



NJ Communi- CABLE

Fall 2015

Communicable Disease Service Mission Statement

Our mission is to prevent communicable disease among all citizens of New Jersey, and to promote the knowledge and use of healthy lifestyles to maximize the health and well-being of New Jerseyans.

We will accomplish our mission through our leadership, collaborative partnerships, and advocacy for communicable disease surveillance, research, education, treatment, prevention and control.

Chris Christie, Governor
Kim Guadagno, Lt. Governor
Mary E. O'Dowd, MPH
Commissioner

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE SERVICE

Christina Tan, MD, MPH
State Epidemiologist/
Assistant Commissioner
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Editor, Research Scientist

New Jersey Receives National Recognition as a Winner of the Bull's Eye Award for Innovation and Excellence in Immunization

The New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH), Vaccine Preventable Disease Program received the 2015 Bull's-Eye Award for the "Protect Me with 3+" adolescent immunization awareness initiative. Each year, the Association of Immunization Managers (AIM) presents the Bull's-Eye Award to a state, territorial, or local immunization program in recognition of an outstanding immunization initiative. The award recognizes immunization strategies that "hit their mark," achieving goals and increasing awareness by encouraging replication in other programs.

"Protect Me with 3+" is a collaboration between the Partnership for Maternal and Child Health of Northern New Jersey (the Partnership) and the NJDOH in an effort to increase adolescent immunization awareness among NJ's adolescents and parents. Created in 2012, "Protect Me with 3+" began as a contest that challenged NJ's youth to create 30-second

public service announcements (PSAs)/videos about one of the three primary adolescent immunizations: tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis (Tdap); human papilloma virus (HPV); and meningococcal conjugate (MCV4). In 2014,

Continued on page 6





2015-2016 Influenza Vaccine Recommendations

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) 2015-16 Recommendations for Prevention and Control of Seasonal Influenza were recently published in the *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*. A summary of what's new this season is listed below.

There is no preferential recommendation for any one flu vaccine over another.

The ACIP continues to recommend that all persons six months and older be vaccinated annually against influenza, with either live attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV) or inactivated influenza vaccine (IIV), with no preference expressed for either vaccine when each one is otherwise appropriate.

During the 2014-2015 flu season, ACIP issued a preferential recommendation for the use of LAIV in healthy children aged two through eight years who have no contraindications or precautions. This decision was based on several previous studies which suggested that the nasal spray (LAIV) vaccine could offer better protection than the flu shot (IIV) in this age group. However, in the absence of data demonstrating consistent relative effectiveness, preference for LAIV over IIV is no longer recommended. For more information, please visit <http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2015/s0226-acip.html>

Two of the vaccine virus components from last season were updated this season.

All 2015-16 influenza trivalent (three-component) vaccines are made to protect against the following three viruses:

- ❖ an A/California/7/2009 (H1N1)pdm09-like virus
- ❖ an A/Switzerland/9715293/2013 (H3N2)-like virus
- ❖ a B/Phuket/3073/2013-like virus. (This is a B/Yamagata lineage virus)

This influenza A (H3N2) virus and the influenza B virus components of the 2015-16 season trivalent vaccines have been updated from the 2014-2015 flu vaccine. Quadrivalent (four-component) influenza vaccines also will include a B/Brisbane/60/2008-like (Victoria lineage) virus component, which is the same Victoria lineage virus recommended for quadrivalent formulations during the 2013-14 and 2014-15 flu seasons.

There is a new algorithm for one dose versus two doses for children six months through eight years of age.

In light of the continuing circulation of influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 as the predominant influenza A(H1N1) virus since 2009, and the inclusion of an A/California/7/2009(H1N1)-like virus in U.S. seasonal influenza vaccines since the 2010–2011 season, separate consideration of receipt of vaccine doses containing this virus is no longer

Continued on page 5



The NJDOH Communicable Disease Service includes:

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CDS Welcomes New Staff!

Karen Worthington – Karen joins the Infectious and Zoonotic Disease Program (IZDP) as a Research Scientist working primarily on Ebola virus disease, vector-borne, and other zoonotic diseases. She is a certified occupational health nurse and completed a fellowship at the Centers for Disease Control National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.

Denay Pressley – Denay joins the Infectious and Zoonotic Disease Program as the Senior Management Assistant. She has served in a variety of administrative roles within the NJ Department of Labor and Workforce Development prior to coming to the Communicable Disease Service.

Allison Portney – Allison joins the Vaccine Preventable Disease Program surveillance staff and will be working on the Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Pro-

gram. She is a graduate of Columbia University’s Mailman School of Public Health and has worked with the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene’s foodborne disease unit.

Kathleen Ross – Kathleen has joined the Communicable Disease Service as a Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE) Fellow. She is a graduate of Drexel University School of Public Health and has worked with the Philadelphia Department of Health in the Vaccine Preventable Disease, Healthcare-Associated Infection and Youth Hepatitis C Surveillance programs.

Katelyn Ogden – Katelyn joins the Infectious and Zoonotic Disease Program as a Clerk Typist. Katelyn has a background in graphic design and home health. 

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National Immunization Awareness Month is an annual observance that highlights the need for vaccines throughout the life span to protect against serious, and sometimes deadly, diseases. Throughout August, New Jerseyans are encouraged to make sure they are up to date with their immunizations to protect themselves and others from vaccine-preventable diseases.

In recognition of National Immunization Awareness Month, the National Public Health Information Coalition, in collaboration with the CDC, has developed a toolkit that is available online at www.nphic.org/niam.





In The NEWS.....

