



Ventura County Public Health

A Division of the Ventura County Health Care Agency

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRETEEN/TEEN VACCINATION WEEK IN VENTURA COUNTY

[Oxnard] The Ventura County Public Health Department wants to remind parents that preteens and teens should be immunized against “vaccine preventable” diseases. To stress the importance of preteen immunizations, the State of California has declared February 13-19, 2011 as *Preteen Vaccination Week* in California. “Teens that get pertussis feel horrible, can have a cough that keeps them from sleeping for weeks and are very efficient at passing the disease to other younger children who may wind up in the hospital” said Dr. Robert Levin, Ventura County Health Officer.

Ventura County Public Health Department is hosting a variety of activities during February 13th-19th which will help parents get the recommended vaccines for their children. These include Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis) Meningitis (meningococcal), Chicken Pox (Varicella), HPV (human papillomavirus) and Seasonal Flu.

Preteen/Teen Vaccination Week will kick-off on Sunday, February 13th at noon in the Center Point Mall with a Scavenger Hunt open to all between the ages of 10-14. All participants will have a chance to win prizes based on successfully solving the scavenger hunt clues. Teens must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Vaccines will be available from 12-3pm for those 10-18 years of age at the Oxnard Public Health Clinic at 2500 South C Street, Suite #B1 at the Center Point Mall.

As a reminder, 2011-12 school year, all students entering 7th through 12th grades will need proof of a Tdap booster shot before starting school. In September 2010, Assembly Bill 354 was signed into law requiring that all students entering or advancing to grades 7th through 12th in the 2011-12 school year be immunized with a pertussis vaccine (Tdap). This new law goes into effect July 1, 2011, and affects all students in public and private schools.

Families are encouraged to participate in all the preteen week activities at the Center Point Mall on Sunday February 13th or from 9:30am-6pm at any of the Public Health Clinics for their vaccine clinics on February 14th through February 17th.

For more information about “Preteen/Teen Vaccination Week,” please contact Bev Hansen at Ventura County Public Health: (805) 981-5211 or visit our website at: www.vchca.org/ph, follow us on www.facebook.com/VenturaCountyPublicHealth and www.twitter.com/VCPublicHealth.

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