



NEW VACCINES FOR ADOLESCENTS

New vaccines have recently become available and are recommended for adolescents. **Some will also be required beginning with the 2008-2009 school year.** Immunization has the potential to protect not only the health of adolescents, but their friends, families and communities.

Menactra vaccine is recommended for adolescents of any age but especially for high school seniors who will be attending college and living in the dormitory. This vaccine protects against many types of meningitis.

Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis) Do you recall the pertussis (whooping cough) outbreak a few years ago? Your adolescent probably received their last dose of DTaP around age 5. A new formulation of this vaccine now contains pertussis and is licensed for adolescents and adults. Please check if it has been at least 5 years since your son or daughter received a DTap or Td vaccine. They may be eligible to receive the new Tdap. **Grades 6, 9 and 12 will be required to have this vaccine starting in the 2008-2009 school year.**

A second dose of **Varicella** (chicken pox) vaccine is now recommended for children age 4 and older and it **will be required for grades K5, 6 and 12 beginning in the 2008-2009 school year.** If your adolescent received only one dose consider a second dose.

HPV (human papillomavirus) vaccine protects against four major types of HPV. HPV is known to cause cervical cancer in women. Every year in the United States about 10,000 women get cervical cancer and 3,700 die from it. HPV vaccine can prevent most cases of cervical cancer. The vaccine is recommended for girls and women age 11 through 26 years. **It is available at the Health Department for girls through age 18 years.**

Please call the Greenfield Health Department at 414-329-5275 or your primary care provider for more information.