

## County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health Immunization Program Nursing Unit



## Immunization Program Nurses Goals

- Increase the immunization rates of children and adolescents who receive and complete the recommended childhood vaccinations
- Increase the annual immunization rates of adults who are vaccinated against tetanus, influenza and pneumococcal disease



## Assignments

- Arrange, coordinate, and conduct countywide in-services
- Provide orientation to DHS public health staff on current immunizations
- Consult with the public regarding vaccines, immunizations, and vaccine preventable diseases (VPD)



## Assignments

- Assist in epidemiological investigations of outbreaks or epidemics of VPD
- Develop and update written Immunization Program materials
- Participate in task forces, coalitions, departmental and community groups
- Provide annual immunization updates



## Resource Materials

- Books
- Literature
- Video and CD Tapes
- Telephone Hotlines
- Computer Websites



## Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Program



## Background

- Prenatal hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) screening
- Reporting of HBsAg-positive results
- Case management until the infant completes the vaccine series



## Goals and Objectives

- Ensure that all pregnant women are serologically screened for HBsAg
- Ensure that infants born to HBV carriers receive HBIG and HBVac series
- Ensure that household contacts of pregnant carriers are serologically screened and susceptibles are vaccinated



## Program Activities

- Receives reports from labs, health care providers, delivery hospitals and the LAC Morbidity Unit
- Assessment of the pregnancy status of over 3,000 HBsAg positive reports a year
- Pregnant cases are educated about HBV infection, transmission and infant vaccinations



## Case Management

- Delivery hospital is notified of the expected delivery and requested to document HBIG and HBVac#1
- Household contacts are identified and referred for screening and vaccination
- Pamphlets and immunization booklets are mailed to the case



## Case Management

- The infant's health care provider is contacted to document HBVac #2 and #3
- Parents are reminded about the needed vaccinations
- Post serology letters are sent to health care providers to determine if the infant is immune, infected or still susceptible



## Other Activities

- In-services provided to hospitals, health centers and community agencies
- Conduct hospital prenatal patient education classes for HBsAg carriers
- Conducts chart audits of HBsAg status documentation of hospital prenatal records



## Other Activities

- Maintenance of a hepatitis B health education and video library
- Answering public and private questions about hepatitis B



## Updated Recommendations

- Improve prevention of perinatal and early childhood transmission of HBV\*
  - Assist delivery hospitals in implementing policies and procedures to ensure infants born to mothers with unknown HBsAg status are identified and receive appropriate immunoprophylaxis
  - Implement standing orders for Hep B vaccine administration for all newborns >2kg prior to discharge



## Provider Coordination & Education Program



## Goals and Objectives

- Raise provider's knowledge of the Recommended Childhood and Adolescent Immunization Schedule
- Increase provider's knowledge of vaccines and encourage their accurate use
- Increase provider's knowledge of the California School Immunization Law



## Goals and Objectives

- Raise provider's awareness of missed vaccination opportunities
  - True vs. false contraindications
  - Simultaneous administration
- Increase provider's understanding of the importance implementing a reminder/recall system
  - Increases up-to-date immunization rates
- Improve providers immunization practices i.e. correct administration techniques, storage and handling.



## Goals and Objectives

Raise the provider's understanding of the 17 Standards for Pediatric Immunization Practices through:

1. Assessment
2. Evaluation
3. Assurance



## Program Activities

- Prepares presentations and written materials
- Arrange, coordinate and provide county-wide information on vaccine preventable diseases through:
  1. In-services
  2. Satellite courses
  3. Immunization Skills Training classes



## Program Activities

- Conducts immunization in-services and annual updates to public and private organizations
- Participates on taskforces and coalitions dealing with immunization related issues
- Assists in the collection of epidemiological data during outbreaks or epidemics
- Provides technical supervision of the area field unit PHN consultants



## Quality Assurance Review

Evaluates private provider's compliance with the 17 standards of pediatric immunization practices

- Availability of vaccines
- Assessment of vaccination status
- Effective communication about vaccine benefits and risks
- Proper storage, administration and documentation of vaccinations
- Implementation of strategies to improve vaccination coverage



## Adult Immunization Program



## Goals and Objectives

- Increase the proportion of adults who are vaccinated against tetanus, influenza, and pneumococcal disease
- Raise the provider's knowledge of the current Recommended Adult Immunization Schedule



## Program Activities

- Arranges, coordinates, and conducts countywide in-services on Adult Immunizations
- Coordinates the Los Angeles County (LACO) annual Influenza Campaign
- Promotes and assist in the implementation of LACO's Pneumococcal Polysaccharide policy for the LACO medical centers



## Program Activities

- Participates on taskforces and coalitions dealing with adult immunization issues
- Assists in the collection of epidemiological data during outbreaks or epidemics



## Bioterrorism-Vaccine Preventable Disease Program



## Goals and Objectives

- Assists in the coordination of licensed and unlicensed staff in conducting mass immunization clinics at BT outreach sites. May also administer immunizations a BT outreach sites, if needed.
- Assist in the coordination of licensed and unlicensed staff on the public health response teams



## Goals and Objectives

- Conduct training sessions on BT, BT immunization practice standards, BT psychosocial and mental health topics
- Develop large-scale vaccination clinic operations training curriculum including breakout sessions for screeners vaccinators, vaccination assistants, data entry personnel, registration/flow staff.



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