



# COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

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## **TDAP VACCINE COULD CURB RISING PERTUSSIS CASES** *New Cases Bring Total to 667 in San Diego County*

Eight new pertussis cases in children with potential for public exposure were reported this week, County Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) officials said today.

In San Diego County, 667 confirmed cases of pertussis, commonly known as whooping cough, have been reported this year. This figure far surpasses the previous county high of 371 cases in 2005, and last year's 143 cases.

"The best way to prevent this highly contagious infection is to get vaccinated," said Wilma Wooten, M.D., M.P.H., County Public Health Officer. "County residents should make sure everyone in their family is up to date with their immunizations or booster shots by checking with their primary care physician."

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](http://www.sdiz.org).

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

- A 9-year-old who was up-to-date on immunizations and attends Miller Elementary School in the San Diego Unified School District. Contact: Linda Zintz (619) 725-5568.
- A 10-year-old who was due for a booster shot and attends La Jolla Country Day School in La Jolla. Contact: Chris Lavin (619) 895-5996.
- A 10-year-old who was due for a booster shot and attends Fuerte Elementary School in the Cajon Valley Union School District. Contact Karen Sapper (619) 588-3134.
- A 13-year-old who was up-to-date on immunizations and attends Pershing Middle School in the San Diego Unified School District. Contact: Linda Zintz (619) 725-5568.
- An 11-year-old who was up-to-date on immunizations and attends Dana Middle School in the San Diego Unified School District. Contact: Linda Zintz (619) 725-5568.
- A 9-year-old who was up-to-date on immunizations and attends Midland Elementary School in the Poway Unified School District. Contact: Sharon Raffer (858) 521-2707.
- An 11-year-old who was due for a booster shot and attends El Camino Creek Elementary in the Encinitas Union School District. Contact: Timothy Baird (760) 944-4300 ext. 1111.
- A 7-year-old who was up-to-date on immunizations and attends Nubia Leadership Academy in the San Diego Unified School District. Contact: Linda Zintz (619) 725-5568.