



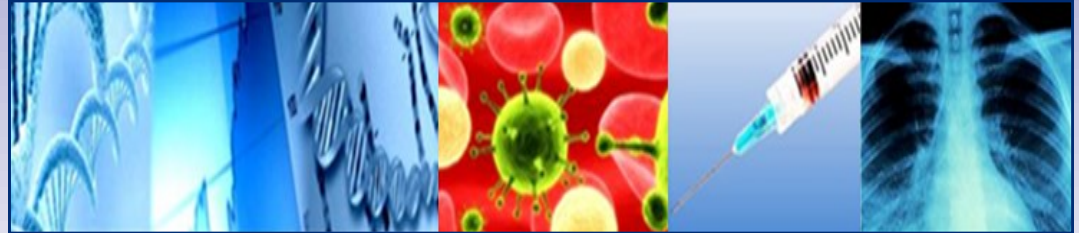
Department of Public Health

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE SECTION

Quarterly Newsletter

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**Zika Virus**

Zika virus disease (Zika) is caused by a virus that is primarily spread through the bite of an infected *Aedes* mosquito. *Aedes* mosquitoes are aggressive daytime biters and feed both indoors and outdoors; they can also bite at night. The majority of human Zika infections are asymptomatic. In people who become ill, the most common symptoms are fever, rash, joint pain and conjunctivitis. Symptoms are usually mild, develop about a week after being bitten, and last several days to a week.

Zika virus has been found in blood, urine, semen, breastmilk, amniotic fluid, saliva, and cerebrospinal fluid. However, transmission has been documented only from an infected *Aedes* mosquito, male to female sexual transmission, and intrapar-

tum (during labor and delivery) from an infected mother to her baby.

Zika virus is a member of a family of viruses called *flaviviruses*, and therefore testing for and diagnosis of Zika can be challenging. Symptoms of Zika are similar to illnesses caused by other *flaviviruses* such as dengue and chikungunya. Testing for Zika infection is not commercially available and needs to be coordinated through local public health departments. Interpretation of test results can be complex and can be affected by past infection with or vaccination for other *flaviviruses*.

San Bernardino County Department of Public Health is partnering with vector control agencies to conduct surveillance for the *Aedes* mosquito vectors. A map of

the known distribution of these vectors in California can be found at <http://bit.ly/1UXZorn>.

The Communicable Disease Section is advising any highly suspected or confirmed symptomatic Zika cases to avoid mosquito bites in order to prevent the establishment of human-mosquito transmission in Southern California. As of March 31, 2016, San Bernardino County has reported one confirmed human Zika infection.



Risk Group	What We Know	Recommendations
Pregnant Women (PW)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ There appears to be an association between maternal Zika virus infection and microcephaly ◆ Zika infections have been confirmed in several infants with microcephaly and in mothers of infants with microcephaly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Evaluate PW for travel within 2-12 weeks to a Zika endemic area ◇ Contact local public health to coordinate testing ◇ Test serum of asymptomatic PW who meet criteria ◇ Test urine, serum of symptomatic PW within 7 days of symptoms ◇ Consider serial ultrasounds, amniocentesis for PW with indeterminate or positive serum test ◇ PW should avoid sexual contact with male partners who traveled to endemic areas, or use condoms for the duration of pregnancy ◇ Learn about the Zika Pregnancy Registry (http://www.cdc.gov/zika/hc-providers/registry.html)
Sexual Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ All reported cases of sexual transmission involved vaginal or anal sex with men during, shortly before onset of, or shortly after resolution of symptomatic Zika illness ◆ Sexual transmission from infected women to sex partners has not been documented 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Returning symptomatic male travelers with confirmed or suspected Zika infection should practice abstinence or use condoms for 6 months after onset ◇ Pregnant couples should abstain or use condoms for the duration of the pregnancy ◇ Test symptomatic people with possible sexual exposure to Zika ◇ Women with confirmed Zika virus disease should wait at least 8 weeks after symptom onset to conceive ◇ Men with confirmed Zika virus disease should wait at least 6 months after symptom onset to conceive ◇ Asymptomatic men and women with possible Zika exposure should wait at least 8 weeks after last exposure to conceive

Talk, Test and Treat STDs

The San Bernardino County Department of Public Health has reported the highest numbers ever of treatable sexually transmitted disease (STD) cases. April is STD Awareness Month and is an opportunity to call attention to dramatic increases in STDs in this county.

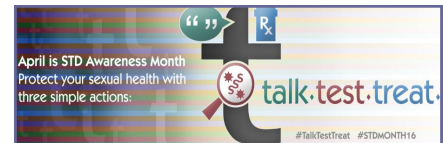
The vast size of the increase is concerning to County Public Health officials. In 2015, the County reported over 14,000 cases of STDs with large increases in gonorrhea and syphilis especially. The County has seen a 146% gonorrhea case increase from 2010 to 2015. Additionally, according to the 2014 STD Sur-

veillance report, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported San Bernardino County ranked 13th among all US counties in the nation for number of chlamydia cases.

