

PORTAGE COUNTY COMBINED GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT



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DuWayne O. Porter, M.P.H., R.S.
Health Commissioner

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For Immediate Release
Tuesday, April 26, 2011

Media Contact
Becky Lehman

Health department responds to state immunization requirement

The Portage County Health Department would like to remind all parents of current 6th graders that when they enter 7th grade this fall, their children will be required by Ohio law to have a combination shot of tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis vaccine, otherwise known as Tdap. The Portage County Health Department is holding community-based Tdap clinics to help parents meet the state requirement.

Why Tdap is important

“This vaccine protects against tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis also known as whooping cough. It’s good to have protection against tetanus in case of puncture wounds. Diphtheria and pertussis pose great respiratory risks. Pertussis is a mild illness with a lingering cough in adults; however it can be severe and possibly deadly in infants and unimmunized children. Portage County Health Department has continued to see incidences of pertussis in the community in both children and adults,” said Director of Nursing, Rosemary Ferraro.

Community Tdap Clinics

Along with the 7th grade requirement of Tdap, the CDC also recommends that parents and caregivers of infants 6 months and younger should receive a booster dose of Tdap. The health department will hold five community-based Tdap clinics in the month of May to help meet these recommendations and requirements.

May 9, 2011

4:30pm-6:30pm
Brimfield Town Hall
1333 Tallmadge Road
Brimfield

May 11, 2011

4:30pm-6:30pm
Freedom Town Hall
Triangle of Route 700, 303, & 88
Windham

May 16, 2011

4:30pm-6:30pm
Mantua Civic Center
11670 Mantua Center Rd.
Mantua

May 18, 2011

4:30pm-6:30pm
Edinburg Town Hall
6856 Tallmadge Rd
Edinburg

May 18, 2011

3:00pm-5:00pm

Kent City Health Department

325 South Depeyster St.

Kent

May 24, 2011

4:30pm-6:30pm

Portage County Health Department

449 South Meridian St.

Ravenna

The Tdap shot for children 18 and younger is \$10 or no charge if on Medicaid or uninsured/underinsured. The Tdap shot for adults 19 and over is \$50 or no charge if a parent or caregiver of an infant 6 months or younger. Cash or checks made out to the Portage County Health Department will be accepted.

Additional Immunizations

The PCHD Nursing Division provides adult immunizations on Tuesday's from 8:00am-10:00am by appointment only. Call 330-298-4490 to schedule an appointment. Childhood and Teen Immunization Clinic is Wednesday's from 8:00am-12:00 noon. This is a walk-in clinic, no appointment necessary. The clinics are located on the 1st floor of the Administration Building across from WIC at 449 South Meridian St. Ravenna. For questions, contact Becky Lehman, PCHD Health Educator at 330-296-9919 ext. 137.

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