



Public Health
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Champaign-Urbana Public Health District

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Immunization Initiative to Begin

The Champaign-Urbana Public Health District Takes Part in an Immunization Initiative Program

Champaign, IL – The Champaign-Urbana Public Health District (CUPHD) has accepted a one-time grant to assist with costs associated with expanding the availability of specific vaccines to new target populations through the end of 2010.

CUPHD is providing free vaccinations to adolescents, ages 11-18, including Tdap (Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis), Menactra (meningococcal), and Varicella (chickenpox). Varicella (if history of disease is not present) and Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Pertussis vaccines are required for school entry and a Tetanus booster is required every 10 years. Menactra vaccine is an elective vaccine that is important in protecting adolescents from meningococcal infection. Although rare, meningococcal disease is a serious bacterial illness that includes meningitis (the inflammation of the protective layer surrounding the brain and spinal cord) and septicemia (blood poisoning). Between 1,000 and 2,600 cases of meningococcal disease occur in the United States annually. Every year, the disease quickly ends the lives of children and can leave its survivors permanently disabled.

This initiative is funded through the ARRA (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act). Vaccinations will be given regardless of the clients' VFC (Vaccines for Children Program) eligibility or other insurance status.

To schedule an appointment, contact CUPHD at 217-531-4304.

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