

# Protect Yourself! Protect Others! Get Your Td/Tdap Booster

## **You may need a Tdap or Td vaccine if you:**

- Can't remember when your last Td booster was, or
- Aren't sure if you ever had a Td booster, or
- Have never received a Tdap shot, or
- Are around infants less than 12 months of age, or
- Are 60 years or older (Td vaccination wasn't routine until the 1940s)

## **Facts about Tetanus**

- Tetanus bacteria are widespread in the environment—in soil, dust and animals
- Almost all reported cases of tetanus occur in persons who have either never been vaccinated or those who completed a primary series but have not had a booster dose of Td in the last 10 years

## **Facts about Diphtheria**

- Diphtheria bacteria can spread from person-to-person through the air
- When not treated, diphtheria infection kills about 5-10% of the people who get it
- It is common in 87 countries and even circulates in some parts of the U.S. and Canada

## **Facts about Pertussis**

- U.S. adults 19-64 years of age accounted for 7,008 of the 25,877 (27%) reported pertussis cases in 2004
- The true number of cases among this group is likely much higher, estimated at 600,000 each year
- Can result in weeks of coughing, cracked ribs from harsh coughing spells, pneumonia
- Adults with pertussis can transmit the infection to others, especially infants. Young infants have the highest risk for pertussis-related complications and death. In Michigan, 2 infants died from pertussis in 2007.

## **Recommendations for the use of Tdap and Td vaccines in adults**

- Routinely, adults (19-64 years of age) should receive a single dose of Tdap in place of a Td booster, if it has been 10 or more years since their last Td
  - Tdap will reduce pertussis disease among adults and may reduce the risk of spreading it to others, including infants
- A dose of Tdap vaccine, with an interval of 2 yrs or less from the previous Td, is recommended for:
  - Adults (e.g., parents, grandparents <65 years, child care providers, HCP) who will have close contact with infants under the age of 12 months; Tdap should ideally be administered 2 weeks before contact begins
  - Health care personnel (HCP) in hospitals or ambulatory care settings with direct patient contact
    - o Vaccinating HCP with Tdap will protect them against pertussis and is expected to reduce transmission to patients, other HCP, household members, and persons in the community
    - o HCP includes, but is not limited to: physicians, nurses, medical assistants, radiology techs, clerical workers, respiratory and physical therapists, dietary, social workers, housekeeping and maintenance workers within contact of the client
- Tdap is licensed a one-time dose; if additional doses of a tetanus/diphtheria-containing vaccine dose is needed, use Td vaccine
- For persons age 65 and older, use Td vaccine (Tdap is not licensed for this age group)

## **Did you know?**

- You must have a 3-dose primary series of a tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine (Td, Tdap, DTP, DT, DTaP) before a booster dose is effective
- If you have not completed a primary series, one dose (preferably the 1<sup>st</sup>) should be given as Tdap
- Wound protocol: If you have a wound that is neither clean or minor and 5 years has elapsed since your last Td dose, you should receive a Td booster (or, Tdap if a single dose was not previously given). Persons who never completed a primary series should also receive tetanus immune globulin (TIG).