



August 2016

CHDP Highlights

Ventura County Public Health Child Health and Disability Prevention Program

Provider Tips

2 new meningococcal serogroup B (Men B) vaccines and codes were added to CHDP benefits. You may give these vaccines for children and youth ages 10 years through 20 years 11 months who are at increased risk for meningococcal disease attributable to Serogroup B, including:

- Individuals with persistent complement component deficiencies
- Individuals with anatomic or functional asplenia
- Individuals at increased risk because of meningococcal disease outbreak attributable to Serogroup B

In addition, youth aged 16 to 18 years, without high risk conditions, may also be vaccinated.

Project demonstrates model to address childhood obesity

Ventura County Public Health (VCPH) and Ambulatory Care worked together on a quality improvement project to address pediatric obesity within the community. Child Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP) Program and Academic Family Medicine Center (AFMC) began by assessing the BMI percentiles of the youth served by AFMC. After identifying an unmet need for management of overweight and obesity in youth, VCPH, CHDP and AFMC then convened a quality improvement team consisting of physicians, a nurse practitioner, public health nurses, public health nutritionists and clinic staff to develop an effective and sustainable program that could be adapted to ambulatory care clinics across Ventura County.

Using the Core Functions of Public Health, assessment, policy development and assurance, the team developed SMART objectives to develop a program to improve the overall system of detection, referral, treatment, and capacity of resources available for pediatric obesity care. The leadership used quality improvement tools to collaborate with First 5, Gold Coast Health Plan (Medi-Cal Managed Care), and the Ventura County Office of Education to pilot the program, dubbed AFMC Kids Club, at AFMC, in April and May 2016.



The program, targeting 5 to 11 year olds with BMI-for-age over the 85th percentile, is designed to maintain and/or decrease BMI-for-age percentiles in all participants and promote overall healthy lifestyle changes. Each of 6 program sessions includes a visit with a physician or nurse practitioner for goal setting, reviewing the personalized action plan, and assessing progress. In addition, staff from the VCPH Nutrition Education Obesity Prevention (NEOP) Program leads family-centered group lessons on nutrition and physical activity with the identified youth and their families at each visit.

To evaluate the effectiveness of the program, the provider collects subjective and objective data during the face-to-face visits. The parents also complete questionnaires during the initial and final visits to assess behavioral changes by the child and family members. AFMC Kids Club is designed to be an effective program that may be customized for any ambulatory care clinic in the county. If you are interested in implementing this program at your clinic, please contact CHDP at CHDPadministration@ventura.org.

SAVE THE DATES! CHDP Noontime Training Calendar

August 17	September 21	October
Children's Health Promotion, AFLP and CHDP	Lead Poisoning Prevention	Vision Screening



Influenza vaccine during pregnancy may protect breastfed infants

The immune system of a newborn infant is extremely vulnerable. Breast milk offers a protective effect to infants against gastrointestinal tract infections and respiratory tract infections, such as influenza and pertussis. Recent research has shown that women who received the influenza vaccination during pregnancy extended a protective effect to their infants from the transfer of maternal antibodies through the placenta, and later through breast milk. This occurs through active and passive immunity via breast milk, which is rich in immunoglobulins, lactoferrin, lysozyme, cytokines and numerous other immunologic factors, including maternal leukocytes. Newborns who are breastfed receive protection from the mother's pregnancy vaccinations during the first weeks of infancy even though they are not old enough to receive the flu vaccine themselves. A review of [Maternal Immunization as a Strategy to Decrease Susceptibility to Infection in Newborn Infants](#) is available to Medscape subscribers at: <http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/805713>.



Flickr/Christiana Care (CC BY-NC-SA 2.0)

Healthcare providers play an important role in educating parents about the importance of the influenza vaccine during pregnancy and promoting the importance of breastfeeding. **WIC can help!** Not only does WIC encourage our participants to have a medical home and yearly physicals, we also educate, support and promote breastfeeding. Over 50% of all infants in the United States are enrolled in the WIC program. More than likely, your clients are our clients.

