of MMR vaccine.
- All persons aged ≥6 months who will be traveling outside the Western Hemisphere and are eligible to receive MMR vaccine and should be vaccinated before travel. Children ≥12 months should receive 2 MMR doses (separated by at least 28 days) before travel.



California Pertussis Update 2012

As of April 2012, 169 cases of pertussis with onset in 2012 have been [reported to CDPH](#). The state rate is <1.0 case/100,000. This compares with a rate of 7.5 cases/100,000 in 2011, when 2,932 pertussis cases were reported. [Note: Data for 2011 are still considered provisional.] So far this year, there have been no pertussis deaths, which appear to be at a historic low. Following 10 pertussis deaths in 2010, there were no deaths in 2011—the first time in 20 years without any fatalities.

FDA Extends Timeframe to 10 days for use of VariZIG after Exposure to Varicella

In May 2011 the federal Food and Drug Administration approved an extended period for administering VariZIG, the only varicella zoster immune globulin formulation available in the United States. The period after exposure to varicella zoster virus during which a patient may receive VariZIG, which had been 96 hours (4 days), is now 10 days. VariZIG should be administered as soon as possible after exposure.

Patient groups recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) to receive VariZIG include exposed immunocompromised patients, neonates, premature infants, and pregnant women. Health-care providers may obtain VariZIG at any time by calling 800-843-7477 or visiting <http://www.fffenterprises.com>. For additional information, see the [March 30 issue of the MMWR](#).

Assessments

2011 Assessment Results Coming Soon

Child care, kindergarten and 7-12th grade assessments were conducted during fall 2011. Results from these assessments reflect compliance with state immunization requirements. Kindergarten Retrospective Survey Results, Selective Review Results, and the final compliance report for 7th-12th graders will be posted on the Immunization Branch website later this Spring. Preliminary data suggest very positive results for the new Tdap law compliance (see lead story in this IZ Update).

Get Ready for 2012 Assessments!

Immunization Coordinators can access kindergarten lists online via the Branch [administrative portal](#). 7th grade and child care lists will be available in the coming weeks. Coordinators are encouraged to review the lists for accuracy and update the information online by June 30.

The Branch extends its thanks to Immunization Coordinators and personnel at schools and child care centers for their continuing efforts to collect and report data—and to keep California students healthy. For questions or additional assistance, contact Teresa.Lee2@cdph.ca.gov.

Vaccine News

2012-13 Flu Virus Strains Chosen for Influenza Vaccine

The FDA Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee mirrored the [World Health Organization](#) in its recommendations for the 2012-13 influenza vaccine. The [influenza A/California/7/2009](#) strain included in the past year's vaccine will be retained. The two new strains will be influenza A/Victoria/361/2011 ([H3N2](#)) strain and influenza B/Wisconsin/1/2010-like virus.

Shingles Vaccine Study

A study by Tseng et al., published in the Journal of Internal Medicine, indicates that the shingles (zoster) vaccine is generally safe and well tolerated. For further information, see the [study abstract](#).

Provider Education

CIC Summit 2012: Completing the Circle

Over 150 immunization advocates met in Sacramento during April 22-23 for the California Immunization Coalition's 2012 Summit. This year's theme focused on adolescent and adult immunizations, populations whose immunization rates are below those of infants and young children.

Special guests included Dr. Ronald Chapman, Director of the CDPH, who was a founding coalition member; Janine Corey from the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention; and Media Consultant Dawn Crawford. PowerPoint presentations and handouts are to be posted on the [CIC Summit web page](#).

The Immunization Branch congratulates this year's winners of the Natalie J. Smith, MD Immunization Champion award, both dedicated Nurse Consultants: Sandra Jo Hammer of CDPH and Linda Davis-Alldritt of the California Department of Education.

NICO Presentations and VPD Course Online

This year the National Immunization Conference, "Immunizations: Access for All," went digital. The conference's [poster presentations](#) and [oral presentations](#) are archived online.



