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May 29, 2015

Dear CPSP Provider:

Thank you for providing excellent care to the CPSP patients in Los Angeles County. Immunizations are one of the greatest public health achievements of all time, and maternal immunization is increasingly recognized as critical to the health of women—and their children. The Los Angeles County (LAC) Department of Public Health is dedicated to protecting the health and well-being of Angelenos. Pertussis (whooping cough) is currently an epidemic in LAC and California. Pertussis during early infancy is frequently severe and potentially fatal.

As you are aware, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG), American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and the Medi-Cal July 2014 Bulletin 827 recommend that all women, including those pregnant and breastfeeding, receive the Tdap vaccine at **every** pregnancy, preferably **between 27 and 36 weeks** of pregnancy. Once immunized, maternal antibodies can protect the newborn against pertussis during the critical first two to three months of life, before they can begin a vaccine series against pertussis. Tdap immunization during pregnancy is safe and not associated with an increased risk of adverse events for either the mother or infant.

We encourage you to use the [ACOG Tdap toolkit](#). If your office does not offer the Tdap vaccine, a prescription can be taken to a participating pharmacy - this is for fee-for-service and presumptive eligibility Medi-Cal patients. Managed care patients should be referred to their primary care providers. Remember to document any referrals in the patient's medical record.

Our CPSP team at the public health department is here to assist you and your staff in facilitating Tdap vaccine administration. Feel free to call us at (213) 639-6419 or email [lacpsp@ph.lacounty.gov](mailto:lacpsp@ph.lacounty.gov). Thank you in advance for your participation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Ramos".

Diana E. Ramos, M.D., M.P.H., Director  
Reproductive Health Programs