



THE PUBLIC HEALTH CONNECTION

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Announcements and Upcoming Events

Tuesday, September 15, 2009

Children's Happy Health Day

This free event, for children under 6 years, will be held from 10 am to 12 noon at St. Augustine's school in Peru and will feature lead testing, height & weight measurement, dental information & toothbrushes, story-time, and child ID's. For more information call 565-4848.

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Lessons Learned from the Use of Post-Partum Depression Screening Tools

Join a roundtable discussion, sponsored by GAP-NET, with area health & human service providers on the topic of postpartum depression. Learn about an agency which has recently begun using an assessment tool and how they integrated it into the practice. This discussion will be held from 9:30- 11am at 133 Margaret St., 2nd floor meeting room. Please RSVP to azanghi@medserv.net

Thursday, September 24, 2009

Primary Provider Workshop

This event will be held from 6- 8pm at the American Legion Post 20 on Quarry Rd, Plattsburgh. Topics to include H1N1, TST placement & interpretation and immunization updates. Space is limited. For more information, call 565-4848.

September is preparedness month. Please volunteer for Clinton County's Medical Reserve Corp. Sign up @ clintoncountygov.com

KIDSHAPE® Child Weight Management

Kidshape®, a nationally recognized child weight management program, will again be offered to overweight children and their families this fall. The next scheduled session will be held from late September through November. The 9 week course is held in Plattsburgh for 2 ½ hours per week in the early evening. A multi-disciplinary team of nutrition professionals, mental health counselors, and activity specialists provide a variety of tools for families to use to adopt a healthier lifestyle. Grant funding from the Eastern Adirondack Healthcare Network (EAHCN) will allow a minimal cost for participation for this session. \$50.00 per student includes required class materials and incentives for the full 9 weeks.

Referrals are being accepted for students in 3rd-5th grades for this session. Referrals for other children ages 7-14 will be accepted for the next available group opportunity. Participation requires a BMI greater than the 95th percentile and a physician's referral. The referral form can be obtained on the Providers section of the Health Department's website at www.clintonhealth.org. For additional information, please go to www.kidshape.com or call Nutrition Services at 518-565-4840.



Reinstatement of HIB Booster Dose



Effective immediately, the CDC, in consultation with the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), is recommending reinstatement of the booster dose of Hib vaccine for children aged 12-15 months who have completed the primary 3-dose series. Infants should continue to receive the primary Hib vaccine series at ages 2, 4, and 6 months. Children aged 12-15 months should receive the booster dose on time. Older children for whom the booster dose was deferred should receive their Hib booster dose at the next routinely scheduled visit or medical encounter. Although supply is sufficient to reinstate the booster dose and begin catch-up vaccination, supply is not yet ample enough to support a mass notification process to contact all children with deferred Hib booster doses. The NYS Immunization Information System (NYSIIS) can assist with identifying children due for the booster dose.

The CDC states there is enough Hib containing vaccine for a four dose series. However, it does not specify the availability of any particular Hib containing vaccine. At present the majority of product currently available to the New York State (NYS) Vaccine Program is Pentacel®. Providers will need to use this product to reinstate the 4 dose series for as many children as possible.

More information available at: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vac%2Dgen/shortages/>

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KIDSHAPE

Reporting & Rx of Sexually Transmissible Infections/ Disease

Physicians, nurses, laboratory directors, health care facilities, state institutions and schools are required by law to notify the local health department (LHD) when they identify any disease designated as 'reportable'. To make a report, please call 565-4848. Forwarding instructions for reports made after close of business, holidays or weekends will be available at that number. Reports may also be faxed to 565-4821.

STD/STI reportables include: Chancroid, Chlamydia trachomatis infection, gonococcal infection, Lymphogranuloma venereum and syphilis (report this via telephone within 24 hours, specifying stage of disease.). HIV is also a mandatory, reportable STI. However, it is only reported directly to the Commissioner of NYSDOH on paper forms (DOH-4189 and DOH-4189-A). Digital and faxed reports are not acceptable. Recommended treatments for some of these diseases have changed in recent years.

For up-to-date treatment recommendations, please utilize the following links: <http://www.cdc.gov/std/treatment/#tg2006> for CDC's Sexually Transmitted Diseases Treatment Guidelines, 2006

Clinton County clinical services are provided under contract with Planned Parenthood at 66 Brinkerhoff Street, Plattsburgh. Providers may refer patients by calling 561-4430. Any resident unable to pay for services will be assessed and treated as necessary at no charge to them.

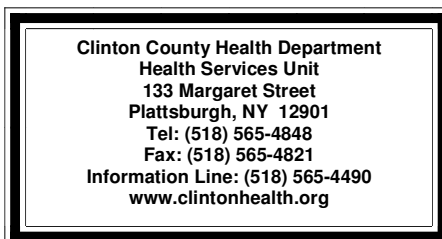
Any resident diagnosed with an STI, including HIV, is considered at high risk for viral hepatitis. They are eligible to receive free vaccinations for HBV and HAV from CCHD (565-4848) or Planned Parenthood (561-4430).

Medicaid Reimbursement for Office Blood Lead Testing



Effective September 1, 2009, Medicaid Managed Care and Family Health Plus will reimburse for "point of care" blood lead testing of children under age six and for pregnant women. To receive reimbursement, testing must be performed by practitioners operating Physician Office Laboratories (POLs) that hold appropriate CLIA certification and clinics that operate Limited Service Laboratories (LSLs) registered by Wadsworth center for blood analysis. These changes require POLs and LSLs to report blood lead test results to the NYS Department of Health. All entities that perform blood lead testing must hold the appropriate level of approval to conduct lead testing on human specimens as determined by NYS Department of Health. Currently, one CLIA waived blood lead analysis device, LEADCARE II, is FDA approved.

Detailed information on reporting requirements is available at: www.nyhealth.gov/environmental/lead.



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Recommendations For Previously Owned Breast Pumps



Although well-meaning, offers of previously used breast pumps could lead to infection for the breastfeeding dyad, and should be at all times refused. A breast pump is considered a single-user item, similar to a toothbrush and should not be shared, even among family. There is no guarantee that there will not be cross-contamination. Milk particles containing bacteria and viruses can be blown into the motor and, in turn, be blown out into the pumped milk at a later point in time.

Many women believe that purchasing new kit parts, collection bottles and tubing will remedy this. It will not. The only breast pump that is absolutely safe for multiple users is a hospital grade pump. This pump is equipped with internal barriers which prohibit any cross-contamination.

Presently, the Clinton County Health Department's WIC Program has a dozen of these pumps available at no cost to WIC participants. WIC staff reserves hospital grade pumps for mothers and babies demonstrating medical necessity, and works closely with NICU staff at Fletcher Allen to ensure that mothers of premature infants are issued the breast pump as soon after delivery as possible. In addition, breastfeeding women presently enrolled in the WIC program are eligible to receive a manual or electric breast pump upon completion of a breastfeeding evaluation.

For more information call 565-4830 or refer to www.clintonhealth.org or www.consumerreports.org