



FROM: Communicable Disease Prevention  
San Francisco Department of Public Health

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**Please Read and Post**

## **Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Acellular Pertussis (Tdap) Vaccine and Pregnancy**

Although pertussis occurs at all ages, infants with pertussis have the highest rates of death, hospital admission, and complications which can include pneumonia, encephalopathy and meningoenzephalitis.

Pertussis disease is cyclical with peaks every 3-5 years, and cases are on the rise again in the Bay Area.<sup>1</sup>

The CDC Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends<sup>2</sup> and both ACOG and AAP support<sup>3,4</sup> the following practices to minimize the burden of pertussis disease among infants:

### **TDAP VACCINATION DURING EVERY PREGNANCY**

- Providers of prenatal care should implement a Tdap immunization program for ***all*** pregnant women
- A dose of Tdap should be administered during ***every pregnancy*** irrespective of the patient's prior history of receiving Tdap
- Tdap may be administered at any time during pregnancy, but vaccination during the ***3<sup>rd</sup> trimester*** (ideally between 27-36 weeks gestation) provides the highest concentration of maternal antibodies to be transferred to the infant
- If not administered during pregnancy, Tdap should be administered immediately postpartum

### **"COCOONING" (THE PRACTICE OF VACCINATING THOSE IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH AN INFANT)**

- Adolescents and adults who have or anticipate having contact with an infant aged <12 months should receive a dose of Tdap if they have not received Tdap previously, ideally at least 2 weeks before planned infant contact to allow pertussis immunity to develop

ACIP has not recommended revaccination with Tdap, but has found that Tdap revaccination is safe and immunogenic.<sup>5</sup> Since pertussis immunity wanes within a few years after immunization, Tdap revaccination of those anticipating or having contact with an infant may be reasonable as part of a cocooning strategy.

Please call the Immunization Program at 415-554-2830 with any questions. Thank you!

1. <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/immunize/Documents/PertussisReport2013-08-01.pdf>
2. <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6207a4.htm>
3. [http://www.acog.org/Resources\\_And\\_Publications/Committee\\_Opinions](http://www.acog.org/Resources_And_Publications/Committee_Opinions)
4. <http://www2.aap.org/immunization/illnesses/dtp/pertussis.html>
5. <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/acip/meetings/slides-jun-2013.html>



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