To learn more about WIC services in Ventura County and how we can support you in promoting breastfeeding, contact our Breastfeeding Liaison, Amy Avelar, at Amy.Avelar@ventura.org.



Flu is more likely to cause severe illness in pregnant women than in women who are not pregnant. Changes in the immune system, heart, and lungs during pregnancy make pregnant women (and women up to two weeks postpartum) more prone to severe illness from flu, as well as to hospitalizations and even death. Pregnant women with flu also have a greater chance for serious problems for their developing baby, including premature labor and

delivery. The flu shot is safe for pregnant women and has been shown to protect mother and her baby from influenza for several months after birth.

[Pregnant Women & Influenza \(Flu\)](#), a Centers for Disease Control web page, offers information for professionals and the public, an infographic for posting in your clinic and a fact sheet to share with your patients. These resources are available at: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/protect/vaccine/pregnant.htm>.

Bright Futures Benefits

CHDP implemented the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Bright Futures periodicity schedule for fee-for-service, well child health assessments effective July 1, 2016.

This adds 14 supplementary health assessments to the 15 assessments previously reimbursable for children and youth from birth to age 21.

*To bill for one of these 14 assessments, enter the following in the Comments/Problems area of the claim: **MNIHA: There is a need to complete health assessment requirements.***

*The CHDP/EPSTD Periodicity Schedule for Dental Referral by Age now requires referral to a dentist **beginning at age one.***

Perform lead testing at ages 12 months and two years of age.



New Down syndrome growth charts available

In November 2015, pediatric researchers from Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia presented new growth charts for U.S. children with Down syndrome based on a study of growth measurements taken from 637 individuals with Down syndrome from birth through 22 years of age. When compared to the 1988 U.S. growth charts for children with Down syndrome, there were clear improvements in weight gain during the first three years of life. Boys from ages 2 to 20 year old were taller.

CHDP providers should continue to use the CDC growth charts for assessing growth and reporting the BMI percentile on the PM 160. Use the new Down syndrome growth charts *in addition to* the CDC charts as screening tools to evaluate each patient's growth milestones with peers of the same age and sex who have this condition. The research team also created the first-ever body mass index (BMI) charts for children with Down syndrome. The researchers noted that these charts do not represent an ideal distribution of BMI, but only describe BMI distribution among their study participants. They added that further investigations should determine how to use the BMI charts to screen patients for excess body fat and associated health symptoms.

Key Findings: Growth Charts for Children with Down Syndrome in the United States

Available at: <http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/birthdefects/downsyndrome.html>

PediTools: Clinical tools for pediatric providers (medical calculators)

Available at: <http://peditools.org/>



Down Syndrome Association of Central Florida / Rich Johnson [CC BY-NC-SA 2.0]

Tri-Counties Regional Center provides lifelong services and supports for people with developmental disabilities residing in San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties. Resources include a Down syndrome support group in Spanish. Learn more at: www.tri-counties.org



What’s new with VC Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention?

The Ventura County Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP) is looking forward to **National Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Week, October 23 - 29, 2016**. Our theme this year is:

*Is your child at risk for lead poisoning?
Check for lead in and around your home.*

CLPPP/CHDP staff will be raising awareness for lead poisoning prevention at outreach events to families and at visits to community and health care partners. Plan to attend the noontime Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention in-service (1 CEU) on September 21, 2016.

Learn more and earn credit by taking a free CME activity online, [The Prevention of Childhood Lead Poisoning - Why Physicians Should Counsel on Lead and Screen for Lead Exposure](https://www.cme-california.com/Activity/3606868/Detail.aspx), at <https://www.cme-california.com/Activity/3606868/Detail.aspx>.

This course, providing 1 AMA PRA Category 1 credit, is authored by Jean Woo, MD, MPH, MBA, of the California Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Branch. Continuing education credit may be acceptable for other health care professionals.

Please contact us at (805) 981-5291 with questions about lead poisoning prevention in childhood or to request health materials or training.

Child Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP) Program



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