



**Join us by celebrating Preteen Vaccine Week: March 3-9, 2019.** The goals of PVW 2019 are to distribute information and materials through multiple avenues such as schools, providers, and the media to raise awareness about HPV vaccine for girls and boys, Tdap vaccine, meningococcal vaccine, the 2nd dose of varicella vaccine, and to promote the preteen doctor visit.

- **Human Papillomavirus (HPV)**

[HPV](#) vaccine prevents cancer. Most Americans will catch at least one type of HPV, most often in their teens or early 20's. HPV vaccine is safe, effective, and can protect against infection with the types of HPV that can cause certain cancers. See [CDC's tip sheet for talking to parents about HPV vaccine](#).

- **Pertussis**

[Whooping cough \(pertussis\)](#) can cause severe coughing spells. Preteens suffering from whooping cough can be hospitalized and miss weeks of school. Protection from the childhood immunization against pertussis fades over time. Infants are most likely to catch whooping cough from an older sibling. **Under state law, all incoming 7<sup>th</sup> grade students** will need proof of a Tdap booster shot before starting school. More information is available at [ShotsforSchool.org](#).

- **Meningococcal**

**Bacterial meningitis** is a very serious infection that can cause brain damage, arm and leg amputations, kidney damage, and death. That's why it's crucial for all preteens to get one shot of quadrivalent meningococcal conjugate vaccine at 11 or 12 years of age and a booster at age 16.

Serogroup B meningococcal vaccine may be administered to adolescents and young adults 16-23 years of age to protect them against serogroup B meningococcal disease, the cause of recent outbreaks on college campuses. The preferred age for MenB vaccination is 16-18 years of age.

- **Influenza**

[Influenza](#) is widespread in California. Everyone 6 months of age and older needs to be immunized against influenza each year. Influenza can circulate into the springtime – preteens should get immunized if they haven't already this season.

**Please utilize every opportunity, including sports physicals, to provide the ACIP recommended immunizations to preteens.**

