



THE PUBLIC HEALTH CONNECTION

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Announcements and Upcoming Events

Health Literacy: Improving Healthcare Delivery

Thursday, January 14, 2010
2:00 to 4:00 pm

A webinar for all health care professionals designed to improve communication with patients, improve quality of care and make a more patient friendly setting.

To register, go to www.arhn.org
There is a \$25 registration fee.

SAVE THE DATE

Tuesday, May 18, 2010

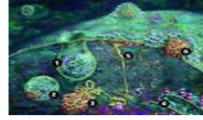
2010 EXPLORE Conference:
Healthy Women Healthy Babies:
Exploring Health Topics effecting
Young Families

For registration information, contact
Kate Chilton @564-3054.

Visit us at www.clintonhealth.org for helpful information, calendar of events, many other up-to-date health topics, downloadable forms, and the e-edition of Public Health Connection.

Info Line: 565-4490 Up-to-date recorded health information for patients on immunization, infectious disease and family health 24/7.

Reportable Diseases



The Clinton County Health Department is the primary contact for reportable diseases.

Health Care Providers must contact the Clinton County Health Department at 565-4848/ 565-4821 (fax) as the first step in the process of reporting, except in an instance of direct reporting of HIV (call NYSDOH Division of Epidemiology at (518) 437-4439).

The most up-to-date version of the *New York State Department of Health Communicable Disease Reporting Requirements* is available at: http://www.health.state.ny.us/professionals/diseases/reporting/communicable/physicians_and_providers/docs/communicable_diseases_reporting_requirements.pdf

Please save it as a valuable reference tool for disease-specific instructions on reporting requirements. Note some diagnoses require a mail-in of form DOH-389 while others require a phone-in report within 24 hours of diagnosis.

For treatment recommendations on Sexually Transmitted Diseases: <http://www.cdc.gov/std/treatment/#tg2006>

For diagnosis and treatment of TB: <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr4906a1.htm>

Is NRT Safe during Pregnancy?



The question of how best to address smoking in pregnancy has been controversial. However, few disagree that smoking during pregnancy is not only detrimental to the health of the mother but also to the baby.

A study published in the October, 2009 issue of the *American Journal of Obstetrics & Gynecology* reports on a review of the data from a previously suspended study on the use of Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT) during pregnancy.

Researchers reviewed the birth outcome records of 171 of the 181 original study patients to attempt to determine if NRT was the cause of the adverse events.

Adverse events were reported in 42 of the 171 patients (33 had received NRT). Patient records showed preterm delivery to be the most common adverse effect. Preeclampsia, term low birth-weight, placental abnormalities and perinatal loss were also cited.

The study reports that NRT cannot conclusively be cited as the factor for these outcomes. Being African American or having a previous poor birth outcome appear to be greater predictors.

For the complete article: <http://download.journals.elsevierhealth.com/pdfs/journals/0002-9378/PIIS0002937809006267.pdf>

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ACIP Provisional Recommendations for HPV



The ACIP has updated recommendations for the use of human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine.

Provisional Recommendations for Females:

- Routine vaccination of females aged 11 or 12 years with 3 doses of HPV vaccine, with the series starting as young as age 9 years.
- HPV vaccination for females aged 13 through 26 years who have not been previously vaccinated or who have not completed the full series. Ideally, vaccine should be administered before potential exposure to HPV through sexual contact.
- Vaccination with either the bivalent HPV vaccine or the quadrivalent vaccine for prevention of cervical cancers and precancers.
- Vaccination with the quadrivalent HPV vaccine for prevention of cervical cancers and precancers, and genital warts.

Provisional Recommendations for Males:

The 3-dose series of quadrivalent HPV vaccine may be given to males aged 9 through 26 years to reduce their likelihood of acquiring genital warts. Ideally, vaccine should be administered before potential exposure to HPV through sexual contact.

These recommendations, when published in the MMWR, will replace recommendations published in the 2007 MMWR Recommendations and Reports document.

Clinton County does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, religion, or disability in employment or the provision of services.

Early Intervention Effective for Toddlers With Autism



The first randomized controlled trial of comprehensive early intervention to be tested in toddlers with autism has established evidence that it is possible to alter the natural history of the disease.

The study, published online November 30 in *Pediatrics*, showed that treatment begun when children were younger than 2½ years improved their IQ, language, and adaptive behavior so much that within 2 years nearly 30% no longer met the diagnostic criteria for autism. Additional findings indicate that toddlers randomized to the Early Start Denver Model program for 2 years had significant improvements in IQ and adaptive behavior and were more likely to move from a diagnosis of autism to the less severe diagnosis of pervasive developmental disorder not otherwise specified.

As a result of the study, the American Academy of Pediatrics now recommends that all 18 and 24 month old children be screened for autism.

The complete article:

Randomized, Controlled Trial of an Intervention for Toddlers With Autism: The Early Start Denver Model. *Pediatrics*, Nov. 2009

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Healthy Neighborhoods



How safe is your home? The Healthy Neighborhoods Program is a NYS grant funded designed to improve the health, safety and environmental living conditions of Clinton County residents. The Healthy Neighborhoods Program conducts a brief health and safety survey that consists of four main topics: Fire Safety, Indoor Air Quality, Lead, and Asthma. After completion of the survey and based upon the needs of the family, education and referrals to local agencies, as well as **FREE** safety products can be provided. These products may include smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors, fire extinguishers, child safety products, allergen-barrier safety materials (for those with asthma) and general safety products. The program is **FREE** to Clinton County residents, regardless of age or income! For more information or to set up an appointment call (518) 565-4993.

Monovalent M-M-R Vaccines



On October 21, 2009, Merck announced that based on input from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), professional societies, scientific leaders, and customers, Merck has decided not to resume production of ATTENUVAX® (Measles Virus Vaccine Live), MUMPSVAX® (Mumps Virus Vaccine Live), and MERUVAX®II (Rubella Virus Vaccine Live).

