



Children's Medical Services

January 2007

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Greetings! A NEW YEAR

Dear Providers,

Greetings from everyone at CMS! It has been some time since our last newsletter, and since then, we have had some newcomers join the CHDP team. Please welcome Erlee Vang, our Typist Clerk, and Diane Gannon, CHDP Nurse, who came on board back in the spring. Also, only a few months ago, Travis Mitchell became our new Health Education Specialist. Travis will be coordinating in-services and site reviews with you, as well as performing outreach and educational activities.

We all experience changes; we move to a new location, receive new phone numbers, and replacements in staff occur. When changes take place, or if you notice an error on our part, please give us a call to update your information. Travis can be reached at 381-1230.

The CCS program is happy to announce two new additions to their team; Beverly Simms, Nurse Case Manager, is responsible for comprehensive case management for children with CCS medical eligible conditions, and Graciela Rojas, CCS Worker, is responsible for determining program eligibility and supporting our nurse case managers.

We greatly appreciate your support. We know that your service helps every child to have a healthy start. We hope everyone had Happy Holidays, and we look forward to serving you in this New Year. Happy Reading.

Sincerely,

Mary Jo Rafferty, MSN

Public Health Program Manager

CCS ANNOUNCEMENT, RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS

from Marie Estacio Kelly, P.H.N., CCS Supervisor

Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) season is here with us again and our office has been receiving requests for Palivizumab (trade name Synagis). Palivizumab is a humanized monoclonal antibody produced by recombinant DNA technology licensed by Federal Drug Administration and indicated for the prevention of serious lower respiratory tract disease caused by RSV in pediatric patient at high risk disease. It is usually given from November thru April which is the RSV season. In addition, December 2002 Medi-Cal expanded the Palivizumab policy of 1998 making Palivizumab a covered benefit as "prophylactic treatment against RSV for infants and children with cyanotic or acyanotic congenital heart disease who are less than 24 months of age at the time the therapy is begun. For more information about Palivizumab (Synagis) please refer to N.L. 11-2006, which you can access at <http://www.dhs.ca.gov/pcfh/cms>.

MESSAGES FROM

CCS

California Children's Services

CHDP

Child Health & Disability Prevention

CLPPP

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program



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HPV VACCINE QUESTIONS & ANSWERS



from Diane Gannon, P.H.N., CHDP

Annually, nearly 4000 women in the U.S. die from cervical cancer. In June 2006, the Advisory Committee on Immunization practices (ACIP) voted to recommend the first vaccine developed to prevent cervical cancer and other diseases in females caused by certain types of genital human papillomavirus (HPV). The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recently licensed this vaccine (Gardasil) for use in girls/women, ages 9-26 years. The vaccine is given through a series of three shots over a six-month period.

Who Should Get the HPV Vaccine?

HPV vaccine is routinely recommended for girls 11-12 years of age. Doctors may give it to girls as young as 9 years.

Why is HPV vaccine given to girls at this age?

It is important for girls to get HPV vaccine before their first sexual contact – because they have not been exposed to HPV. For girls 11-12 years of age, the vaccine can prevent almost 100% of disease caused by the 4 types of HPV targeted by the vaccine. The HPV vaccine protects against 4 types: 6, 11, 16 & 18; types 16 & 18 are the cause of 70% of all cervical cancers & types 6 & 11 are the cause of 90% of all genital warts. The vaccine works best when given prior to exposure to the virus. The vaccine offers no benefits for a female who has already been exposed to a HPV virus; however it is still advisable to receive the vaccine as it is unlikely that a female has been exposed to all subtypes.

What are the expected benefits of this vaccine?

- To reduce the incidence of abnormal Pap smears
 - To reduce the incidence of genital warts
- To reduce the occurrence of vulvar & vaginal lesions
- To reduce the cervical cancer deaths among rarely screened and unscreened females

Remember:

- * This vaccine will become part of routine vaccination for girls
- * Protection from HPV vaccine is expected to be long-lasting
- * There will be no changes in cervical cancer screening recommendations
- * No confirmed studies in males yet; research on efficacy in this population is on-going
 - * Not recommended during pregnancy

HPV VACCINE AS A CHDP PROGRAM BENEFIT

from Diane Gannon, P.H.N., CHDP

Effective November 1st 2006, CHDP will reimburse providers for the administration fee of HPV vaccine to CHDP eligible female children; the vaccine will be provided at no charge by the VFC Program for these children.

- Code 76 payable for 3 doses

To Learn More

- Call (CDC) Or Call 1-800-232-4636
- Visit CDC's website at www.cdc.gov/std/hpv and www.cdc.gov/nip

“...vaccine developed to prevent cervical cancer and other diseases in females...”



Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Vaccine
76
VFC
9 years thru 18 years 11 months
\$9.00

CHILDHOOD LEAD POISONING PREVENTION PROGRAM (CLPPP)



from Carol Simmers-Tilma, R.N.

In order to assist our providers and the public to be aware and updated on lead sources and lead hazards, the Merced County Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP) has provided a web site on "Lead Alerts".