Get Smart About Antibiotics Week! November 16-22, 2015

Get Smart About Antibiotics Week is an annual one-week observance to raise awareness of antibiotic resistance and the importance of appropriate antibiotic prescribing and use. Join us in promoting important public health messages so that together we can preserve the power of these life-saving drugs! Messages regarding Get Smart About Antibiotics Week will be sent out via email and NJLINCS. If you would like to receive the messages and materials, please send your email address to Suzanne.miro@doh.state.nj.us or sign up for a NJLINCS account at <http://www.njlincs.net/default.aspx>, scroll down and click on "I need a new account."

New Spanish-language Resource Available!

The community education program "Teaching Communities about Antibiotic Resistance" toolkit is now available in Spanish! A training will be held toward the end of 2015 (date to be determined) so stay tuned!

CDC Encourages Coordination to Improve Health Care Safety

On August 4, 2015 the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released a report that projected increases in drug-resistant infections and *C. difficile* and highlighted the need for nationwide improvements in infection control and antibiotic prescribing. The CDC recommends a coordinated approach between health care facilities and public health agencies in order to prevent up to 70% of life-threatening carbapenem-resistant *Enterobacteriaceae* infections over five years. Strengthening antibiotic stewardship could prevent 619,000 antibiotic-resistant and *C. difficile* infections and save over 37,000 lives in that time period. In a new video [\[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EPP9ReyvY2s\]](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EPP9ReyvY2s) titled "CDC Vital Signs – Making Health Care Safer: Stop the Spread of Antibiotic Resistance" the CDC spotlights how antibiotic-resistant germs are spreading between healthcare facilities, even those that are practicing infection control and antibiotic stewardship. For more information or to read the report, please visit <http://blogs.cdc.gov/safehealthcare/2015/08/04/cdc-modeling-shows-safe-health-care-means-coordination/>

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Estimated minimum number of illnesses and deaths caused annually by antibiotic resistance*:

At least  **2,049,442** illnesses,

 **23,000** deaths

*bacteria and fungus included in this report





Recommendations, continued from page 2

recommended. Therefore, a new algorithm for determining the appropriate number of doses for children aged six months through eight years has been developed.

- ❖ Children six months through eight years who have previously received two or more total doses of trivalent or quadrivalent influenza vaccine as of July 1, 2015 only need one dose for 2015-16. The two previous doses do not need to have been given during the same season or consecutive seasons.
- ❖ Children six months through eight years who have previously received only one dose or no doses of influenza vaccine need two doses of vaccine to be fully protected for the 2015-2015 season.

This season both trivalent and quadrivalent influenza vaccines will be available. Different routes of administration are available for flu vaccines, including intramuscular,

intradermal, jet injector and nasal spray vaccine. For more information including the available vaccine products and indications, and vaccination of persons with a history of egg allergy, please access the complete report at

http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6430a3.htm?s_cid=mm6430a3_e




Get more information at <http://nj.gov/health/cd/handwashing.shtml>.

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Save the Date - December 7, 2015

Interactive Social Media Conference to be held at the New Jersey State Police, Forensic Technology Center auditorium, 1200 Negron Drive, Hamilton, NJ

The conference is free to attend - lunch not included
Applications for continuing education credits have been made for public health and Certified Health Education Specialists.
Registration is now open on the NJ Learning Management Network





Bull's Eye Award, continued from page 1

“Protect Me with 3+” expanded to a multi-pronged adolescent immunization awareness initiative by including best practices from successful adolescent health initiatives and by addressing the gap in resources available for preteens and teens. Three major parts of the initiative include:

- ❖ Website for both adolescents and parents that is mobile-device friendly, medically accurate, and written in plain-language
- ❖ Year-long social media campaign on the four most popular platforms (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Tumblr)
- ❖ Expanded annual adolescent PSA contest to include influenza vaccination and a poster option for preteens

During the 2014-2015 contest period, the expanded campaign reached more people than the 2013 contest period. Over 16,000 unique users visited the website, with over 31,000 page views representing a 434% and 201% increase, respectively. There was a 55% increase in contest submissions, mostly due to the poster option which better engaged preteens. More than 60,000 people were reached via the

four social media platforms and an additional four million impressions were earned from online advertising; over 20 local media sources promoted the contest. Past winning videos were also featured by two nonprofit national education organizations (Value of Vaccination and the Immunization Action Coalition), broadening the campaign’s reach to a national audience. Videos have been viewed over 7,000 times and winning posters are being printed for distribution throughout the state.

The upcoming “Protect Me with 3+” contest is tentatively scheduled for winter 2016. For more information about adolescent vaccines and to see the winning videos and posters, visit <http://protectmewith3.com/>. To learn more about AIM and to read about other Bulls-Eye recipients, visit <http://www.immunizationmanagers.org/?page=BullsEyeAwar2013>.

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Save the Date!

New Jersey Immunization Conference



TIME MATTERS: Vaccine Management & Disease Prevention

Thursday, November 12, 2015

Renaissance Woodbridge Hotel
515 US Hwy 1 South
Iselin, NJ

Featured Speakers

JoEllen Wolicki, RN, BSN
Nurse Educator
Center for Disease Control & Prevention

Margaret 'Meg' Fisher, MD, FAAP
Medical Director
The Unterberg Children's Hospital
Monmouth Medical Center

Betsy Cabbage, RN, BSN
Director of Nursing
Cumberland County Health Department

Wendi Carlon-Wolfe, RN
School Nurse
Millville Public Schools

For additional details,
visit www.aapnj.org



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