Neosho, MO – The Newton County Health Department will host TDaP (tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis) vaccination clinics for adolescents 11 thru 18 years old and adults in July and August. There will be a $5.00 administration fee for the vaccine and will be available to the public regardless of insurance status. The clinics will be held from 8:00 am to 6:30 pm on a walk-in basis on the following dates:

- Tuesday, July 9th, 16th, and 30th
- Tuesday, August 6th and 13th

All five clinics will be located at the Newton County Health Department, 812 West Harmony, Neosho. No appointment is necessary.

“This is a special program, due to a one-time allotment of vaccine being provided to us by the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services,” says Patti Yates, R.N. Nursing Supervisor. “We hope our community will take advantage of this opportunity to get vaccinated.”

The TDaP vaccine offers protection against tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis (whooping cough). These can be very serious illnesses, even for teens and adults.

- Tetanus causes painful muscle tightening and stiffness all over the body, sometimes so severe a person can’t even open their mouth, swallow or breathe. Tetanus kills about one out of every five people who are infected.
- Diphtheria can cause a thick coating to form in the back of the throat that leads to breathing problems, paralysis, heart failure and death.
- Pertussis is commonly known as whooping cough. It causes severe coughing spells that can lead to problems breathing, vomiting and difficulty sleeping. It can also lead to weight loss, incontinence, rib fractures, hospitalization, pneumonia, and even death.

One dose of TDaP is routinely given to adolescents at age 11 or 12. People who did not get TDaP at that age should get it as soon as possible. To minimize an infant’s risk of being exposed to disease and serious illness, it is very important for anyone who has close contact with an infant under one year old to be vaccinated, including parents, siblings, grandparents, child care workers, and other caregivers.

For more information, contact the Newton County Health Department at 417-451-3743.

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