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Memorandum

To: Camp Directors

From: Susan Lett, MD, MPH, Medical Director, Immunization Program
Kathleen Shattuck, MPH, Assessment Coordinator, Immunization Program

Date: March 2011

Subject: Recommended Immunizations for Children Attending Camp

Recent cases of vaccine preventable diseases in the headlines, including measles in Massachusetts and pertussis and mumps nationally, underscore the importance of vaccination. Immunization requirements for entry to school in Massachusetts have been updated since 105 CMR 430.000, Minimum Standards for Recreational Camps for Children, was last revised. Therefore, these provisions are not consistent with the latest required immunizations for school entry. We encourage you to use the School Immunization Requirements table as a reference for the phase-in of the new school and college immunization requirements. This table can be found at www.mass.gov/dph/imm. Click on "School Requirements" and look under school requirements for 2011.

Required Vaccines:

According to 105 CMR 430.152 (www.mass.gov/Eeohhs2/docs/dph/regs/105cmr430.pdf),

- Campers and staff younger than 18 years of age are required to have documentation of
 - At least one MMR. A second dose administered at least one month after the first dose, is required for all campers and staff entering K – 12 or college in the school year immediately following the camp session or, in the case of ungraded classrooms, or not attending school, the requirement for 2 doses applies to everyone 5 years of age and older.
 - At least 3 doses polio vaccine
 - At least 4 doses of DTaP
 - One dose of Td (Tdap preferred) for campers and staff entering grades 7 through college. Everyone else is required to have a dose of Td (Tdap preferred) if it has been more than 10 years since the previous dose of Td.
 - 3 doses of hepatitis B vaccine, or laboratory evidence of immunity

- Campers and staff 18 years of age and older are required to have documentation of:
 - Unless born before 1957, 2 doses of measles-containing vaccine and 1 dose each of mumps and rubella vaccines, or born before 1957, or laboratory evidence of immunity to measles, mumps and rubella
 - At least 3 doses of DTaP/DTP/DT/Td. A booster dose of Td (Tdap preferred) is required if more than 10 years have elapsed since the last dose of DTaP/DTP/DT/Td.

Recommended Vaccines:

To prevent outbreaks of vaccine preventable diseases at camps, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) Immunization Program recommends that, in addition to the required vaccines,

- Campers younger than 12 years of age have
 - At least 1 dose of varicella (chickenpox) or healthcare provider certified history of chickenpox disease*[§]
- Campers and staff 12 through 17 years of age have the following vaccines:
 - 1 booster dose of Tdap*
 - At least 1 dose of varicella (chickenpox) or healthcare provider certified history of chickenpox disease*[§]
- Campers and staff 18 years of age and older have the following vaccines:
 - 1 dose of MMR for non-U.S.-born adults born before 1957 and 2 doses of MMR for everyone born in or after 1957, or laboratory evidence of immunity to measles, mumps and rubella
 - 1 booster dose of Tdap*
 - At least 1 dose of varicella (chickenpox) vaccine or healthcare provider certified history of chickenpox disease, or born in the U.S. before 1980*[§]
 - Hepatitis B vaccine is recommended for staff whose responsibilities include first aid

The recommendations for campers and staff 18 years of age and older also apply to any camp volunteers 18 years of age and older.

* This vaccine is recommended by the MDPH Immunization Program and is being phased in as a requirement for school and college entry beginning in the fall of 2011. Please see the phase-in schedule on the School Immunization Requirements table.

[§] Only 1 dose of chickenpox vaccine is required for children in grades 8-12. However, beginning in the fall of 2011, 2 doses of chickenpox vaccine are required for school entry for kindergarteners, 7th graders, and college freshmen. This 2-dose requirement will be phased in for subsequent grades during the coming years. Please see the phase-in schedule on the School Immunization Requirements table.

If you have any questions about vaccines, immunization recommendations, or suspect or confirmed cases of disease, please contact the MDPH Immunization Program at 888-658-2850 or 617-983-6800.