

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY HEALTH AGENCY



Public Health Department

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Pertussis Update – May 13, 2010

Cases of Pertussis continue to be reported to the Public Health Department. To date, we have had eight (8) lab confirmed cases, and many more probable cases reported. Although cases have primarily been reported in North County, South County is starting to see cases as well. Please refer to the Public Health Department website at http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/health/publichealth/commddisease/SLO_PHD_Pertussis.htm for further information and updates to the local situation.

At this time, the Health Officer recommends the following

- Pursue lab confirmation by NP swab PCR or culture testing for each person newly identified in a previously unaffected school, daycare, place of business, or other unlinked location.
- If a clear epidemiologic link can be made to a confirmed case, this is considered a confirmed case. Newly symptomatic persons are “probable” cases of pertussis if they meet the clinical case definition and are not epidemiologically linked to a confirmed case. Symptoms need to include: initial onset of rhinorrhea, sneezing and/or occasional cough with or without fever, followed by paroxysmal cough lasting at least at least 2 weeks, worse at night.
- Treatment should be given to confirmed and probable cases upon diagnosis. See our website for treatment recommendations.
- Prophylaxis should be given to all close contacts; i.e., all household members and persons with exposure of an hour or more to probable or confirmed cases regardless of vaccination history/status.
- Anyone over the age of 10 who has never received a dose of Tdap and whose last pertussis-containing vaccine was more than two years ago should be given a Tdap booster.

Infants and children who have incomplete vaccination series should be brought up to date as soon as possible.