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Tetanus, Diphtheria, Acellular Pertussis (Tdap) Vaccine

IPAC and the New Mexico Immunization Coalition urge all medical practices and health professionals to offer Tdap booster immunization against pertussis in place of Tetanus Diphtheria vaccine or Tetanus Toxoid to adolescents and adults if that person has not previously received Tdap. Pertussis infection has been on the rise for the past 20 years and much of the increase has been in teens and young adults.

Most reported pertussis cases among adolescents and adults occur because protective immunity against pertussis decreases within five to ten years of the last childhood vaccination. In both adults and adolescents, pertussis may cause severe and prolonged coughing, as well as vomiting, interrupted sleep, cyanosis, pneumonia, fractured ribs and hospitalizations. Adults and adolescents are capable of spreading the infection to vulnerable populations, particularly infants who are too young to have been fully immunized. 75% of infants with pertussis are infected by a close family member—almost half are infected by their mother or father.

Who should receive Tdap?

- Adolescents and adults in need of Td booster if they have never previously received Tdap should receive a single dose of Tdap.
- There is no minimum interval between previous Td or TT and Tdap.
- Persons age 11+ who will have close contact with an infant (new parents, childcare providers, grandparents, and healthcare providers) should be given a single dose of Tdap if they have not previously received Tdap.
- Healthcare workers: Tdap may be safely given at any interval since last Td to protect healthcare workers and their patients.
- Pregnant women should receive Tdap during the second half of pregnancy with *each* pregnancy no matter how long it has been from previous vaccine doses. *Note:* This is the only current indication for anyone to receive more than a single Tdap dose.

Precautions

- Coma or long seizure within 7 days of receiving a dose of DTP or DTaP
- Progressive neurological disorder, uncontrolled epilepsy or progressive encephalopathy until a treatment regimen has been established and the condition has stabilized.
- Personal history of Guillain Barré Syndrome.
- Severe swelling or pain after a previous dose of any vaccine containing tetanus, diphtheria or pertussis.
- Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever.
- If possible, delay vaccination of patients undergoing chemotherapy. If you're unable to delay (e.g. when there is a community pertussis outbreak) revaccinate three months after completion of the therapy.
- History of Arthus-type hypersensitivity reaction to a tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine administered <10 years previously (an Arthus reaction is a local vasculitis associated with deposition of immune complexes and activation of complement. Immune complexes form in the setting of high local concentration of vaccine antigens and high circulating antibody concentration. Arthus reactions are characterized by severe pain, swelling, induration, edema, hemorrhage, and occasionally by necrosis).

Giving Tdap with other vaccines

- Tdap can conveniently and safely be given with other vaccines. It is recommended (ACIP, AAFP, and AAP) to be given with the other vaccines for 11-12 year olds—the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Vaccine and the Meningococcal Conjugate (MCV4) vaccine.

Side effects

- Local injection-site soreness, erythema, induration common (~70%)
- Low-grade fever and myalgia (~10%)
- Headache (~25%)
- Other mild side effects: Chills, body aches, sore joints, rash, tiredness
- Severe side effects are rare

Contraindications

- Severe allergic reactions to prior pertussis-containing vaccine or diphtheria and tetanus-containing vaccine.
- Encephalopathy not attributable to another identifiable cause within 7 days of a pertussis-containing vaccine.

- Severe (anaphylactic) allergy to latex. The tip and rubber plunger of BOOSTRIX® (GlaxoSmithKline) syringe presentation contains latex and should not be used for people with anaphylactic latex allergy. (Single-vial BOOSTRIX® and ADACEL® (sanofi pasteur) do not contain latex).

How to store and administer the vaccine

- Refrigerate immediately upon arrival — do not use if frozen.
- Refrigerate opened or unopened at 2-8°C (36-46°F).
- Do not use after expiration date.
- Shake vial vigorously before each dose.
- IM deltoid preferred for adolescents and adults: use 1-1½", 23-25 gauge needle.

How to obtain the vaccine

BOOSTRIX® is licensed for children 10 years of age and older. It is available through the Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program online ordering. For non-VFC purchase, BOOSTRIX® can be obtained from GSK at 1-800-496-3772 Ext. 85234 or General Injectables and Vaccines, Inc. (GIV) at 800-270-2273.

ADACEL® is licensed for children and adults 10 through 64 years of age. Vaccine can be obtained through sanofi pasteur at (800) VACCINE (800-822-2463) or www.vaccineshoppe.com.

Suggestions for smooth third party reimbursement *VFC (not purchased) vaccine*

Vaccine is available free of charge through the VFC program for **patients 11-18 years of age**. No source can be billed for the vaccine acquired from VFC. Use the vaccine code (90715) for claims with a zero (\$0.00) charge, and the administration fee code (90471 or 90472). The exception is the fee-for-service exempt Medicaid (not Centennial!) program. For exempt Medicaid providers, use only the CPT code for the vaccine (90715) and enter the usual charge for vaccine administration for it. Use diagnosis code V06.1 for Tdap vaccine and administration.

Non-VFC (purchased) vaccine

Please check with your patient's insurance plan whether Tdap is a covered benefit. It is customary to bill for vaccine and vaccine administration. We suggest you place CPT-4 modifier -25 after your evaluation and management code (99201-99215) to indicate the office visit was unrelated to administration of Tdap vaccine. Use diagnosis code V06.1 for Tdap vaccine and administration.

NM Statewide Immunization Information System (NMSIIS)

It is required for providers to enter immunization data into NMSIIS so that a person's complete immunization history becomes available to any health professional who has access to the system. The proper utilization of NMSIIS helps to eliminate over-immunizing a person as well as to identify those that are under-immunized. To request NMSIIS training for your office, please contact the NM Department of Health at 1-800-280-1618.

For further information

New Mexico Department of Health <http://www.immunizenm.org>
 Center for Disease Control www.cdc.gov/vaccines/
 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Vaccination Information Statements
<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/vis/index.html>