

**Ocean County Health Department  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **OCEAN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT OFFERS Tdap VACCINE CLINICS**

Ocean County Health Department (OCHD) Public Health Coordinator Daniel E. Regenye, said the OCHD has set up Tdap vaccination clinics at both the OCHD's main site at 175 Sunset Avenue, Toms River, and its Southern site at 333 Haywood Road, Manahawkin, in the Stafford Business Park right off of exit 63 on the Garden State Parkway South.

Ocean County has seen an elevated number of cases of pertussis, also known as whooping cough. The Tdap vaccine is a combination of three vaccines that protect against tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis (whooping cough). Although children are vaccinated against whooping cough, immunity to this disease fades and as a consequence, whooping cough is still common in teenagers and adults. Every year, as many as 1 million teenager and adults in the United States are infected with whooping cough. Regenye continued, "Babies typically catch whooping cough from adolescents or adults. A baby's windpipe is much smaller than that of older children and adults; therefore, babies are much more likely to die from whooping cough. By offering the Tdap vaccine to those over the age of 10 years, it will allow adolescents and adults to be protected against the disease, thereby reducing the chance that babies will be infected with the whooping cough bacterium.

Clinic hours and locations are as follows:

April:

- |                        |              |                                    |
|------------------------|--------------|------------------------------------|
| - Tuesday, April 3:    | 1pm – 4pm    | OCHD Toms River site, Area B       |
| - Monday, April 9:     | 1pm – 4pm    | Stafford OCHD Southern Clinic Site |
| - Wednesday, April 11: | 9am – 12noon | OCHD Toms River site, Area B       |
| - Tuesday, April 17:   | 1pm – 4pm    | Stafford OCHD Southern Clinic Site |
| - Monday, April 23:    | 4pm – 7pm    | OCHD Toms River site, Area B       |
| - Thursday, April 26:  | 4pm – 6:30pm | Stafford OCHD Southern Clinic Site |

There are additional hours available to receive your Tdap vaccination at the Lakewood WIC Office at 1771 Madison Avenue. Call 732-341-9700, ext. 7515 or visit the Ocean County Health Department website at [www.ochd.org](http://www.ochd.org) for Lakewood Clinic hours.

The following recommendations from the Advisory Committee are for adults regarding the Tdap vaccine:

- All adults, including those over the age of 65, should receive a Td (tetanus/diphtheria) booster every 10 years:

- Adults under the age of 65, who have never received a Tdap, should receive this for their next booster dose.
- All adults, including those over the age of 65, who have or who anticipate having close contact with an infant less than 12 months of age and who have not received the Tdap booster vaccine, should receive a single dose of Tdap to protect against pertussis and reduce the likelihood of transmission.
- Adults over the age of 65 may also receive one dose of Tdap instead of Td if they have not previously received this vaccine.
- Any adult who wants to be protected from pertussis should receive this booster.
- New mothers who have never received a Tdap vaccine should get a dose as soon as possible after delivery.

Even if you have received your tetanus shot within the past ten years, you may receive the Tdap vaccine. The cost of the vaccination is \$20.00. If you receive Medicaid, please have your Medicaid card with you and if you are a WIC recipient, please bring your WIC folder.

If you have any questions about the Tdap vaccine, please call 732-341-9700, ext. 7515 or visit the Ocean County Health Department website at [www.ochd.org](http://www.ochd.org).

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