



## **New Vaccine Requirement for Rising 6<sup>th</sup> Graders**

There are new immunization requirements for students in North Carolina.

### ***Required Immunization is:***

**Tdap** Tetanus and Diphtheria vaccine with Pertussis added

- Required for students entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade on or after **August 1, 2008** if five or more years have passed since their last dose of Td (commonly called "Tetanus" shot.)
- Tdap is now required to protect against pertussis (whooping cough). Whooping cough is a serious illness, and outbreaks can occur at any time.

### ***Suggested Immunizations are:***

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) advise that pre-teens get these additional vaccines at their 11 or 12 year old check up.

- **Meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV4)** to protect against most kinds of bacterial meningitis, an infection that comes on rapidly. This illness is spread by saliva, by sharing personal items or in the air. Living in close contact with others, such as college dorms, spreads the disease more quickly.
- **Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine**, for girls ages 9-26. This vaccine protects against genital warts and cervical cancer.
- **Second dose of MMR (if not already received) because a second dose of MMR is now required for college admission**

For more information on these and other vaccines, talk with your doctor or visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd-vac/default.htm>