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IMMUNIZATION UPDATES - November 2011

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1. MMWR Publishes Tdap Vaccination Recommendations for Pregnant Women

Compared with older children and adults, infants aged <12 months have substantially higher rates of pertussis and the largest burden of pertussis-related deaths. Since 2004, a mean of 3,055 infant pertussis cases with more than 19 deaths has been reported each year. The majority of pertussis cases, hospitalizations, and deaths occur in infants aged ≤ 2 months, who are too young to be vaccinated; therefore, other strategies are required for prevention of pertussis in this age group. Since 2005, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) has recommended tetanus toxoid, reduced diphtheria toxoid and acellular pertussis (Tdap) booster vaccines to unvaccinated postpartum mothers and other family members of newborn infants to protect infants from pertussis, a strategy referred to as cocooning. On June 22, 2011, ACIP made recommendations for use of Tdap in unvaccinated pregnant women after 20 weeks gestation. Maternal antibodies against pertussis may provide protection to the newborn early in life before they start the DTaP series, additionally women vaccinated in pregnancy will likely be protected at the time of delivery therefore less likely to transmit pertussis to the infant.

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/wk/mm6041.pdf>

2. ACIP Recommends Males be Vaccinated Against HPV

On October 25, 2011, the ACIP voted to recommend the routine vaccination of males, age 11-12 years and those not previously vaccinated up to the age of 21, with 3 doses of the HPV4 vaccine. Approximately 20 million Americans are infected by HPV and every year in the US about 7,000 HPV associated cancers,

primarily head and neck cancer, affect men. HPV can also cause most cases of genital warts in both men and women and about one in 100 sexually active adults in the United States has genital warts at any one time. Gardasil (HPV4), manufactured by Merck, is the only vaccine currently recommended for use in males. Other HPV vaccines have not been licensed for use in males and at this time have not filed for licensure.

http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2011/t1025_hpv_12yroldvaccine.html

3. CDC FluView Report

Each week, starting the first week of October, the CDC publishes FluView, a weekly update on key flu indicators within the US. The reports provide information on doctor visits for influenza-like illness, specimen surveillance, influenza associated pediatric deaths, and flu associated hospitalizations both by the week and since the start of flu season. This snapshot of influenza activity can help you address influenza movement and disease trends in your location.

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>

4. National Influenza Vaccination Week (NIVW)

What are you doing to support National Influenza Vaccination Week (NIVW)? NIVW is a national observance that was established to highlight the importance of continuing influenza vaccination, as well as fostering greater use of flu vaccine after the holiday season into January and beyond. NIVW 2011-12 is scheduled for December 4-10, 2011. Materials, web tools, media toolkit and resources for HCPs are available on the NIVW website.

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/NIVW>

5. Vaccine Information Statement (VIS) Updates

Hepatitis A - UPDATED (10/25/11)
Meningococcal - UPDATED (10/14/11)
Polio - UPDATED (11/8/11)

When was the last time you verified all your VIS's were up to date? Download the most current statements from the CDC.

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/vis/default.htm>

Never miss a VIS update, register to receive notifications by email.

http://service.govdelivery.com/service/subscribe.html?code=USCDC_11_1

6. MILVAX Training Opportunities

Immunization Basic Course

NOSC Miami, FL
4 Dec 11

Osan Air Base, Korea
6 Dec 11

Fort Stewart, GA
9 Jan 12 (registration opens in early Dec)

Ford Island, HI
7 Feb 12 (registration opens in early Jan)

<http://www.vaccines.mil/ibc>

Immunization Leaders Course

Osan Air Base, Korea
7-9 Dec 11

Fort Stewart, GA
10-13 Jan 12 (registration open in early Dec)

Ford Island, HI
8-10 Feb 12 (registration open in early Jan)

<http://www.vaccines.mil/ilc>

For a complete description of all the courses offered by MILVAX please see the MILVAX website and check out the many education opportunities that are available within Immunization University.

<http://www.vaccines.mil/training>

7. CME Learning Opportunity

Adult Pneumococcal Disease: A Neglected Crisis?

Sponsored by the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases

Physician CME: 2, Pharmacist CPE: 2 (credit expiration 14 Jan 2012)

<http://www.vemcomeded.com/webinar-6-ondemand.asp>

Register for a free Medscape account to view a catalogue of immunization specific CE/CME training opportunities. This is a great way to help you and your staff meet the 8 hours of annual immunization training.

<http://www.medscape.com/>

8. Crossword Puzzle: Test your rabies knowledge!

<http://www.vaccines.mil/crossword>

Military Vaccine Agency

<http://www.vaccines.mil>

<http://www.smallpox.mil>

<http://www.anthrax.mil>

(877)GET-VACC

<mailto:vaccines@amedd.army.mil>

Please feel free to pass this message on to your colleagues. To add or remove your name from this mailing list, please click here --

<http://www.vaccines.mil/ContactUs>