



2011-2012 Vaccine Requirements for 7th Grade

March 23, 2011

Dear Parents of Sixth Grade Students,

The Oklahoma State Board of Health recently added a new vaccine requirement for seventh grade students. Beginning in the Fall 2011 school semester, all seventh grade students must show proof of having received one dose of Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis) vaccine **before attendance is allowed**. To meet this requirement, an immunization record must be provided to the school showing the date your child received the vaccine and a signature or stamp of the doctor or the clinic that provided the vaccine. If your child has already received this dose, they will not be required to receive it again. Please bring the record with you when you pre-enroll or enroll your child for seventh grade. Parents may also request and complete an immunization exemption form for valid medical, religious or philosophical concerns. These forms may be requested from the school.

Tdap vaccine is considered a booster to the DTaP (diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis) vaccine that is required for Kindergarten entry. Tdap vaccine provides continued protection to students from three diseases: tetanus (lockjaw), diphtheria, and pertussis (whooping cough). Whooping cough has been on the rise in the U.S., especially among pre-teens and teenagers 10 through 19 years of age and children under 5 years of age. All of these diseases can have very serious consequences including death.

Nurses from the Comanche County Health Department will be providing FREE Tdap vaccinations at Central Middle School on Monday May 16, 2011 at 8:30 am. If you would like your child to be vaccinated, please complete the following 2011 Tdap Vaccine Consent Form and return it to the school as soon as possible.

Tdap vaccine is also available from your doctor, clinic or healthcare provider and is covered by most health insurance plans. All county health departments also provide Tdap vaccine, especially for children who do not have health insurance. Please contact your healthcare provider or local health department to schedule an appointment or find out the hours when vaccines are given.

Two other vaccines are also recommended for all adolescents at 11-12 years of age: meningococcal vaccine (MCV4) and human papillomavirus vaccine (HPV). Although neither of these vaccines are required for school entry, you are encouraged to ask your doctor of healthcare provider about these vaccines when your child receives the Tdap vaccine.

For more information about the Tdap vaccine, HPV vaccine, and MCV4 vaccine please visit the Oklahoma State Department of Health Immunization Service website at <http://imm.health.ok.gov>. Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our students protected.

Teresa Jackson
Central Middle School Principal

Information for Parents: New Tdap Vaccine Requirement For Students Entering 7th Grade for the 2011-12 School Year

A new requirement has been added to Oklahoma's school immunization requirements. All students entering the seventh grade beginning with the 2011-2012 school year will be required to have one dose of Tdap vaccine. The following information should help to answer your questions about the new requirement.

Q: What is Tdap vaccine?

A: Tdap is a vaccine used to boost immunity to pertussis (whooping cough), tetanus, and diphtheria. A dose of Tdap is recommended for all adolescents at age 11-12 years because protection provided by the DTaP shots they received as children wears off after 5 to 10 years.

Q: What is whooping cough?

A: Whooping cough, or pertussis, is an illness that causes coughing fits so intense and rapid that patients have difficulty breathing. The lack of oxygen to the brain during coughing fits may lead to brain damage, especially in babies.

Although whooping cough is usually a mild disease in adolescents, it can be serious for people of any age. Whooping cough can place a significant burden on families, as a person with whooping cough may be asked to stay home from work or school for at least 5 days while taking antibiotic treatment so they won't spread the disease to others. Most deaths occur in babies who are too young to be fully vaccinated.

Q: Why do we need a Tdap requirement?

A: We need a Tdap requirement for 3 main reasons:

- Immunity to whooping cough wears off over time. Preteens, teenagers, and adults are at risk for whooping cough, tetanus, and diphtheria 5 to 10 years after their last DTaP shot.
- Whooping cough has been increasing in the United States especially among teens (10–19 years of age) and babies younger than 6 months of age. In 2010, several states reported an increase in whooping cough cases including a statewide epidemic in California.
 - o California reported over 7,000 cases of whooping cough and 10 deaths in babies in 2010.
 - o Texas reported more than 2,000 cases.
- High immunization levels will help prevent an increase in the number of cases of whooping cough in Oklahoma.

Q: What is the deadline for students to get the Tdap vaccine?

A: Oklahoma's school law states that Tdap is required for all students attending the 7th grade beginning with the fall 2011 semester, so the deadline is the first day of school of the 2011-2012 school year.

Q: If my child already had whooping cough, should he or she still get the Tdap vaccine?

A: Yes, adolescents who have had whooping cough should receive Tdap according to the routine recommendations because individuals can contract the disease again. The length of protection, or immunity, provided by the disease is unknown. Having had the disease is not an exception to the Tdap requirement.

Q: Where can I get the Tdap vaccine for my child?

A: Tdap vaccine is available in most doctor's offices, clinics, and county health departments. Be sure to get a copy of the vaccination record to take to your child's school and for your records.

Q: Does Tdap vaccine contain thimerosal?

