



San Diego Immunization Coalition Monthly Update

July 15, 2016

www.sdizcoalition.org

COALITION NOTES

- **AUGUST IS NATIONAL IMMUNIZATION AWARENESS MONTH.**

During August, the San Diego Immunization Program will ask for your help in promoting this observance, which celebrates the importance of immunizations for all ages, from infants to seniors.

Each week of the Month has a different theme, for a different age group:

Week 1 (Aug. 1-7): Vaccines are not just for kids—Adults

Week 2 (Aug. 8-14): Protect yourself and pass protection on to your baby—Pregnant Women

Week 3 (Aug. 15-21): A healthy start begins with on-time vaccination—Infants and Children

Week 4 (Aug. 22-28): Ensure a healthy future with vaccines—Preteens and Teens

The Immunization Program will be sending out promotional tools in August such as social media messages, e-mail signature lines, a "drop-in" article for use in community publications and other places, web logos, banners and more. Also during the Month, our website (www.sdiz.org) will feature information and downloadable resources to help celebrate National Immunization Awareness Month. You can use the tools and resources to spread the word about the importance of immunizations to your friends, family, co-workers and others in your community.

- **Reminder: Diseases make lousy souvenirs.**

Summer is here, and vacations are on everyone's mind. But summer is also a great time to catch up on immunizations, both for travel and for school in the fall.

Your kids may not be thinking about school right now, but they need to be up to date on their immunizations to be able to start classes in the fall. And doctors take vacations, too, so contact your child's doctor now to ask about immunizations.

Travelers should note this information about flu from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): "Flu is common throughout the world. The flu season lasts from October through May in the Northern Hemisphere and from April through September in the Southern Hemisphere. In tropical countries, flu can be spread year-round." See the CDC's [Travelers' Health page on influenza](#) for more information.

Zika virus may also be a concern for travelers. The CDC has a [Zika Travel Information web page](#) with helpful information and resources.

Don't let vaccine-preventable diseases ruin your summer—or the start of school this fall.

- **Reminder: the Next SDIC General Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Aug. 3rd.**

The next SDIC General Meeting will be held on Wednesday, Aug 3. 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

- **“HPV-Related Cancers an ‘Epidemic’ in Men, Report Finds”**
According to a study reported on the online NBC News website, "The number of cancers related to HPV has dramatically increased, a new government report finds. But too few people are receiving the best protection against the preventable and potentially deadly diseases of the cervix, head and neck: a vaccine given to pre-teens which could protect them later in life. The number of human papilloma virus (HPV)-associated cancers in the United States has increased by 17 percent, to nearly 39,000 cases a year, according a report released Thursday from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. While men cannot get HPV-linked cervical cancers, they are particularly vulnerable to HPV-related cancers of the mouth, tongue and throat, called oropharyngeal cancers. According to the new CDC report, the rates of mouth and throat cancers are more than four times higher among males than females. 'In the past, people always felt that the boys needed to be vaccinated to protect the girls but, truthfully, they need to be vaccinated to protect themselves,' says Dr. Lois Ramondetta, professor of gynecologic oncology at MD Anderson Cancer Center who has made it a personal mission to educate both parents and pediatricians about HPV and the vaccine that can help stop cancer before it starts." Read the story [here](#). The CDC report can be found on [its website](#).

RESEARCH NEWS

- **"Maternal Vaccination against influenza associated with protection for infants"**
According to a study reported in the Science Daily website, How long does the protection from a mother's immunization against influenza during pregnancy last for infants after they are born? ... It's an important question because the incidence of influenza among infants is high and illness can cause hospitalizations and death. Also, current vaccines don't work well in infants less than 6 months of age and are not licensed for use in that age group...'We and others have previously demonstrated that the administration of IIV3 during pregnancy confers protection against symptomatic influenza infection to the infants of the vaccinated mothers; here we show that the duration of this protection is likely to be limited to the first 8 weeks of age. Several potential mechanisms of protection have been proposed ... Our study suggests that the most likely mechanism of protection of the infants is through the transplacental transfer of maternal antibodies,' the authors conclude." [Read the report on the Science Daily website](#).
- **“Flu vaccines: CDC says FluMist ‘nasal spray’ should not be used this upcoming flu season”**
As reported on the Outbreak News Today website, "The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) voted Wednesday that live attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV), also known as the 'nasal spray' flu vaccine, should not be used during the 2016-2017 flu season. ACIP continues to recommend annual flu vaccination, with either the inactivated influenza vaccine (IIV) or recombinant influenza vaccine (RIV), for everyone 6 months and older. In late May, preliminary data on the effectiveness of LAIV among children 2 years through 17 years during 2015-2016 season became available from the U.S. Influenza Vaccine Effectiveness Network. That data showed the estimate for LAIV

VE among study participants in that age group against any flu virus was 3 percent (with a 95 percent Confidence Interval (CI) of -49 percent to 37 percent)." Read more on the [Outbreak News Today site](#).

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

www.sdiz.org

It is not our intention to spam. Please send any unsubscribe requests, as well as corrections or changes to names or email addresses to:
harrison.bolter@sdcounty.ca.gov

