# Daycare/Preschools/Schools and Public Health Roles and Responsibilities: Pertussis

When there is a single case or outbreak of a vaccine preventable disease, it's essential that schools/daycare/preschools and Public Health work together. Collaboration along with a shared understanding of roles and responsibilities will help prevent the spread of disease and keep children healthy and in school.



# DAYCARE/PRESCHOOL/SCHOOL

## **PUBLIC HEALTH**

### **PREVENTION**

- Maintain and update vaccine records for all students
- Maintain and update vaccine records for staff and volunteers (highly encouraged)
- Keep a roster for unvaccinated/undervaccinated students (e.g. conditional entrance, medical/personal belief exemptions, special education, independent studies
- Review all medical exemptions so that they meet requirements
- Submit any questions or concerns about medical exemptions to Public Health
- Only allow conditional entrance for students in process of getting caught up but not due for next doses
- Track all conditional entrants (review conditional entrant status every 30 days)

- Conduct audits of immunization records as directed by California Department of Public Health
- Provide tools and resources to track and review unvaccinated/under-vaccinated students
- Provide overview and FAQ regarding medical exemptions and conditional entrants
- Respond to all concerns and questions regarding immunization record maintenance and exemptions
- Educate on benefits of vaccination and risks of not being vaccinated

### **REPORTING**

- Per California law, report suspected cases of pertussis by phone to Public Health within 1 business day.
- Do not wait for physician or lab confirmation to report
- ➤ If more than 1 case, utilize a tracking list of contacts
- Upon request from Public Health, use Public Health form to FAX suspect pertussis case information including list of school vaccination coverage and unvaccinated/under-vaccinated rosters of students and staff
  - (Obtain copy of provider's note who diagnosed)
  - Include related information –(e.g., name, DOB, grade, immunization record, class roster, etc.)

- Provide reporting requirements
- Provide tools for reporting including tracking list and FAX cover sheet
- Available 24/7 to receive reports of suspect cases by phone
- Review and assess case report information
- Contact school nurse or designee staff for vaccination records, student name(s), parents' names, contact info and other information
- Provide next step guidance



# Daycare/Preschools/Schools and Public Health Roles and Responsibilities: Pertussis

# DAYCARE/PRESCHOOL/SCHOOL

### **INVESTIGATION**

- Refer all symptomatic individuals to their physician
- Monitor students and contacts for pertussis-like symptoms
- Assist public health with identifying linkages between cases
- Support public health contact tracing and interviews

## **PUBLIC HEALTH**

- Confirm case diagnosis
- Identify high risk contacts and conduct contact tracing
- Conduct daycare/preschool/school site visit if necessary
- Interview parents and contacts as necessary
  - Request name of health care providers as necessary
  - Provide necessary information and recommendations including vaccination and prophylaxis
- Provide ongoing guidance to school districts specific to that disease

# NOTIFICATION AND MANAGEMENT OF CASES AND CONTACTS

- Implement disease protection measures recommended by Public Health (unvaccinated students and students diagnosed)
- Notify parents infected child needs to remain out of school and to not attend extracurricular activities to limit the spread of disease and protect other students (until 5 days of treatment with antibiotics has been completed or until 21 days after cough onset).
- Notify parents of asymptomatic daycare contact that refuses prophylaxis that he/she cannot attend daycare (see previous bullet)
- ➤ Use template letters from Public Health to provide exposure and disease protection notifications to parents, families, and staff

- Provide ongoing guidance and support to implement disease protection measures (vaccination and remaining out of daycare/preschool/school)
- Provide case specific notification template letters and phone scripts to daycare/preschools/schools
- Maintain ongoing communication with daycare/preschools/schools
- Provide public health alerts, advisories and updates to the community, physicians and media as needed

#### **CLOSURE**

- Process and control Public Health clearances
- Students can only return when 5 days of treatment with antibiotics has been completed > or until 21 days after cough onset)
- Per guidance from Public Health, notify parents when a pertussis investigation or outbreak has concluded
- Provide clearance information for students to return to school
  Notify school of end of case investigation
- Provide notification template information for daycare/preschools/ schools and parents when a pertussis investigation or outbreak has concluded.