The County urges medical providers to observe STD Awareness month by educating patients, screening, and testing appropriately for STDs. Information and STD resources can be found at <http://www.cdc.gov/std/default.htm>. The Communicable Disease Section offers free, confidential STD testing in an unmarked mobile testing van, parked on F Street and Baseline Street, the 2nd and 4th

Friday of every month from 9am - 1pm. Additional testing locations can be found by entering a zip code at <https://gettested.cdc.gov/>.

Talk, test and treat, to decrease STD numbers in San Bernardino County.



Back to School– Implementation of SB 277

Under a new law known as SB 277, as of January 1, 2016 exemptions based on personal beliefs, including religious beliefs, will no longer be an option for the vaccines that are currently required for entry into child care or school in California. Only valid medical exemption are permitted. This law is not applicable to students attending home-based private school or independent study programs and do not receive classroom-based instruction.

Valid Personal Belief Exemption (PBE) forms filed before January 1, 2016 will remain valid unless the student is entering into a new grade span, typically at kindergarten or 7th grade. No new PBE forms may be filed for students attending a public or private school in California. A PBE may be transferred between California schools, both within and across school districts. However, if the PBE documentation is lost, or incomplete, a student will need to meet current immunization requirements to attend school. Personal Belief Exemption forms from other states or countries are not acceptable.

SCHOOLS:

The impact of SB 277 on your school will depend on how many of your students have a PBE. Most children receive all the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommended and school law-required vaccines. The number of students in San Bernardino County with a Personal Belief Exemption is low. For the 2015-2016 school year the

PBE rates in San Bernardino County were: Child Care 1.4%, Kindergarten 1.9% and 7th grade 1.47%. It is advised that schools begin to notify families of students who may be affected by the change in law (6th grade students with a PBE on file and those entering kindergarten/transitional kindergarten) that vaccines are needed before the first day of school, beginning this Fall for the 2016-2017 school year.

To assist with the SB 277 implementation transition, schools can:

- 1) Review the immunization records for all students.
- 2) Review the immunization assessment process, including procedures for conditional admissions, transfers, and permanent medical exemptions.

HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS:

SB 277 does not remove medical exemptions. Medical exemptions may be filed, if a licensed physician provides a written statement verifying that, due to the physical condition or medical circumstances related to the child, immunizations are not considered safe for that child. The statement should also include the probable duration of the medical condition for which the physician does not recommend immunization, and which vaccines from which the child is exempted.

Health care providers can utilize the optional exemption form, found at: <http://www.immunizeca.org/resources>. If provider's are interested in learning more

about SB 277, additional information can be found at: <http://bit.ly/1XSMmef>.

To assist with the SB277 implementation transition, healthcare providers can:

- 1) Recommend and administer immunizations on schedule for all of your patients.
- 2) Review the immunization level at your patient's school and share information with parents. A searchable map of child care and grade schools is available showing personal belief exemption levels; <http://bit.ly/1RoaS6g>.
- 3) Review school immunization laws, and utilize available resources such as the one found at <http://www.shotsforschool.org/>

If schools or health care providers have questions regarding SB 277, and needed assistance with implementing the transition to the new SB 277 law requirements, contact the Communicable Disease Section at 1-800-722-4794 and ask to speak with an Immunization Specialist.



Register Now! 2016 Immunization/ TB/ STD/ Epidemiology Update

San Bernardino County Department of Public Health Communicable Disease Section will host an Immunization/ TB/ STD/ Epidemiology Update. The first seminar will take place Wednesday, April 13, and the other Thursday, April 14, 2016. The County welcomes you to attend this seminar to learn information about new changes and pertinent information about communicable diseases.

New changes to the 2016 Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices immunization schedule will be discussed. Also, immunizations pertaining to school law will be presented. Take this opportunity to learn more about Tuberculosis (TB). A TB nurse will present standout information regarding TB disease and treatment. If you have questions regarding STD rates, treatment and reporting, come meet our epidemiologist who will also be presenting. Additionally, attendees will be provided with data and surveillance information regarding popular diseases such as Zika virus.

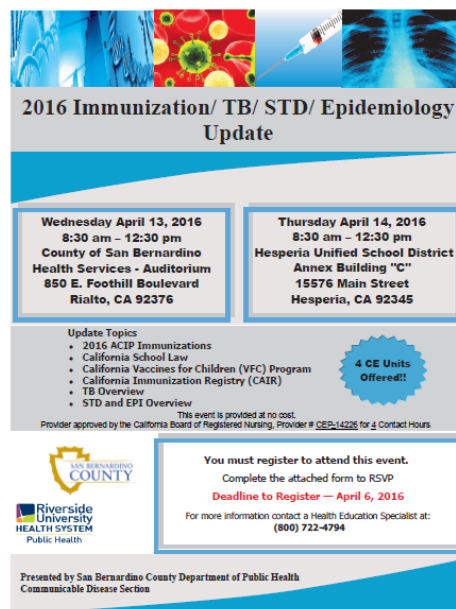
The 2016 Immunization/ TB/ STD/ Epidemiology Update is a four hour seminar,

free of charge to all attendees. The County uses this seminar as a means to disseminate necessary and useful information to medical and school district personnel throughout the County. We hope you take this opportunity to attend or send staff members from your organization to receive this valuable information.

