

**EPI Update for Friday, February 18, 2011**  
**Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology (CADE)**  
**Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH)**

Items for this week's EPI Update include:

- **New CDC guidance on pertussis diagnostic testing**
- **Updated child immunization schedule**
- **Coming to Iowa soon - new technology for rapid TB testing**
- **Meeting announcements and training opportunities**

**New CDC guidance on pertussis diagnostic testing**

The CDC recently released new guidance on best practices for health care professionals on the use of polymerase chain reaction (PCR) for diagnosing pertussis.

The complete guidance is available at

[www.cdc.gov/pertussis/clinical/diagnostic-testing/diagnosis-pcr-bestpractices.html](http://www.cdc.gov/pertussis/clinical/diagnostic-testing/diagnosis-pcr-bestpractices.html).

The State Hygienic Laboratory (SHL) uses the real-time PCR test method, which targets a segment of DNA that occurs in multiple copies in the Bordetella pertussis bacterial genome (IS481). SHL recommends the use of the SHL specimen collection kit and that specimen collection instructions are followed carefully. Instructions on specimen collection can be found at

[www.uhl.uiowa.edu/kitsquotesforms/bordetellapertussiscollectioninstructions.pdf](http://www.uhl.uiowa.edu/kitsquotesforms/bordetellapertussiscollectioninstructions.pdf).

Additional information on test interpretation can be found at

<http://www.uhl.uiowa.edu/services/respiratory/pertussisfaq.pdf>

**Updated child immunization schedule**

In February 2011, CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) approved an updated child immunization schedule for 2011. Some of the changes in the schedule include:

- Clarification of the hepatitis B vaccine schedule for children.
- Recommendations on the use of 13-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine.
- Clarification of the administration of 1 or 2 doses of seasonal influenza vaccine based upon the child's history of monovalent 2009 H1N1 vaccination.
- Use of tetanus and diphtheria toxoids, and acellular pertussis (Tdap) vaccine among children aged 7 through 10 years who are incompletely vaccinated against pertussis is addressed, and reference to a specified interval between tetanus and diphtheria toxoids (Td) and Tdap vaccination has been removed.
- A routine 2-dose schedule of quadrivalent meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV4) for certain persons at high risk for meningococcal disease, and recommendations for a booster dose of MCV4 have been added.

To review the updated child immunization schedule, visit [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/schedules/child-schedule.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/schedules/child-schedule.htm).

### **Coming to Iowa soon - new technology for rapid TB testing**

On December 8, 2010, the World Health Organization (WHO) endorsed a new rapid and automated molecular test that can detect tuberculosis (TB) in less than two hours. The new test can accurately detect TB in sputum, and determine if it is resistant to rifampin, a common drug treatment for TB. The WHO endorsement came after 18 months of field testing in countries with high rates of TB, including drug-resistant cases and TB associated with HIV infection. The new test has the potential to revolutionize TB care because it provides results the same day that the specimen is received in the lab; therefore, patients can receive appropriate treatment sooner and spread of the disease can be more quickly prevented.

TB remains a worldwide problem and with 48 cases in 2010, Iowa continues to see cases each year. Through funding from CDC, the Iowa Department of Public Health, and the Association of Public Health Laboratories, the Iowa State Hygienic Laboratory (SHL) will be able to make this test available in a few months.

IDPH and the SHL will announce more details of this test as soon as it is available.

### **Meeting announcements and training opportunities**

*Reminder:* Iowa Governor's Conference on Public Health on April 5-6, 2011  
Scheman Conference Center, Ames, IA. For more details, visit [www.iowapha.org/Default.aspx?pageId=127969](http://www.iowapha.org/Default.aspx?pageId=127969)

### **Have a healthy and happy week!**

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