



# County of Erie

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## **HEALTH ADVISORY #290 Addendum** **Health Advisory: Pertussis Continues in New York State**

May 2, 2012

**Please distribute to the Infection Control Department, Emergency Department, Employee Health Service, Infectious Disease Department, Director of Nursing, Medical Director, Laboratory Service, and all patient care areas.**

### **VACCINE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ADULTS**

The best way to prevent pertussis is vaccination. In 2012, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) expanded the recommendations for the use of Tdap in adults. Because immunity from childhood pertussis vaccination wanes over time, a booster dose for both adolescents and adults is essential. Boosting reduces the risk of contracting pertussis, decreases the severity of the disease if contracted, and helps prevent transmission to infants who are too young to be vaccinated.

An important strategy to protect infants from pertussis is administering a dose of Tdap to all unvaccinated pregnant women, preferably after 20 weeks' gestation. After extensive review of available studies, ACIP has concluded that Tdap given during pregnancy does not result in an increase in adverse events.

Providers should be aware that Tdap is not 100% effective and, as a result, adults who have received Tdap may still contract pertussis. It is for this reason that pertussis should be considered in all adults with compatible symptoms and/or epidemiologic links to a known cause.

#### **Current ACIP recommendations for Tdap in adults:**

- Adults, of any age, who have not already received Tdap should be administered a single dose of Tdap.
- Tdap should be given regardless of interval since previous Td.

#### **The following adult groups should be prioritized for Tdap vaccination:**

- Adults of any age, including adults age 65 years and older, in contact with infants younger than age 12 months (e.g., parents, grandparents, childcare providers) who have not received a dose of Tdap.
- Pregnant women, preferably after 20 weeks' gestation.

- Healthcare personnel of all ages.

**COMPLETE INFORMATION ON THE CURRENT VACCINE RECOMMENDATIONS IS AVAILABLE AT THE WEBSITES BELOW:**

- ACIP Provisional Recommendations for Adults Aged 65 Years and Older on Use of Tetanus Toxoid, Reduced Diphtheria Toxoid and Acellular Pertussis Vaccine (Tdap) and Guidance on Use of Tdap Products for Adults Aged 65 Years and Older. --- Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), 2012. <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/provisional/Tdap-feb2012.htm>.
- Updated Recommendation for the use of Tetanus Toxoid, Reduced Diphtheria Toxoid and Acellular Pertussis (Tdap) in Pregnant Women and Persons Who Have or Anticipate Having Close Contact with an Infant < 12 Months --- Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), 2011. [http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6041a4.htm?s\\_cid=mm604a4\\_w](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6041a4.htm?s_cid=mm604a4_w).
- CDC Adult Immunization Schedule: <http://cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/schedules/adult-schedule.htm>.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Providers with questions or concerns may contact the Erie County Department of Health's Epidemiology and Surveillance program at (716) 858-7697, Monday – Friday 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM.