

The Vaccinator

A Newsletter of the Communicable Disease Reporting System (CDRS)
Spring 2009

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Teen Vaccine News

June 2009 has been proclaimed Teen Immunization Month by Public Health. Throughout the United States, many middle and high schools will be sending home a letter to parents in May, including: Columbus City Schools, Franklin County Schools, Catholic Schools, and Charter Schools.

This letter will provide information on the recommended and required vaccines for teens, referring them to their health care provider for vaccinations.

Columbus Public Health and the Franklin County Board of Health recommend that you consider increasing your vaccine supply in order to vaccinate the teens in your practice.



Please make certain the teens in your practice have received these vaccines:

- **Tdap** (*Adacel or Boosterix*) - One dose to protect against tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis between the ages of 11-18 years.
- **MCV4** (*Menactra*) - One dose to protect against meningitis.
- **VAR** (*Varicella*) - Two doses to protect against chickenpox.
- **HAV** (*Hepatitis A*) - Two doses to protect against hepatitis A.
- **HBV** (*Hepatitis B*) - Three doses to protect against hepatitis B.
- **HPV** (*Gardasil*) - Three doses for girls only to protect against human papillomavirus.
- **MMR** (*Measles, Mumps, Rubella*) - Two doses to protect against measles, mumps and rubella.

Reported cases of whooping cough have tripled in the United States since 2001, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *“This has been seen mainly in adolescents and adults,”* said Tami Skoff, a pertussis epidemiologist in the Division of Bacterial Diseases at CDC in Atlanta.



Franklin County



Board of Health

Hib Vaccine Update

Refer to Public Health First

Your client can avoid an additional dose of DTaP by referring them to Public Health for Pentacel prior to administering Pediarix (DTaP-IPV-HepB) or DTaP. While it is not contraindicated to receive the additional dose, clients may experience more side effects.

Vaccine Shortage

- The shortage of Hib vaccine is expected to last until the latter half of 2009.
- There is enough Hib-containing vaccine (DTaP-IPV/Hib, Pentacel brand) for all US children to complete the primary series of 3 doses of Hib. The CDC released a Health Alert Network advisory in March of 2009, encouraging providers to take steps to ensure that all children receive at least the primary series.
- The shortage and deferrals may result in increased Hib transmission; 5 children in Minnesota were reported to have invasive Hib disease in 2008; one died. There have been 2 cases of Haemophilus Influenza (not type b) in children under 3 years in Franklin County in 2009.



Recommendation for Health Care Providers

- Purchase enough Hib or Hib-containing vaccine to provide the recommended 3 doses to your clients.
- To maintain availability, providers should only order what is needed for your clients' primary series of 3 Hib doses. If you have extra Hib vaccine which is going to expire, trade within your network to get it to children who need the primary series rather than provide booster doses to clients.
- If you cannot provide a Hib-containing vaccine, refer the client to Columbus Public Health or Franklin County Board of Health for DTaP-IPV/Hib (Pentacel) to cover the primary series. *Please read the box above before referring your clients.
- Please refer to our websites for clinic locations and schedules:

Columbus Public Health

www.publichealth.columbus.gov

Franklin County Board of Health

www.franklincountyohio.gov/health

Questions?

Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns:

Communicable Disease Prevention Nurse at 614-645-1474

CPH Immunizations Program Manager at 614-645-0178

For current information about reportable infectious diseases, check out the following websites:

- Columbus Public Health: www.publichealth.columbus.gov
- Columbus and Franklin County Communicable Disease Reporting System (CDRS): www.cdrsinfo.com

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