



County of Orange  
Health Care Agency  
Public Health Services Family Health Division  
Immunization Assistance Program



*August is National Immunization Awareness Month*

Immunizations are one of the top 10 public health accomplishments of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. While immunizations have significantly reduced the incidence of many serious infectious diseases, vaccination rates for some diseases are not meeting national public health goals. Not everyone realizes immunizations are not just for children – they are needed throughout our lifetime.

***As we prepare for the upcoming school year, here are some important reminders to keep you on track.***

**Off To College: Young Adults**

Getting ready for college means making sure you are up to date on all doses of the recommended vaccines – both to protect yourself and others around you. Some diseases can spread quickly in settings like college dorms and classrooms. Don't wait –make back-to-school appointments for vaccinations now. Many colleges and universities have vaccination entry requirements. Visit [www.immunize.org/laws/](http://www.immunize.org/laws/) for additional information.



**Back to School:  
Children, Pre-Teens & Teens**

Preparing for school means gathering supplies and back packs. It's also the perfect time to make sure children are up to date on their vaccines. "Immunizations are a safe and effective way to help our kids stay healthy in school and protect them from vaccine-preventable illnesses that can be very serious and have lifelong consequences," said Dr. Chapman, Director of the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and the State Public Health Officer. "As families make plans for heading back to school, those plans should include making sure their children are up-to-date on required immunizations for school, including an adolescent whooping cough booster shot (Tdap) for incoming 7<sup>th</sup> graders."



Getting all of the recommended vaccines is one of the most important things parents can do to protect their children's health. Check the childhood immunization schedule for all recommended vaccines (ages 7 to 18) at <http://ohealthinfo.com/phs/about/family/iz/teens>

## **Babies from Birth to Age 2**

Pregnancy is a great time to plan for your baby's immunizations – and to make sure you have the

vaccines you need to protect yourself and pass protection to your baby during the first few months of life. In addition to the vaccines recommended for adults, women need a flu shot every year, and the Tdap vaccine to protect against whooping cough with every pregnancy. Additional information can be found at

<http://ohealthinfo.com/phs/about/family/iz/pregnant>



## **Adults Need Vaccines Too**

Many adults don't realize they still need protection

against vaccine-preventable diseases. Vaccines are not just for kids. Adults still need certain vaccines, both to protect themselves and their loved ones. Additional information can be found at

<http://ohealthinfo.com/phs/about/family/iz/adults>

