Countywide Services Agency

Department of Health and Human Services

Division of Public Health Glennah Trochet, M.D. County Health Officer



Steven C. Szalay, Interim County Executive Bruce Wagstaff, Administrator

Ann Edwards-Buckley, Director

County of Sacramento

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Feb. 8, 2011

Media contact: Laurie Slothower, (916) 875-4493

Cell: (916) 956-3130

WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNIZATION CLINIC IS SATURDAY, FEB. 12

Tdap vaccine offered at no cost to those age 10 and older; families with young infants, including school-age children, urged to attend

SACRAMENTO – Sacramento County Public Health, in partnership with the San Juan School District, will sponsor a free pertussis (whooping cough) immunization clinic at 3700 Garfield Ave. in Carmichael from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Feb.12.

The clinic will take place in the multi-purpose room of the San Juan Unified School District Central Family Services Center building.

Although county health officials are targeting families of young infants, the community clinic is open to all individuals age 10 or older who wish to receive a pertussis booster shot, also known as a Tdap.

California experienced a widespread increase in cases of pertussis in 2010. In response, a new law requires that all California students in 7th through12th grades receive a whooping cough booster shot prior to entering school this fall, if they have not received one previously, and to show proof of immunization to their schools.

"We want to call attention to the increase of this serious disease in our community, make sure that people who have contact with young infants are vaccinated against it, and ask parents not to wait until the last minute to vaccinate their children who are entering 7th through 12th grades this fall with Tdap," said County Health Officer Glennah Trochet, M.D.

The new requirement affects an estimated 112,000 school children in Sacramento County.

For more information, call (916) 875-SHOT (875-7468).

###