



## **Grandparents & Infant Caregivers need vaccines too!**

The arrival of a new baby is a happy time. But before you cuddle with your new little bundle of joy, Yates County Public Health encourages all grandparents and infant caregivers to get a Tdap vaccine if not already vaccinated and a flu vaccine. The Tdap vaccine will protect you and the infant from whooping cough (also called pertussis). You should get both vaccines at least 2 weeks before visiting the baby.

Whooping cough spreads easily and can cause severe illness and even death. It is especially dangerous for infants under 6 months of age, who are too young to be well protected by vaccines for whooping cough. “Babies who get whooping cough often catch it from family members, including grandparents, who may not even know they have whooping cough,” said Sara Christensen, Supervising Public Health Nurse with Yates County Public Health. “That’s why it’s important that parents, grandparents, and other family members get a Tdap shot to prevent getting—and spreading—whooping cough.” “Influenza is still circulating around in Yates County and we will continue to see people sick with flu into the spring months. Everyone 6 months and older should get the influenza vaccine every flu season”, Christensen adds.

Who should get the Tdap vaccine?

- Pregnant women with every pregnancy during the 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester.
- Dads, grandparents, daycare providers or any other family member or friend who has a lot of contact with the baby need a one-time dose of Tdap.

Where can you get the Tdap vaccine?

- Your health care provider should be able to give you the Tdap vaccine in the office. Check with them to see if the health insurance you have will cover the cost of the vaccine.
- If you are 19 years of age or older and without insurance or your insurance does not cover Tdap, Yates County Public Health can provide your Tdap vaccine. There is an administration fee charged based on a sliding fee scale.

Who should get the flu vaccine?

- Everyone that is 6 months old and older needs a flu vaccine every year.

Where can you get a flu vaccine?

- At your health care provider office, local pharmacy, or Yates County Public Health.

Remember grandparents and caregivers, you can help protect your babies from whooping cough and flu!

For more information, talk to your Health Care Provider or call Yates County Public Health at 315-536-5160 or toll free 1-866-212-5160. Check out our website at [www.yatescountypublichealth.org](http://www.yatescountypublichealth.org) or visit our Facebook page.