To access this web page go to: <http://www.co.merced.ca.us/health/CMS/CHDP/Programs/Lead/LeadAlerts/LeadAlertsHome.html>

Please note that this is a more direct way to access the lead alerts; you may want to add this to your favorites since this website is quite long. We also urge you to view this site periodically as it is updated often. There are also some new alerts involving some toys that you may find interesting.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact Carol Simmers-Tilma, R.N., at (209) 381-1041 or contact Micaela Lucio at (209) 381-1113.

ELEVATED BLOOD LEAD LEVEL FOLLOW-UP (CLPPP)

from Carol Simmers-Tilma, R.N.

The Merced Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP) would like the providers and clinics to be aware of how CLPPP currently provides assistance with elevated blood lead levels (BLL). The CLPPP will provide an initial contact to the clinics and to the client's family in the following ways:

1. CLPPP will contact the clinic for demographic information and will inform on the follow-up recommendations.
2. CLPPP will send lead information and a letter to the client's family informing them that their child has an elevated lead level that needs follow-up by the clinic. The letter will instruct the client's family to contact the clinic for a blood lead test follow-up.

An elevated BLL is one capillary or venous BLL in the range of **9.5 mcg/dL** through **19.4 mcg/dL**. Retesting on levels between **9.5 mcg/dL** and **14.4 mcg/dL** is 3 months. Retesting on levels **14.5 mcg/dL** and **19.4 mcg/dL** is 1 month.

It is recommended that you have a system to recall your clients back to your clinic for a follow-up. **Fax all BLL results to Micaela Lucio at (209) 381-1173.** BLL's need to be followed until the BLL drops below **9.5 mcg/dL**. Please retest the child one year from their last lead level, then yearly, thereafter, if the child is at high risk.

Please refer to the "Management Guidelines For Children With Elevated Blood Lead Levels" that have been provided to your clinic by the CLPPP. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Carol Simmers-Tilma, R.N., at (209) 381-1041 or Micaela Lucio at (209) 381-1113.

NUTRITION TIPS

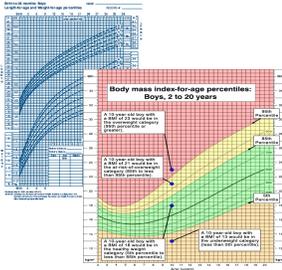
from Stephanie Russell, M.P.H., R.D.

Have you been receiving a Nutrition Tips fax? We are sending out weekly faxes with practical nutrition information to share with your patients. Call if you would like to start getting this weekly fax, or have suggestions for topics. Stephanie Russell, R.D., 381-1043



Lead Poisoning Prevention information can be obtained at the state CLPPP website, www.hds.ca.gov/childlead/





CHILDREN AND WEIGHT IN MERCED COUNTY, 2006

from Stephanie Russell, M.P.H., R.D.

The Pediatric Nutrition Surveillance System (PedNSS) analyzes collected data from PM160's. The 2005 data reflects that the Central Valley continues to have the most overweight children in California. According to 2005 PedNSS statistics:

- A total of two out of five children are overweight or at risk for becoming overweight.
- Almost one in five 5-19 year olds are at risk of being overweight.
- Almost one in four 5-19 year olds are overweight.
- One in four, or 25% of all Hispanic children are overweight
- Between the ages of 9 and 14, Hispanic children's rates climb to over 29%.

Check our website for fact sheets, which you can download for yourself and parents. The web address is http://www.co.merced.ca.us/health/CMS/CHDP/Programs/Services/Nutrition/nutrition_home.htm

Next issue: How to talk to families about weight!

CHDP Provider Notices

06-13

Addition of human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine as a CHDP benefit

06-12

Three Influenza Vaccine Changes
Notice of Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) update 2006 via web cast

06-11

Notice of Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) update 2006 via web cast

06-10

Second Varicella Vaccine for Children 12 mos-12 yrs

06-09

Notice of Influenza Immunization Continuing Education Teleconference Series

06-08

Fluoride Varnish Medi-Cal Benefit New

RECORDING BMI'S

from Stephanie Russell, M.P.H., R.D.

Please remember to enter the BMI in the PM160 comments sections for children 2 years of age or older receiving CHDP services.

If you would like a BMI in-service, or materials, or a BMI wheel to calculate the BMI, please call Stephanie Russell, 381-1043. You can download the CDC's BMI charts from our website, at http://www.co.merced.ca.us/health/CMS/CHDP/Programs/Services/Nutrition/nutrition_links.htm

CCS - MEDICAL THERAPY UNIT (MTU)

from Karen Schoettler, O.T.R./L., Supervising Therapist

The California Children's Services - Medical Therapy Unit (MTU) is located at Reyes School in Merced, and a Satellite Therapy Unit in Los Banos at Miano School. Therapy is available to clients with Cerebral Palsy, Spina Bifida, Muscular Dystrophy, and various other diagnoses.

This year the MTU has an opening for a full-time therapist and a full-time occupational therapist. For more information, please contact Karen Schoettler, O.T.R./L., at 723-1891.

**MERCED COUNTY,
PUBLIC HEALTH
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CMS NEWSLETTER

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