New! “Cocooning and Tdap Vaccination” Web Section on immunize.org

Newborns have the highest rates of death from pertussis (whooping cough) because they are too young to be vaccinated against the disease. A vaccination strategy called “cocooning” involves protecting newborns by vaccinating their close contacts against pertussis with Tdap vaccine. Close contacts include parents, siblings, grandparents, other family members, family friends, child care providers, and healthcare staff. To provide one-step access to information on cocooning, IAC has developed a web section titled Cocooning and Tdap Vaccination.

IAC’s new web section brings together resources from multiple sources, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), state health departments, professional societies, medical journals, and blogs. You’ll find helpful vaccination-related resources, such as Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommendations, a cocooning handbook for healthcare providers, pertussis videos, selected journal articles, patient handouts, PowerPoint presentations, and much more. You can access the new cocooning web section from the bottom of IAC’s home page, “Guide to immunize.org,” or by using IAC’s search engine.

PERTUSSIS VIDEOS
Because video is such a compelling and popular medium, IAC is featuring a collection of videos about pertussis and the importance of Tdap vaccination. The pertussis-related videos include videos of per- tussis cough in infants and children; educational information for healthcare professionals to help increase immunization rates and prevent disease.

The Immunization Action Coalition is also supported by

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JOURNAL ARTICLES AND BLOGS
Be sure to check out IAC’s selection of key medical journal articles on cocooning, as well as two timely blog postings. One post (PKIDs.org), which covers the diagnosis of pertussis, is written by James Cherry, MD, MSc, Distinguished Professor of Pediatrics, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. The second blog, Seattle Mama Doc, is written by Wendy Sue Swanson, MD. It offers an email message template for parents to send to family and friends on the importance of getting a Tdap vaccination well ahead of visiting their new infant.

We also suggest you subscribe to our weekly email news service, IAC Express. Once you complete the sign-up form at www.immunize.org/subscribe, you’ll start receiving email announcements about important developments related to immunization.

Visit the Immunization Action Coalition’s website often! www.immunize.org

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