This free event is approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing Provider #CEP-14226, for four contact hours. The 2016 Immunization/ TB/ STD/ Epidemiology Update is supported by Riverside County Immunization program as part of the Inland Empire Immunization Coalition.

For more information or to register call 1-800-722-4794, and ask to speak with a Health Education Specialist.

All PowerPoint presentations will be made available after the event at http://www.sbcounty.gov/dph/publichealth/programs_services/communicable_disease_section/communicable_disease_home.asp.



2016 Immunization/ TB/ STD/ Epidemiology Update

Wednesday April 13, 2016 8:30 am - 12:30 pm County of San Bernardino Health Services - Auditorium 850 E. Foothill Boulevard Rialto, CA 92376	Thursday April 14, 2016 8:30 am - 12:30 pm Hesperia Unified School District Annex Building "C" 15576 Main Street Hesperia, CA 92345
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Update Topics

- 2016 ACIP Immunizations
- California School Law
- California Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program
- California Immunization Registry (CAIR)
- TB Overview
- STD and EPI Overview

4 CE Units Offered!!

This event is provided at no cost. Provider approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing, Provider # CEP-14226 for 4 Contact Hours.

You must register to attend this event.
 Complete the attached form to RSVP.
Deadline to Register - April 6, 2016
 For more information contact a Health Education Specialist at:
 (800) 722-4794

Presented by San Bernardino County Department of Public Health
 Communicable Disease Section

National Infant Immunization Week & Toddler Immunization Month

Since 1994, National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW) and Toddler Immunization Month (TIM) has created an excellent, annual opportunity to highlight the importance of vaccinating children under two years old. Immunization saves millions of children annually and is widely recognized as one of the most successful public health interventions.

Today, vaccines can protect children from 14 vaccine-preventable diseases; however 300 children in the United States still die of vaccine-preventable diseases each year.

National Infant Immunization Week and TIM is a chance to recognize current achievements in immunizations and to

reflect on how best to continue the vital work of increasing infant and toddler vaccination coverage rates. This year, NIIW will be held April 16-20, 2016, and TIM is observed throughout the month of May.

Take a stand this April and May to help protect your community from harmful diseases. Every vaccinated child brings us closer to a healthier future, free of vaccine-preventable diseases. Providers are urged to promote NIIW and TIM by educating parents and recommending all immunizations timely as recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices schedule of routine immunizations.

Parents take the time to review your child's immunization record for vaccines that are due or use this opportunity to ask your medical provider the questions you have regarding immunizations. Easy-to-read immunization schedules can be found at <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/easy-to-read/child.html>.

San Bernardino County Department of Public Health has multiple clinics throughout the County that offer immunization services; to make an appointment call 1 (800) 722-4777. For additional support regarding vaccines, call 1-800-722-4794, and ask to speak with a Health Education Specialist.





Communicable Disease Section

351 N. Mountain View Ave #104
San Bernardino, CA 92415
Phone: 1(800) 722-4794
Fax: (909) 387-6377

Confidential Morbidity Reports (CMRs) can be found on our website and can be faxed to: TB, Epi, STD: (909) 387-6377
For HIV CMRs call before faxing.

To report suspect or confirmed cases of TB to the Tuberculosis Control Program, please fill out a TB case/suspect form for your hospitalized or clinic patient and fax to (909) 387-6377. Follow up with a phone call to one of our TB nurses at 1-800-722-4794.

Events and Observances

April	2016 Immunization / Tb/ STD/ Epidemiology Update: April 13 (Rialto), April 14 (Hesperia) National Public Health Week: April 4-10
May	Toddler Immunization Month



IMMUNIZATION
TECHNIQUES
Safe • Effective • Caring

IMMUNIZATION SKILLS INSTITUTE

Immunization Skills Institute is a free innovative course that will train medical assistants on current, effective and caring immunization techniques.

For registration information contact a Health Education Specialist at:

1-800-722-4794.

Web Resources

County of San Bernardino Department of Public Health

<http://www.sbcounty.gov/dph>

California Department of Public Health

- Division of Communicable Disease Control
<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/dcdc>
- Vaccine for Children (VFC)
<http://www.eziz.org>
- School Immunization Requirements
<http://www.shotsforschool.org>
- California Immunization Registry (CAIR)
<http://cairweb.org>
- STD Branch Health Information for Professionals
<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/std/pages/default.aspx>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- Disease & Conditions (A - Z Index)
<http://www.cdc.gov>
- Immunization Schedules
<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules>
- HIV/AIDS & STDs
<http://www.cdc.gov/std/hiv>
- STD Treatment Guidelines
<http://www.cdc.gov/std/tg2015/>

American Public Health Association

<http://www.apha.org>