

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY HEALTH AGENCY



Public Health Department

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Jeff Hamm
Health Agency Director

Penny Borenstein, M.D., M.P.H.
Health Officer

July 9, 2010

Re: Pertussis Outbreak in San Luis Obispo County

Dear Healthcare Provider:

Large numbers of pertussis cases continue to be reported in San Luis Obispo County, representing a significant outbreak in our jurisdiction.

In the face of this intense outbreak in San Luis Obispo County, it is recommended that the following actions be taken:

- Post the attached alert.
- Adopt universal immunization with pertussis-containing vaccine for children and adults.
- Use an accelerated infant DTaP schedule.
- Use Tdap off-label for administration to persons >64 years old who are at high risk for transmission to infants.
- Vaccinate pregnant women in their third trimester.

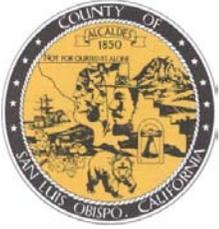
More information regarding testing, diagnosis and treatment guidelines is available at www.slopublichealth.org.

If you have any further questions, please contact the San Luis Obispo County Public Health Department at (805) 781-5500.

Thank you for your assistance in this important public health matter.

Sincerely,

Penny Borenstein, M.D., M.P.H.
Health Officer



SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH ALERT

July 12, 2010

Please Post

Pertussis Update: New Vaccination Instructions

231 confirmed, probable or suspected cases of pertussis have been reported in SLO County as of July 9th. Two infants have been hospitalized with pertussis during this outbreak. Immunity from both the vaccine and prior infection wanes over time. We therefore recommend the following:

- ◆ Universal immunization with pertussis-containing vaccine for children and adults.
- ◆ Use of AAP/ACIP accelerated infant DTaP schedule (1st dose at 6 weeks, 2nd and 3rd doses at 4 week intervals). Other childhood vaccinations may be given on this same schedule.
- ◆ Administer Tdap (Tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis) vaccine to all adolescents and adults who have not yet received an adult dose of Tdap.
 - There are two brands of Tdap available: **Adacel** (Sanofi-Pasteur) and **Boostrix** (GlaxoSmithKline). Regular tetanus booster vaccine (Td) does not contain the pertussis component. Childhood DTaP vaccine contains higher antigen concentration and is not recommended for use in adults.
 - Highest priority for vaccination are those who are pregnant, those who have close contact with an infant <12 months old, a pregnant woman or a new mother, and those who are health care workers.
 - Vaccine may be given off-label to adults 65 years and older, especially those who are in contact with an infant such as household contacts, child care providers and health care workers.
 - Tdap may be given at any time following the last dose of Td - there is no minimum interval required. (Risk of a severe local injection reaction may theoretically be higher with Td-Tdap intervals under 2 years, but evidence for this is slight, and is currently outweighed in light of the epidemic).
- ◆ Pregnancy is not a contraindication to Tdap vaccine. Use Tdap to proactively vaccinate pregnant women in their third trimester, and every adult who is a close contact of a pregnant woman or a new mother.
- ◆ If your practice does not carry/offer Tdap, consider the following:
 - Order vaccine for your patients. Your pharmaceutical supplier should carry the vaccine. If not, contact the Health Department at (805) 236-3216 for assistance.
 - Local drug stores including Vons (Nipomo), Albertson's (Arroyo Grande), Dana Nelson's Health Plus Pharmacy (SLO) and Passport Health (Pismo Beach) carry Tdap and will immunize.
 - Tdap vaccine is also available at the San Luis Obispo County Public Health Department sites in Paso Robles, San Luis Obispo and Grover Beach. The standard charge for Tdap vaccine at these locations is \$25/dose. However, the fee can be reduced or waived based on need, especially for those having close contact with infants less than one year old.