Looking for the latest information on vaccines and vaccine-preventable diseases (VPDs)? The CDC's 2012 ["Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine Preventable Diseases"](#) course sessions are now available on-demand. The course is broken down into 11 sessions. Sessions 1-3 cover topics such as schedules, administration, adverse reactions and VAERS reporting. Sessions 4-11 each review a selection of VPDs.

CAIR News

A New Face Lift for CAIR Website

CAIR users visiting www.CAIRWeb.org will see a redesigned, streamlined site that is easily navigated. Those unfamiliar with CAIR can learn about its benefits and how to enroll. Training schedules, user guides, and forms are just a click away. It's also easy for schools and parents to learn about CAIR.



Branch Staff Updates

Edgar Ednacot is Acting Section Chief for the Information and Education Section. As the Section's Health Education Supervisor since 2007, Edgar has managed informing activities on influenza, pertussis prevention, and a variety of web 2.0 projects. Prior to joining the Branch, Edgar was involved in public health education and media campaigns on tobacco control, HIV/AIDS, teen pregnancy, and nutrition. He earned his MPH from San Jose State University and a Doctorate of Education from the University of San Francisco. Dr. Ednacot is an adjunct professor at Las Positas College.

Tracey Andrews recently joined the Branch as CDC Public Health Advisor in Los Angeles County. Tracey worked previously with the Washington State Immunization Program conducting VFC site visits, coordinating the *Epidemiology and Prevention of VPDs* course, and developing educational materials. She served as a CDC Public Health Apprentice in Florida focusing on STDs, HIV/AIDS, TB, and border health. Tracey has an MPH from Florida A & M University.

Karina Alvarez is a new CAIR Implementation Specialist based in Salinas. She has worked at the Monterey County Public Health Department in the WIC Program, clinical outpatient services, and with the CAIR software application. Karina will be assisting with CAIR recruitment and training in the southern Bay Area.

Stella Kim is a new CAIR Implementation Specialist in the Los Angeles Region. Stella served as a CAIR Coordinator in the LA/Orange Region for two years. Prior to that, she worked for the VFC Program as an Intern in the LA County region and with an immunization project in Paraguay. Stella received her MPH in Biostatistics and Epidemiology from the University of Southern California.

Diana English is a new Administrative Assistant for the Registry and Assessments Section. For the past 10 years, Diana worked at UC San Francisco as a Project Assistant and Project Coordinator. She has a BA in Health Education from San Francisco State University.

Marita Tioseco is the new Office Technician for the Branch's Clinical and Policy Support Section. Marita worked previously for the State Compensation Insurance Fund and other Bay Area financial firms. Marita earned her BS in Business Management from Assumption Convent University in the Philippines.

Sandra Mendez is the newest addition to the Branch's Operations Support Unit, providing key duties as receptionist, ordering office supplies and other support functions. Sandra worked previously for the Butte County School District. Sandra is a native of Richmond, California.

Upcoming Events, Conferences, and Observances

Date	Event	Partners/ Sponsors	Website/ Contact Info
May 17	WREN Conference	Western Regional Epidemiology Network	WREN Conference
May 23-25	NCIHC Conference in New Orleans	Louisiana Shots for Tots Coalition	NCIHC
October 27-31	APHA in San Francisco	American Public Health Association	www.APHA.org

New Educational Materials and Online Resources

Resource	Type of Resource
Community Immunity Flyer in Spanish	Flyer
Suite of materials on new CDC Parent website Vaccine Side Effects Descriptions of vaccine-preventable diseases How to Hold Children during Vaccinations Tips for a Less Stressful Shot Visit Infant Immunization FAQs	Web content
IAC Cocooning Webpage	Webpage
Immunization and Pregnancy flyer from CDC	Flyer
Archived and On-Demand Webinars	Type of Resource
Shots for School: Tdap Requirement for 7th Grade	Video Training
AIRA Town Hall Meaningful Use Stage II	Webinar
Getting to Kirkpatrick Levels 3 and 4: Delivering Believable Value	Online Training
Talking with Patients About Vaccines	Webinar
Vaccination of Healthcare Personnel: Educated Decisions, Caring Choices	Webinar
Reducing Vaccination Errors	Webinar
Current Issues in Immunization	Webinar