



Important News from the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District (SAMHD) December 15, 2010

Revised Guidelines for the Usage for Tdap Vaccine

In October, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) voted to revise the use of tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis vaccines (Tdap) to help reduce the number of cases of pertussis. These revisions incorporate new recommendations regarding the interval between Tdap and last dose of Td for children aged 11 through 18 years of age and to update recommendations for certain children between the ages of 7 and 10 years. The two currently licensed vaccine products are: BOOSTRIX® (GSK, for ages 10-64 years) and ADACEL™ (sanofi pasteur, for ages 11 through 64 years), and are licensed as a single dose booster.

This following information outlines the ACIP revised guidelines for administration of Tdap:

- Children ages 7 through 10 years who have never been vaccinated against tetanus, diphtheria, or pertussis, or who have unknown vaccination status should receive a series of three vaccines containing tetanus and diphtheria toxoids. The preferred schedule is a single dose of Tdap, followed by a dose of Td >4 weeks after Tdap and another dose of Td 6-12 months later. If not administered as the first dose, Tdap can be substituted for any of the other Td doses in the series. *[Although administering Tdap vaccine to children under 10 years of age is currently considered 'off label' use per FDA approval, the ACIP considers its recommendation and use in this age group for protection against Pertussis disease valid in light of available data.]*
- Adolescents aged 11–18 years should receive a single dose of Tdap instead of the Td for the booster immunization against tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis if they have completed the recommended childhood DTP/DTaP vaccination series and have not already received a Tdap. Since the optimum age from administering the Tdap is ages 11-12, consider administering Tdap, the Meningococcal Conjugate Vaccine (MCV4), and 2nd Varicella vaccine dose during the same visit to coincide with the 7th grade school entrance requirement (if indicated).
- For additional protection against pertussis, adolescents 11–18 years of age who received Td, but not Tdap, are encouraged to receive a single dose of Tdap whenever medically feasible, regardless of interval between the two doses, to provide protection against pertussis if they have completed the recommended childhood DTP/DTaP vaccination series.
- Adolescents who require a tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine as part of wound management should receive a single dose of Tdap instead of Td if they have not previously received Tdap.
- Unless contraindicated, patients who have not received pertussis vaccines but completed the recommended tetanus-diphtheria vaccination series with pediatric DT or Td should receive Tdap according to the routine recommendations.
- Pregnant women who were not vaccinated previously with Tdap should receive Tdap in the immediate postpartum period before discharge from hospital or birthing center, or receive Td during pregnancy for tetanus and diphtheria protection when indicated.

Dependent on size of practice, VFC recommends that providers retain some doses of Td vaccine to cover patients that have/had a valid contraindication to pertussis vaccine components or are pregnant.

If you have questions about this information please call Kenya Wilson at 207-3974 or Anthony Johnson at 207-4015.

For additional information about these revisions and a recommended schedule for all diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis vaccines, consult the CDC VFC Resolution at:

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/programs/vfc/downloads/resolutions/1010tdap-508.pdf>, or the ACIP site at:
<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/ACIP-list.htm#tdapreg>