



ALLEN COUNTY
PUBLIC HEALTH
www.allencountypublichealth.org
Allen County Combined Health District

March 11, 2021

Dear Parent of Current 6th Grade Student,

As you are probably aware, next year's 7th graders will be required to have the **Tdap** (Tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis) and meningococcal vaccines prior to the start of the school year

Even though the **Tdap** and **meningococcal (MCV4)** vaccines are the only **required** vaccines for your child, there are a number of other recommended adolescent vaccines available. The following vaccines are recommended vaccines for teens and are available at the health department:

- **Meningitis (MCV4)**-one or two doses, depending on age, to protect against meningitis) - Teens are at increased risk for this bacterial infection. Meningitis can kill a healthy person in less than 48 hours. Survivors can have serious problems that last the rest of their lives. Most colleges require this vaccine for those students who live in dorms.
- **Pertussis (Whooping Cough) (Tdap)**-one dose to protect against Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Pertussis)-This disease is spread by coughing and sneezing. Pertussis has been increasing in recent years; therefore, it is important to be up-to-date with vaccination. Teens can be sick for weeks with pertussis.
- **HPV (Human Papillomavirus)**-two or three dose series to protect against HPV disease)- HPV disease is the leading cause of cervical cancer in women and oropharyngeal cancer in men.
- **Chicken Pox (Varicella)**-two doses to protect against chicken pox if not already immune from disease)-This disease causes fever and rash. In some cases, especially in teens, serious health problems may occur.
- **Hepatitis A** -two dose series to protect against liver disease) – This disease is spread by close contact and sometimes by eating contaminated food or drinking water.
- **Influenza** – Recommended during flu season for everyone 6 months and older.

If you have any questions about these or any other vaccines or wish to make an appointment to receive a vaccine please call the health department at 419-228-4457.

Respectfully,

Lisa Horstman RN, PHN

Get Vaccinated Coordinator

Allen County Public Health