A: No. There are two brands of Tdap vaccine on the market, Boostrix® and ADACEL® and neither of these vaccines contains thimerosal.

Q: Does Tdap vaccine cause any reactions?

A: Yes, the most common reactions following Tdap are pain, redness, and swelling at the injection site. Other problems reported after Tdap vaccination include: tiredness, fever, headaches, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and stomachache. No severe problems following Tdap vaccination were seen in adolescents when the vaccine was tested before it was licensed.

Q: How do the vaccine side effects compare to the effects of the diseases?

A: Compared to the vaccine, the effects of the diseases are much more severe, even including death.

These are some of the problems caused by tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis diseases:

Tetanus

- Lockjaw (spasms of the jaw muscles) which can lead to trouble breathing
- Respiratory failure
- Heart failure
- Prolonged, painful spasms of the major muscles of the body which can lead to fractures of the spine or leg and arm bones
- Acute kidney failure
- Coma
- Death: 11 out of every 100 reported cases

Whooping cough

- Pneumonia
- Seizures
- Permanent brain damage
- Death: 2 out of every 1,000 reported cases

Diphtheria

- Myocarditis (inflammation of the heart which can cause heart failure)
- Airway obstruction
- Death: 5 to 10 out of every 100 people with diphtheria die from it

Q: If a student has received the 5 dose series of DTaP, does he or she still need to have a dose of Tdap before entering 7th grade?

A: Yes, the student must receive a booster dose of Tdap to be in compliance with Oklahoma immunization requirements.

Q: Are exemptions to Tdap allowed?

A: Yes, exemptions to the Tdap requirement are allowed for medical, religious or personal reasons. Schools have a supply of exemption certificates for parents who request them.

Q: What are the medical reasons for not giving a dose of Tdap?

A: People who should not receive Tdap for medical reasons include people of any age who have:

- Ever had a life-threatening allergic reaction to a dose of DTaP, DTP, DT, or Td,
- Experienced a coma, or long or multiple seizures within 7 days after receiving a dose of DTaP or DTP vaccine unless a cause other than the vaccine was found.

Q: How can I get more information about the Tdap vaccine and the new requirement?

A: For MORE information, visit the Immunization Service web page at:

http://www.ok.gov/health/Disease,_Prevention,_Preparedness/Immunizations/ , call the Immunization Service at 1-800-234-6196 or 405-2714073 or ask your regular doctor, nurse or medical clinic.

2011 Tdap Vaccine Consent Form (Child/Adolescent)
Information about Child to Receive Vaccine (please print)

| | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| CHILD'S NAME (Last) | | (First) | (M.I.) | GENDER MALE / FEMALE | |
| MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME | | DATE OF BIRTH | AGE | PHONE | |
| ADDRESS | | | CITY | STATE | ZIP |
| IS CHILD A TWIN, TRIPLET, ETC? YES / NO | | BIRTH STATE | | SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER | |
| RACE | HISPANIC ORIGIN? YES / NO | Insurance information is requested for screening purposes. Private Insurance will not be billed. Only Medicaid or Medicare will be billed for those who have it. | | | |
| INSURANCE <input type="checkbox"/> NO INSURANCE <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE INSURANCE <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> MEDICAID <input type="checkbox"/> MEDICARE | | | | | |
| MEDICAID NUMBER | | | MEDICARE NUMBER | | |

Screening for Vaccine Eligibility

| | YES | NO |
|---|------------|-----------|
| Does your child have any food or drug allergies? If so, please list below | | |
| Does your child receive daily medications? If so, please list below | | |
| Has your child received a tetanus shot in the last two years? If so, when | | |
| Has your child had the following symptoms after a previous dose of DTP, DTaP, DT, Td or meningococcal vaccine? If so, (Please circle) A fever over 105 Excessive high pitched crying Convulsions Listless, pale or shocky Severe pain or severe swelling Guillain Barre Syndrome | | |

CONSENT FOR CHILD'S VACCINATION AND RELEASE OF VACCINATION INFORMATION:

I have read or had explained to me the information contained in the Vaccine Information Statement for the Tdap vaccine and understand the risks and benefits of the vaccine. I have had a chance to ask questions which have been answered to my satisfaction. I understand the benefits and risks of the vaccine. I understand that if my child exhibits disruptive behavior while staff is trying to administer the vaccine they will not receive the vaccine at this clinic and will have to be taken to the health department or to their provider for this vaccine.

I authorize disclosure of this vaccination information to public health officials and other health care professionals. I understand that this vaccination will be recorded in the Oklahoma State Immunization Information System (OSIIS) for the purposes of sharing vaccination information with other health care providers and tracking vaccine inventory only.

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____ Date: _____

OFFICE USE ONLY

To Ask before administration:

Is the client suffering from a moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever?

Is the client pregnant?

VACCINE INFO:

Date: _____

Boostrix / Adacel

Deltoid: Right / Left

Lot No. _____

Administered by: _____