**Update:** MDH recommends returning to standard pre-adolescent pertussis vaccination recommendations: Give Tdap at age 11-12 years. The September 2012 MDH recommendation to offer Tdap vaccination as early as 10 years of age when children present in clinic was in response to epidemic levels of pertussis in 2012. The return to standard pre-adolescent pertussis vaccination recommendations is due to the decrease in pertussis incidence from epidemic to endemic levels in 2013. In certain outbreak situations, MDH may recommend Tdap vaccination as early as 10 years of age.

**Reminder:** Tdap boosters are recommended during each and every pregnancy (regardless of when the last tetanus booster was received). This recommendation was approved by the national Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) in October 2012 to protect newborns, who are most susceptible to severe disease, complications, and death due to pertussis. Tdap should be given between gestational weeks 27 and 36 to allow time for maternal antibody production and placental transfer.

**Standard pertussis vaccination recommendations:**
Screen all patients for up-to-date pertussis vaccination status at every visit.

- **Adults** - Give Tdap to anyone who hasn’t had it before, regardless of interval since last Td. In particular, be sure to vaccinate all health care workers and all people who have close contact with infants.
- **Adolescents** – Give Tdap at age 11-12 years during the pre-adolescent visit.
  - Vaccinate older adolescents who may have previously received only Td.
- **Children** – Give DTaP at 2, 4, 6 months to complete the primary series, and boosters at 15-18 months and 4-6 years.
  - Stress to new parents the importance of keeping the child up-to-date on all immunizations.
  - Use MIIC to recall children who are behind in their vaccinations.
  - During the 2012 epidemic, many of the pertussis cases ages 7-12 years had not completed the childhood DTaP series. Check immunization status at every visit.
    - ACIP included an off-label Tdap vaccination recommendation for children age 7-10 years who are unvaccinated or incompletely vaccinated against pertussis.
      - Give Tdap to any child age 7-10 years that is incompletely vaccinated.
      - Children ages 7-10 years without a history of vaccination should receive a 3-dose primary series consisting of one Tdap followed by two doses of Td at 1 and 7 month intervals.

**About Tdap vaccines:**

- There are two Tdap vaccines:
  - Adacel, licensed for persons age 11 through 64 years
  - Boostrix, licensed for persons age 10 years and older
- Both Tdap vaccines are currently licensed as a one-time dose.
- No more than one dose of Tdap is currently recommended except during pregnancy, which is an off-label recommendation made by ACIP in October 2012.