



San Diego Immunization Coalition Monthly Update

Apr. 15, 2016

www.sdizcoalition.org

COALITION NOTES

- **THERE'S STILL TIME TO REGISTER FOR THE SDIC SPRING SUMMIT 2016... FEATURING DR. SARAH ROYCE and DR. RICHARD PAN**

Just a reminder that you can still register for the annual San Diego Spring Summit, with the theme of *Celebrating Then. Now. Next.* to mark SDIC's 25th anniversary is being held Friday, April 15. For a quarter-century, the Coalition has been a key source for information, collaboration and strategies to promote immunization and increase immunization rates throughout San Diego County.



The event takes place from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the San Diego Central Library.

We have two very special keynote speakers. The first will be Dr. Sarah Royce, Chief of the Immunization Branch of the California Dept. of Public Health. The second will be Dr. Richard Pan, the California State Senator who authored SB 277. Time Magazine dubbed him a “hero” of vaccine history along with Drs. Salk and Jenner. Also, you’ll get ACIP updates, current/future immunization statistics, and information about vaccines in development. CEUs are offered through the CA Board of Registered Nursing.

For more information, including how to register, visit <https://sdic-spring-summit-2016.eventbrite.com>.

Download, print, and share the flyer:

https://gallery.mailchimp.com/999cfe715ceb4d87e92dee62a/files/SDIC_25th_Anniversary_Flyer_3.pdf

- **CELEBRATE NATIONAL INFANT IMMUNIZATION WEEK (NIIW) AND TODDLER IMMUNIZATION MONTH (TIM)!**
NIIW is April 16-23 this year and is followed in May by TIM. These observances remind us about the importance of infant and toddler immunization. This is an especially timely subject, considering the continuing outbreaks in the US of diseases like pertussis, mumps and meningitis, and the national debate about personal belief exemptions to childhood immunization for school and day care entry.



Look for social media messages, a sample email message, a drop-in newsletter article, and a variety of promotional materials to be emailed out to partners soon. And visit the [County Immunization Program's 2016 NIIW/TIM Web](#) page for more information, links and downloadable resources.

- **9-Year-Old Dies from Influenza**

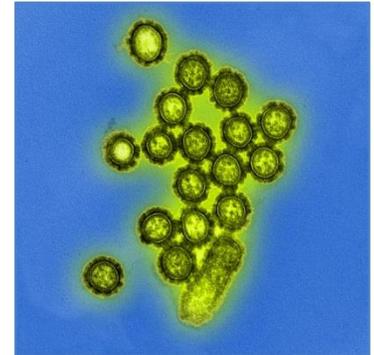
According to this [County News Center story](#), a 9-year-old boy with an underlying medical condition died late last month from influenza.

This is a sad reminder that there is still quite a bit of flu activity locally, and there is still time to get a flu shot if you haven't yet done so. The current vaccine is well-matched to the circulating flu virus strains and offers good protection.

Be Healthy, San Diego! Get flu vaccine.

More information about flu, flu vaccine and flu immunization is available on the [County Immunization Program website](#).

- **INFLUENZA ACTIVITY IN THE COUNTY**: The County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency's Epidemiology and Immunization Services Branch (EISB), works with the local medical community to summarize influenza activity here in our county. The weekly summary, called Influenza Watch, is available [here](#) or by clicking on the title link above.



National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases

- **The Next SDIC General Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 1st.**
The next SDIC General Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 1. Starting time is the same, 12:30 pm, and it will be held in the San Diego Room at the HHS Rosecrans Health Services Complex (3851 Rosecrans St., San Diego). Mark your calendars and we'll see you there!

HEALTH CARE PROVIDER NEWS

- **Study: "Recent Outbreaks Linked to Skipped Vaccinations"**
According to The Vaccine TOP 5: March Media Coverage e-newsletter from the Vaccinate Your Family program, "Children who miss or delay childhood vaccinations without medical reason are contributing to outbreaks of measles and pertussis, according to an analysis published this month in the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA). The analysis reviewed 18 separate measles studies which detailed the 1,416 measles cases that have been recorded in the U.S. since 2000 - the year the disease was declared eliminated in the United States. Of the 970 cases in patients with detailed vaccine histories, researchers found nearly 60 percent (574 patients) were unvaccinated despite being eligible; and 405 of those cases had religious or philosophical reasons for vaccine refusal." [Read more at the Vaccinate Your Family website.](#)
- **Study: "Pertussis Vax Wanes, Even With Tdap Booster"**
According to an item in the *MedPage Today website* (3/28/16), a study reported in the journal *Vaccine* concluded that, "Results suggest that an important pathway to achieving higher 3-dose HPV vaccine coverage is by increasing HPV vaccination series initiation through HCP talking to parents about the HPV vaccine, giving parents time to discuss the vaccine, and by

making a strong recommendation for the HPV. Also, HPV vaccination series completion rates may be increased by eliminating missed opportunities to vaccinate against HPV and scheduling additional follow-up visits to administer missing HPV vaccine doses.” [Read more at the MedPage website.](#)

- **Optional Form To Document Medical Immunization Exemptions Available**

Effective January 1, 2016, California no longer allows parents/guardians to submit personal belief exemption from vaccinations required for school and childcare.

