

EPI Update for Friday, February 10, 2017

Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology (CADE)

Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH)

Items for this week's EPI Update include:

- ACIP immunization schedule changes
- School absenteeism on the rise in Iowa
- In the news: Turning the Tide Against Cholera
- Infographic: Fight the Flu 3 Cs
- Meeting announcements and training opportunities

ACIP immunization schedule recommendation changes

Earlier this week, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) approved the recommended immunization schedule for children and adolescents aged 18 years or younger and adults aged 19 years or older.

Changes in the 2017 immunization schedules for children and adolescents aged 18 years or younger include new or revised ACIP recommendations for influenza; human papillomavirus; hepatitis B; Haemophilus influenza type B; pneumococcal; meningococcal; and diphtheria and tetanus toxoids and acellular pertussis vaccines.

Changes in the 2017 immunization schedule for the adult immunization schedule from the previous year's schedule include new or revised recommendations for influenza, human papillomavirus, hepatitis B, and meningococcal vaccines.

Some of the changes include the addition of HPV two-dose recommendations, removal of LAIV (Flumist) from recommended influenza vaccines, and formatting changes. A few additions have been made to how vaccines can be used; for example, Hiberix can be used to complete the primary Hib series and Trumenba may be used as a 2-dose meningococcal B series.

The comprehensive summary of the ACIP recommended changes made to the childhood and adolescents schedule can be found in the Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, Early Release / February 7, 2017 / 66. The comprehensive summary of the ACIP recommended changes made to the adult immunization schedule can be found in the Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, Early Release / February 7, 2017 / 66.

For more information on CDC immunization schedule recommendations, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/hcp/child-adolescent.html>.

School absenteeism on the rise in Iowa

The number of schools reporting absenteeism due to illness has increased across the state. When absenteeism due to illness reaches 10 percent or greater, schools report to public health. From October 2nd-February 4th, 70 schools have reported 10 percent or greater absenteeism to IDPH. In the past week, local public health departments and IDPH have investigated 56 reports of school absenteeism due to illness.

The best method to stop the spread of illness is to remain home while ill. IDPH recommends that all ill individuals remain home until 24 hours after symptoms have resolved without the use of fever reducing medications. Proper hygiene also helps to prevent the spread of illness. Remember the three Cs: cover your cough, clean your hands and contain your germs by staying home when sick.

Influenza activity continues to rise across Iowa and has been identified in a number of school outbreaks. Those who have not been vaccinated yet should be vaccinated as soon as possible.

To report school absenteeism download and fax the >10 percent absenteeism form or report electronically from IDPH's Website at: <http://idph.iowa.gov/influenza/schools>

In the news: Turning the Tide Against Cholera

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/02/06/health/cholera-vaccine-bangladesh.html>

Infographic: Fight the Flu 3 C's



Meeting announcements and training opportunities

None