



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION
September 22, 2010

CONTACT: Tom Christensen (619) 515-6535

ADDITIONAL PERTUSSIS CASES REPORTED ***Booster Shots Urged; Record Number of Cases Continues to Climb***

Twenty-one new pertussis cases where other children may have been exposed were reported this week, according to County Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) officials today. The County is continuing to see increased pertussis activity in a year that has seen a record number of cases locally.

There have been 579 confirmed cases of pertussis, commonly known as whooping cough, reported in 2010. There were 143 cases in all of 2009 and the previous high for the county was 371 cases in 2005. The State of California has declared a pertussis epidemic.

“Due to the state-declared epidemic, we would like to remind parents that the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) has lowered the recommendation for Tdap booster shots from 10-11 years and now recommend those 7-9 years of age and older receive a booster dose,” said Wilma Wooten, M.D., M.P.H., County Public Health Officer. “A high level of what is called community immunity is needed to help stop the spread of pertussis. Immunity wanes over time and a booster shot is an important step in helping to increase immunity.

“Adults should check with their primary care physician to make sure they are also up-to-date on their booster shots – they need a Tdap booster shot every ten years.”

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that children get one dose of DTaP vaccine at the following ages: 2 months; 4 months; 6 months; 15 to 18 months and 4 to 6 years.

The CDC also recommends that children receive a booster shot of Tdap vaccine at 10-11 yrs. The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) recommends an adolescent-adult pertussis booster vaccine (Tdap) for everyone 10 years or older who has not yet received it, especially women of childbearing age, before, during, or immediately after pregnancy; and other people, including household contacts, caregivers, and health care workers, who have contact with pregnant women or infants.

Children 7-9 years of age who did not receive all of their routine childhood shots are recommended to receive a Tdap booster dose.

A typical case of pertussis in children and adults starts with a cough and runny nose for one-to-two weeks, followed by weeks to months of rapid coughing fits that sometimes end with a whooping sound. Fever, if present, is usually mild. The disease is treatable with antibiotics.

For more information about whooping cough, please call the HHSA Immunization Branch toll-free at (866) 358-2966, or visit the web site at www.sdiz.org.

###



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

The locations and dates for this weekend's vaccination clinics (all are held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. through Sept. 26, subject to vaccine availability):

Saturdays

San Ysidro Port of Entry, 720 East San Ysidro Blvd, San Diego

Sundays

Northgate Market, 2909 Coronado Avenue, San Diego

Northgate Market, 1410 South 43rd Street, San Diego

Northgate Market, 1058 3rd Avenue, Chula Vista

Northgate Market, 1346 South Mission Road, Fallbrook

Northgate Market, 1150 East Vista Way, Vista

Northgate Market, 606 North Escondido, Escondido

This week's new pertussis cases where there is a potential for public exposure are:

- A 2-year-old who was up-to-date on immunizations and attends the Child Development Center in the Solana Beach School District. Contact: William Banning (858) 794-7109.
- A 4-year-old who was up-to-date on immunizations and attends Deer Canyon Preschool in the Poway Unified School District. Contact: Sharon Raffer (858) 521-2707.
- A 6-year-old who was up-to-date on immunizations and attends McMillin Elementary School in the Chula Vista Elementary School District. Contact: Anthony Millican (619) 425-9600, ext. 1328.
- A 6-year-old who was up-to-date on immunizations and attends Rice Elementary School in the Chula Vista Elementary School District. Contact: Anthony Millican (619) 425-9600, ext. 1328.
- A 7-year-old who was up-to-date on immunizations and attends Adobe Bluffs Elementary School in the Poway Unified School District. Contact: Sharon Raffer (858) 521-2707.
- An 8-year-old who was up-to-date on immunizations and attends Ocean Air Elementary School in the Del Mar Union School District. Contact: James Peabody (858) 755-9301.
- Seven 9-year-olds who were up-to-date on immunizations and attend Arroyo Vista Elementary School in the Chula Vista Elementary School District. Contact: Anthony Millican (619) 425-9600, ext. 1328.
- A 9-year-old who was not up-to-date on immunizations and attends Arroyo Vista Elementary School in the Chula Vista Elementary School District. Contact: Anthony Millican (619) 425-9600, ext. 1328.
- A 9-year-old who was up-to-date on immunizations and attends the Iftin Charter School in San Diego. Contact: Abdikhaliq Ismail (619) 265-2411.
- A 10-year-old who was up-to-date on immunizations and attends Arroyo Vista Elementary School in the Chula Vista Elementary School District. Contact: Anthony Millican (619) 425-9600, ext. 1328.
- A 10-year-old who was due for a booster shot and attends the Jamul Intermediate School in the Jamul-Dulzura School District. Contact: Nadine Bennett (619) 669-7712.
- An 11-year-old who was up-to-date on immunizations and attends Arroyo Vista Elementary School in the Chula Vista Elementary School District. Contact: Anthony Millican (619) 425-9600, ext. 1328.
- A 12-year-old who was due for a booster shot and attends the San Diego Jewish Academy in Carmel Valley. Contact: Josh Nunn (858) 704-3714.
- A 13-year-old who as due for a booster shot and attends St. Mary's Star of the Sea School in Oceanside. Contact: Monica Tellez (760) 722-7259.
- A 13-year-old who was up-to-date on immunizations and attends Canyon Crest High School in the San Dieguito Union High School District. Contact: Bruce Cochran (760) 753-6491.