Vaccine-preventable diseases (VPD) are diseases for which vaccines exist that can confer partial or complete protection. Vaccination not only protects the person receiving the vaccine but also helps to keep the disease from spreading to others in the community.

Table 1 shows the number of cases of select VPDs reported in Sacramento County for the five year period 2012-2016. In 2016, the highest number of cases of hepatitis A, acute hepatitis B, and meningococcal disease were reported. The number of pertussis cases declined in 2016, following the natural cyclical pattern of the disease with peaks every three to five years. No cases of diphtheria, measles, mumps, polio, or rubella were reported in 2016.

Twelve cases of hepatitis A were reported in 2016, a 71.4% increase compared to 2012. Compared to previous years, children <18 years old accounted for the highest percent of cases (41.7%) in 2016 [Figure 1].

A total of 21 meningococcal disease cases were reported between 2012 and 2016. Two-thirds (66.7%) of these cases were serogroup B [Figure 2], with half of these among infants and children 0-9 years old [Figure 3]. There are two meningococcal vaccines: the ACWY vaccine and a separate B vaccine. The first dose of the ACWY vaccine is recommended at age 11-12 with a booster dose at age 16, but is also recommended for certain high-risk groups as early as two months. The B vaccine is recommended for those ages 10 or older at an increased risk for meningococcal disease.

More information about vaccinations can be found on the Immunization Assistance Program (IAP) website: http://www.dhhs.saccounty.net/PUB/Pages/Immunization-Assistance-Program/Immunization-Assistance-Program-(IAP).aspx.

Notes: Data is provisional. Counts may be influenced by surveillance artifacts and outbreaks.