Medical exemptions from vaccinations required for childcare and school entry are available, if appropriate. The California Immunization Coalition in collaboration with the American Academy of Pediatrics, California and the California Academy of Family Physicians have developed an optional form for use in documenting a medical exemption. Licensed physicians (MD, DO) may simply complete this form or provide a letter containing the same information to the parent/guardian. For more information and frequently asked questions about the new law go to www.shotsforschool.org.

RESEARCH NEWS

- **Study: "Infant Ear Infections Becoming Less Common" (in part because of pneumococcal conjugate vaccine)**

According to a story in US News and World Report, "Painful ear infections remain a scourge of childhood, but fewer American babies are getting them now compared with 20 years ago, new research shows... The new research found that 46 percent of babies followed during 2008 to 2014 had a middle ear infection by the time they were 1 year old. But while the infections were common, those rates were lower when compared against U.S. studies from the 1980s and '90s, the researchers added. The decline is not surprising, according to lead researcher Dr. Tasnee Chonmaitree, a professor of pediatrics at the University of Texas Medical Branch, in Galveston...That's in large part because of a vaccine that's been available in recent years: the pneumococcal conjugate vaccine, Chonmaitree said. The pneumococcal conjugate vaccine protects against several strains of pneumococcal bacteria, which can cause serious diseases like pneumonia, meningitis and bloodstream infections. Those bacteria are also one of the major causes of children's middle ear infections, Chonmaitree said. Read the article [here](#).

- **Study: "Two-dose varicella vaccine more effective than one dose"**

According to a story on the *Healio* website, "Recent findings published in *Pediatrics* suggested that the two-dose varicella vaccine was more effective than the single-dose vaccine. 'During the first 5 years after implementation of the two-dose varicella vaccination program, we found that two doses conferred significantly better protection against varicella disease from community transmission among school-aged children compared with the one-dose regimen,' Dana Perella, MPH, surveillance coordinator at the Philadelphia Department of Public Health, and colleagues wrote. 'Our study provides more direct evidence of the protective effect of a two-dose regimen of varicella vaccine for children.'" [Read more at the Healio website.](#)



COUNTY PHC IMMUNIZATION CLINICS: ELIGIBILITY

- **Eligibility for Immunizations at County Public Health Centers; Important Information**

The following individuals are eligible to receive immunizations at County Public Health Centers:

- Children and adults who do not have health insurance (adults—only certain vaccines available).
- Adults whose health insurance does not include vaccines (only certain vaccines available).
- Persons 0-18 years who are Alaskan Native or American Indian.
- Persons 0-18 years who have Medi-Cal or are Medi-Cal eligible.

- **Persons 6 months and older in need of influenza (flu) vaccine regardless of health coverage.**

Individuals are not eligible for vaccines if their insurance includes vaccinations, even if there are co-pays or deductibles.

HOW TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE MONTHLY UPDATE

- **Having a Community Event? Tell Us! Don't forget our SDIC Community Event Calendar:** We are always seeking submissions for the Calendar. Help get the word out about your upcoming event. Please use [this form](#) to submit events (at least 2 weeks before the event).
- **If you have other information to share...**We encourage readers to send in information they think is relevant to immunization and its related issues. Perhaps there's an article in a newspaper, magazine or online. Or information received via email, or from another newsletter. Feel free to email the information (along with a citation) to harrison.bolter@sdcounty.ca.gov. Please note that we may have to edit the information for length or relevance.

Note: This update will be sent the 15th of every month (or the next business day if the 15th falls on a weekend or holiday). If you have immunization-related news or information you would like to share with your Coalition partners, please send it via email to Harrison Bolter at harrison.bolter@sdcounty.ca.gov no later than the 13th of that month. Any information received later than that will be held until the next Update. Thank you!

County of San Diego Immunization Program

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harrison.bolter@sdcounty.ca.gov



**LIVE WELL
SAN DIEGO**