



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION
September 15, 2010

CONTACT: Tom Christensen (619) 515-6535

PERTUSSIS CASES CONTINUE TO CLIMB IN COUNTY ***Weekend Clinics Continue; Make Sure Your Vaccinations are Up-to-Date***

With county schools back in session, parents should make sure their children are properly immunized against pertussis, as whooping cough cases have continued to increase in San Diego County, including 14 new cases where other children may have been exposed, said County Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) officials today.

There have been 554 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.

“Parents need to make sure their children are immunized and make sure they are also getting the necessary booster shots,” said Wilma Wooten, M.D., M.P.H., County Public Health Officer. “We recommend that people with medical coverage go to their private provider to obtain their immunizations and people with no primary care physician can go to HHSA’s Public Health Centers. We also continue to offer weekend vaccination clinics at six Northgate Markets locations and the San Ysidro port of entry.”

The Northgate Markets clinics will be held on Sundays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The clinic at the San Ysidro Port of Entry will be held on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The clinics are scheduled to continue on weekends until Sept. 26, based on vaccine availability.

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 the 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 3-year-old who was not up-to-date on immunizations that attends La Jolla Children's Learning Lab. Contact: Carey Kerns (503) 872-4986.
- A 3-year-old who was up-to-date on immunizations that attends Bay Park Early Learning Center in San Diego. Contact: Gail Filkins (619) 275-2241.
- A 4-year-old who was due for another DTaP that attends St. John's Episcopal preschool in Chula Vista. Contact: Sandy Martinez (619) 422-4141.
- A 5-year-old who was unimmunized and attends Raggedy Ann and Andy Preschool in San Marcos. Contact Jenny Peterson (760) 744-1050 ext. 3169.
- A 6-year-old who was up-to-date on immunizations and attends Monterey Ridge Elementary School in the Poway Unified School District. Contact Sharon Raffer (858) 521-2707.
- An 8-year-old who was unimmunized and attends Skyline Elementary School in the Solano Beach School District. Contact: Leslie Fausset (858) 794-7104.
- A 9-year-old who was up-to-date on immunizations and attends Emory Elementary School in the South Bay Union School District. Contact: Jill Palmer (619) 628-5300.
- A 10-year-old who was up-to-date on immunizations and attends La Presa Elementary School in the La Mesa-Spring Valley School District. Contact: David Kinzel (619) 668-5700 ext. 6211.
- A 10-year-old who was unimmunized and attends El Camino Creek Elementary School in the Encinitas Union School District. Contact: Timothy Baird (760) 944-4300, ext. 1111.
- An 11-year-old who was due for a booster shot and attends Mission Estancia Elementary School in the Encinitas Union School District. Contact: Timothy Baird (760) 944-4300, ext. 1111.
- A 12-year-old who was up-to-date on immunizations and attends Valley Middle School in the Carlsbad Unified School District. Contact: John Roach (760) 331-5000.
- A 13-year-old who was up-to-date on immunizations and attends La Mesa Middle School in the La Mesa-Spring Valley School District. Contact: David Kinzel (619) 668-5700, ext. 6211.
- A 17-year-old who was up-to-date on immunizations and attends Rancho Buena Vista High School in the Vista Unified School District. Contact: Steve Hargrave (760) 726-2107. ext. 2253.
- A 17-year-old who was up-to-date on immunizations and attends Torrey Pines High School in the San Dieguito Union High School District. Contact: Bruce Cochrane (760) 753-6491, ext. 5619.