



New 7th – 12th Grade Tdap Requirement: Provider Readiness Checklist

PERTUSSIS IS WIDESPREAD - YOUR PATIENTS ENTERING 7TH-12TH GRADE THIS FALL 2011 WILL NEED TO SHOW PROOF OF VACCINATION WITH TDAP VACCINE. MAKE SURE YOUR PRACTICE IS READY! IMMUNIZE YOUR PATIENTS NOW!

- Repeatedly assess which adolescent patients have already received Tdap and which still need Tdap.**
 - Use your electronic (billing systems, Electronic Health Records, CAIR etc.) or other record systems to determine which of your patients approximately 11-17 old have and have not already received Tdap.
 - Log-in to CAIR to find out how to use it to generate patient lists.

- Repeatedly remind patients by mail, telephone, emails and clinic displays.**
 - Those who have already received Tdap need to get clear documentation from you.
 - Those who have not yet received Tdap also need to come in for immunization now.
 - Display reminders about the requirement in your clinic, website and recorded messages.
 - Make sure all staff are aware and trained about the new pertussis booster requirement to facilitate prompt appointments for immunization.

- Ensure that your clinic has adequate supplies of vaccines.**
 - Order enough vaccine to immunize all adolescents that still need to receive Tdap and other routine vaccines.
 - Orders should match the usage for the ordering cycle. If you order quarterly, only order doses needed for one quarter.
 - Re-order early enough to avoid running out. Vaccine orders require at least 2-3 weeks until delivery.
 - Do not order more vaccine than your storage unit can hold without crowding.

- Immunize now at every adolescent visit – the incidence of pertussis is highest in summer through fall.**
 - Assess the immunization status during every visit, including routine visits, sports physicals, and visits for mild illness or injury.
 - Give Tdap and, when possible, all other indicated vaccines during the visit.
 - If only Tdap is given, schedule the patient for a return visit to receive all other vaccines.
 - Prepare for potential back-to school rush for Tdap vaccine: e.g., extra clinic hours, Tdap only visits, and adequate staffing despite vacation season.

- Provide clear documentation of Tdap immunization to patients and their schools.**

Clear documentation is critical to help school staff distinguish between doses of Tdap, Td, DTaP, DTP, etc.

 - If you use CAIR, consider printing out a copy of the 'Blue Card' after Tdap has been given for the student to take to school.
 - See <http://www.shotsforschool.org/providerinfo.html> for other documentation options.

- Use VFC-supplied vaccines on VFC-eligible patients only.**
 - VFC supplied vaccines can only be administered to VFC-eligible patients: Medi-Cal/CHDP eligible, uninsured and American Indian/Alaskan Native patients.
 - Under-insured patients (private health insurance does NOT cover vaccines) can only be vaccinated with VFC vaccine at FQHCs/RHCs).
 - Screening and documentation of VFC eligibility must be done at every visit.