




# PRETEEN VACCINE WEEK

March 4 -8, 2024

To promote the health and well-being of our preteen population, the San Diego County Health and Human Services is joining with the California Department of Public Health in recognizing March 4 – 8 as “Preteen Vaccine Week.” Together, they are urging parents and guardians to ensure their children receive the recommended vaccines for preteens. The vaccines in focus include the Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis), HPV (human papillomavirus), and meningococcal vaccines.

-  The meningococcal vaccine is crucial in preventing potentially deadly meningitis, which can strike preteens and young adults. It is recommended for 11-to-12-year-olds with a booster dose at age 16.
-  The HPV vaccine is essential in preventing certain types of cancer later in life, and two doses are recommended for both boys and girls starting at age 9. The HPV vaccine can prevent the transmission of a virus that can lead to cervical, anal, and oropharyngeal cancers.
-  The Tdap vaccine helps protect against tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis, also known as whooping cough. Whooping cough can be particularly severe in adolescents, making it crucial for preteens to receive this booster shot.

Parents and guardians should contact their child’s healthcare provider to schedule an appointment for any needed vaccines. If you do not have a healthcare provider or insurance, visit the County of San Diego Immunization Clinics webpage for more information about vaccines offered at County Public Health Centers. Promoting vaccinations contributes to the Live Well vision of creating a Healthy, Safe, and Thriving San Diego County.

For more information about preteen vaccinations, please visit our website [Immunization Recommendations for Children and Teens](#).

