Put immunizations on your back-to-school checklist

Share the value of immunizations during National Immunization Awareness Month in August:

- Encourage parents of young children to get recommended immunizations by age two. Display posters or video PSAs in your waiting room.
- Encourage all adults, including pregnant women, fathers-to-be, siblings and grandparents, to get Tdap and flu vaccines due to the risk of infections to newborns and infants.
- Help parents make sure older children, preteens, and teens have received all recommended vaccines by the time they go back to school.
- Remind college students (and their parents) of the need to catch up on immunizations including meningococcal vaccines before they move into dormitories. CDC recommends the use of B meningococcal vaccines only for individuals at increased risk because of a serogroup B meningococcal disease outbreak, including outbreaks on college campuses. The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) is currently considering broader use of serogroup B meningococcal vaccines in teens and young adults.
- Educate adults, including healthcare workers, about vaccines and boosters they may need.
- Flu season is only a few months away. Advise parents to keep their children home when they have flu symptoms. Adults should also stay home from work and errands when sick.

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<th>SAVE THE DATES!</th>
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Prevent heatstroke by remembering to A C T

Heatstroke, also known as hyperthermia, is the leading cause of non-crash, vehicle-related deaths for children. It occurs when the body isn’t able to cool itself quickly enough and the body temperature rises to dangerous levels. Young children are particularly at risk as their bodies heat up three to five times faster than an adult.

A car can heat up 19 degrees in 10 minutes and cracking a window doesn’t help. Heatstroke can happen anytime, anywhere. Together, we can cut down the number of deaths and near misses by remembering to A C T.

- **A**void heatstroke-related injury and death by never leaving your child alone in a car, not even for a minute. Make sure you keep your car locked when you’re not in it so kids don’t get in on their own.
- **C**reate reminders by putting an item that you need at your final destination, such as a cell phone or handbag, in the back of your car next to your child. This is especially important if you’re not following your normal routine.
- **T**ake action. California is one of 19 states that have laws against leaving a child unattended in a vehicle. If you see a child alone in a car, call 911. Emergency personnel want you to call. One call can save a life!

Heatstroke Deaths of Children in Vehicles or www.ggweather.com/heat provides additional statistics and fact sheets. Safekids.org or www.safekids.org/heatstroke offers posters and videos to use in your waiting room or exam rooms to help prevent child heatstroke deaths.
New dental leadership at California Department of Public Health

In June 2015, Governor Jerry Brown announced that Jayanth V. Kumar, DDS, MPH, will serve as California’s new state dental director. Dr. Kumar has more than 25 years of experience in the New York State Bureau of Dental Health, where he served as director of oral health surveillance and research and as director of the New York State Dental Public Health Residency.

Kumar will direct and manage the oral health program in the California Department of Public Health and, in collaboration with the Department of Health Care Services, provide leadership in developing and implementing innovative strategies and policies to reduce oral health disparities in California.

In addition to a state oral health plan, Dr. Kumar will also be responsible for establishing prevention and oral health education projects and working to secure funding for preventive oral health programs, particularly for children.

Dental disease is the most common chronic childhood disease, more prevalent than both asthma and obesity, affecting nearly 2 in 3 children in California by the time they reach third grade.

CHDP is looking forward to collaboration with the new state leadership.

Breastfeeding Coalition offers educational events

October 8, 2015 – Pre-Conference Evening Physician’s Seminar
Tongue and Lip Tie: Related Issues, Assessment and Treatment
Presented by Melissa Cole, IBCLC, RLC
Followed by:
Dr. Abhay M. Vaidya, ENT, Dr. Heather Nichols, Pediatrician, and Provider Panel Discussion
Ottavio’s Restaurant, Camarillo (dinner provided)

October 9, 2015 – BCVC Annual Lactation Education Conference, Thousand Oaks
Beyond the Basics of Breastfeeding Support: Enhancing Your Clinical Skills
Presented by Melissa Cole, IBCLC, RLC

Find more information, continuing education credits and online registration at: Breastfeeding Coalition of Ventura County or http://breastfeedventura.org/events.

Prevent injuries related to riding in or driving motor vehicles

Assess a child’s risk for unintentional injury during the CHDP visit by taking a history, performing the physical exam and identifying specific risks. Offer parents information and educational materials on creating a safe living environment for their child. In addition, speak directly to preteens and teens about safety hazards and how they can keep themselves safe.

Print and share CHDP Growing Up Healthy information brochures to educate youth and parents about safety. These are available in six languages at: http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/publications/Pages/CHDPPubs.aspx.

Child Passenger Safety (CPS) In California offers parent brochures and posters in English and Spanish on vehicle safety laws and correct car seat use. You may download these from: https://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/Pages/CPSinCalifornia-VOSP.aspx