



San Diego Immunization Coalition Monthly Update

Mar. 15, 2016

www.sdizcoalition.org

COALITION NOTES

- **FREE REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR THE SDIC SPRING SUMMIT 2016... FEATURING DR. SARAH ROYCE and DR. RICHARD PAN**

On Friday, April 15, 2016, join us for the annual San Diego Spring Summit, with the theme of *Celebrating Then. Now. Next.* to mark SDIC's 25th anniversary. 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 will be held 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 "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

- **Three More Mumps Cases Reported at University of San Diego**

Three more undergraduate students at the University of San Diego have been diagnosed with mumps, bringing to five the total number of cases at the school according to the County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency. (*The earlier story reporting the first two cases of mumps at USD can be found on the County News Center website [here](#).*)

The new cases are close contacts of the first student with mumps, who was confirmed to have the highly contagious viral illness in February. It is not known where the first person was exposed to the disease.



HHS is working with USD to provide free vaccinations to all undergraduates at the university to prevent the outbreak from spreading. Vaccination clinics are being held this week on the campus. USD students and staff can call 619-260-4595 for more information.

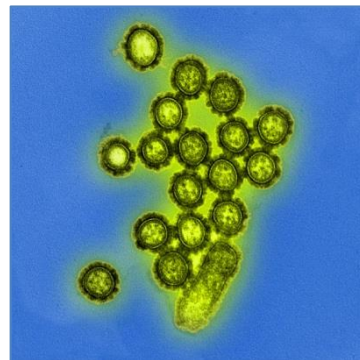
Read the County News Center story [here](#).

- **11 New Flu Deaths Reported in County, Number of Confirmed Flu Cases Decline**
According to this [County News Center story](#) the news about the local flu season is mixed. While "...11 new influenza deaths were reported during the week ending March 5...the number of lab-confirmed flu cases dropped for the first time (that) week, after several weeks of continued increases."

Despite the drop in numbers, 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](#).



National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases

- **[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.
- **The Next SDIC General Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 6th**
The next SDIC General Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 6. 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

- **Optional Form To Document Medical Immunization Exemptions Now 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.

- **Study on influence of Health Care Providers in the HPV vaccination of teen girls**
According to an item in the *IAC Express* e-newsletter (#1233), 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 the study abstract [here](#).

RESEARCH NEWS

- **Study on Association Between Vaccine Refusal and Vaccine Preventable Diseases in US**
According to the conclusion of a recently published study in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, "A substantial proportion of the US measles cases in the era after elimination were intentionally unvaccinated. The phenomenon of vaccine refusal was associated with an increased risk for measles among people who refuse vaccines and among fully vaccinated individuals. Although pertussis resurgence has been attributed to waning immunity and other factors, vaccine refusal was still associated with an increased risk for pertussis in some populations." Read the article [here](#).
- **Study: "Americans in Poorer Neighborhoods More Likely To Have Severe Complications From Flu"**
According to a story on the [Pacific Statesman website](#), "...Americans living in poorer neighborhoods are almost twice as likely to have severe complications from the flu than those living in richer neighborhoods, according to a new analysis... The new numbers on the flu's disproportional impact on low-income neighborhoods suggest public-health organizations should step up their annual flu-vaccine campaigns in such communities, the study authors write in their report, published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)."



Read the study report [here](#).

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

