



CHICKAHOMINY HEALTH NEWS

SPOTLIGHT: TDAP – COCOONING AGAINST PERTUSSIS

A message to pass on to parents, caretakers and health-care providers of infants:

Pertussis (whooping cough) is spreading in your community. Even with the success of vaccines, Pertussis is still common in the United States. There were 27,550 cases of Pertussis in the United States in 2010. In Virginia alone, there were 384 cases in 2010 and these numbers are expected to increase in 2011. Most disturbing is that infants have a 20 times higher chance of getting pertussis before they have achieved good protection from their routine shots.

Pertussis-related complications and deaths occur almost exclusively in young infants – 60% with disease are hospitalized and 90% of deaths are in infants less than 6 months of age.

80%-85% of the source of disease for these infants is family members and caretakers. Less than 10% of adults have protection from the disease and five out of six adults with the disease are capable of spreading the germ and have no symptoms!

A new vaccine was licensed in 2005 that contains *acellular*

lar pertussis component (Tdap) and is very safe, with minimal side effects (redness and soreness at site of injection). It can be given even if a recent tetanus and diphtheria shot has been received. Tdap vaccine is recommended and approved for use in:

- pregnant women in the last weeks of the 2nd trimester or during the 3rd trimester
- women immediately after giving birth
- any woman who may become pregnant
- routine tetanus and diphtheria booster or wound management
- all adults who anticipate having close contact with an infant less than 12 months of age

- healthcare workers
- booster before 6th grade
- college enrollees

You can make a difference. If caretakers of infants are immunized it is estimated that over a 10 year period 160,000-801,000 Pertussis cases in the US would be prevented.



Information provided by VDH Division of Immunization

National Public
Health Week
April 2-8, 2012
www.nphw.org



Contact Us

Chickahominy Health District
12312 Washington Hwy
Ashland, VA 23005

District Director (acting)
Brooke Rossheim, MD, MPH
Phone: 804-365-4313
Fax: 804-365-4355

Emergency (after hrs): 866-531-3068
URL: www.vdh.virginia.gov/LHD/Chickahominy/

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

What we are seeing in Chickahominy:

Oct-Dec 2011

- 11 varicella
- 7 salmonellosis
- 7 campylobacteriosis
- 4 pertussis
- 4 MRSA, invasive
- 4 Spotted Fever Rickettsiosis
- 1 Haemophilus influenzae, invasive
- 1 Streptococcus pneumoniae, invasive in <5 yrs

Select Reportable Disease by calendar year

