

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY HEALTH AGENCY



Public Health Department
2191 Johnson Avenue ▪ P.O. Box 1489
San Luis Obispo, California 93406
805-781-5500 ▪ FAX 805-781-5543

Jeff Hamm
Health Agency Director

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

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Dear Healthcare Provider:

Pertussis cases in San Luis Obispo County continue to rise, with 190 confirmed, probable or suspected cases reported to the Public Health Department as of June 24th. There have been two infants hospitalized with pertussis during this outbreak.

We ask your help in protecting those most vulnerable to pertussis: infants and children. At this time, the Public Health Department (PHD) recommends an accelerated vaccination schedule for infants. The CDC recommends using this schedule in outbreak situations, due to its potential to decrease morbidity in infants between 14 weeks and six months of age. The table following this message shows an accelerated schedule.

We recognize that not all insurance will reimburse providers for an accelerated schedule of vaccination. The PHD therefore offers free pertussis vaccine as shown below. The PHD will make all attempts to offer children the same formulation of vaccine that they are currently on. To help with this effort, please provide patients you refer to the PHD with a copy of their vaccination history to bring to their appointment. Currently, the PHD offers *Pediatric* and *Pentacel* for infants, *DAPTACEL* for infants/children up to the age of seven, and *Boostrix* for adolescents and adults.

The PHD also offers vaccine to caregivers or household contacts of infants. Please refer those meeting this criterion to the PHD also. A \$25 fee will be charged based on ability to pay.

If you suspect pertussis, we recommend that you test and use your clinical judgment in implementing early treatment. Please report cases to the Public Health Department, and aggressively prophylax contacts. Remember that pertussis is contagious for up to 5 weeks. If you have any questions, CDPH has an excellent website with many resources at:

<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/HealthInfo/discond/Pages/Pertussis.aspx>, while the SLO County website also has excellent references and local information.

Accelerated DTaP Vaccine Schedule for Pertussis Outbreak Control Recommendations

CHDP Exam Schedule	Accelerated Schedule Exam	Vaccination Minimum age or interval during outbreaks	Vaccine Provider	Patient Instructions
Newborn Exam (< 1 month)	Newborn			Make appt for 6 weeks of age.
2 Month Exam Range (4-8 wks)	6 weeks of age	6 weeks of age 1 st DTaP	PMD	Make appt at PHD for 10 wks of age. Make appt at PMD for 14 wks of age.
		10 weeks of age (4 wk interval) 2 nd DTaP	Public Health	
4 Month Exam Range (12-16 wks)	14 weeks of age	14 weeks of age (4 wk interval) 3 rd DTaP	PMD	Return to normal exam & vaccination schedule.

Note: ALL vaccines scheduled to be given at 2 months of age can be given at 6 weeks of age. This includes: Rotavirus, Hib, Pneumococcal, Polio, and Hepatitis B. All of these vaccines have a minimum interval to next dose of 4 weeks, so all can be continued on the accelerated schedule.

For those children who have already had their first or second dose of DTaP, an accelerated schedule can be adopted, simply administer the next shots four weeks later. For example, a child receiving a regularly scheduled dose at 8 weeks can receive the next dose at 12 weeks.

For questions on the accelerated vaccine schedule and how to enable CAIR Immunization Registry to do Reminders/Recalls contact Debbie Trinidad, RN, County Immunization Coordinator 226-3216/781-5500.

All PHD vaccine appt. are charge \$25 / visit, no charge for vaccines, fee waived for inability to pay.

CHDP providers will be reimbursed for additional exam, but not \$9 reimbursement for DTaP dose.