
"To improve the health of our communities by identifying sustainable solutions to community health issues, developing partnerships for implementation of strategies, and demonstrating our success through measurement of outcomes."

**Public Health Advisory for Health District Four
(Ada, Boise, Elmore and Valley Counties)**

Update on Pertussis in Elmore County

December 11, 2008

Circulate to All Medical Providers & Clinical Staff

Eight pertussis cases have been reported since mid-September. All the cases reside in Mountain Home. Six of the cases are teenagers and the others are adults.

Keep up the good work on identifying cases! Testing information can be obtained from the lab that you use. Additionally here is a website with information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) about diagnosis of pertussis and lab methods.

http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/pertussis-guide/downloads/DRAFT_chapter2_amended.pdf

CDC authorities recommend that **treatment should be initiated as soon as pertussis is suspected**. Here is a website which includes a handy table of recommended antimicrobial treatment and postexposure prophylaxis.

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5414a1.htm>

Please urge patients infected with pertussis to remain isolated at home until they have been on an effective antibiotic for 5 days.

Antibiotic prophylaxis is recommended, regardless of age and vaccination status, for household and close contacts of pertussis cases and patients in whom pertussis is highly suspected. The antibiotics, dosages and durations of treatment are the same as those used for treating cases.

Medical providers should ensure that infants and children are up-to-date on their recommended immunizations including DTaP. See the website below for the immunization schedule for persons 0-6 years.

http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/schedules/downloads/child/2008/08_0-6yrs_schedule_pr.pdf

The following website accesses the schedule for persons 7-18 years.

http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/schedules/downloads/child/2008/08_7-18yrs_schedule_pr.pdf

A single dose of Tdap is recommended for adults 19 to 64 years of age to replace the next booster dose of Td. The website below gives you access to the adult immunization schedule.

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/schedules/downloads/adult/07-08/adult-schedule.pdf>

Groups for whom Tdap is especially important:

- Adults who have close contact with infants <12 months of age
- Health care workers
- Women prior to becoming pregnant
- Women who have not previously had Tdap should receive a dose in the immediate postpartum period, prior to hospital discharge.

Your patients can call Central District Health Department's Immunization Clinics to schedule an appointment.

Mountain Home Office 587-4407
Boise Office 327-7450

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