



Tdap in Emergency Rooms and Urgent Care Centers



Use of Tdap Vaccine Instead of Td in Emergency Rooms and Urgent Care Centers

Nationally, pertussis outbreaks are on the rise. Hospital emergency rooms and urgent care centers are strongly encouraged to administer the tetanus, diphtheria, and acellular pertussis (Tdap) vaccine instead of the tetanus and diphtheria (Td) vaccine to teens and adults whenever tetanus is indicated.

Pertussis is typically spread to newborns by adolescents or adults (usually family members). Young infants are especially susceptible due to not having started nor finished their diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis (DTaP) vaccinations against pertussis.

The Tdap vaccine is the preferred alternative for boosters to prevent incidents of pertussis in adolescents and adults, as well as its transmission to newborns and young children by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) as of October 31, 2010. ACIP currently recommends a single dose of Tdap for all non-pregnant adolescents and adults. For all ACIP recommendations on Tdap go to: www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/ACIP-list.htm.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 850-245-4342 OR VISIT WWW.IMMUNIZEFLORIDA.ORG.

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