



Tahoe Truckee Unified School District

11839 Donner Pass Road, Truckee, CA 96161 (530) 582-2561 FAX (530) 582-2566

Date: April 3, 2008

Dear Parent/Employee:

There have been one or more cases of the following communicable disease identified in the student population. The state currently requires one varicella (Chicken pox) vaccination and recommends two. Most of those students who have been diagnosed had received one vaccine. Therefore, we are giving you the following/attached information for your consideration.

Chicken Pox (Varicella)

Chicken Pox is a disease of school age children. Symptoms include slight to high fever, generally not feeling well and skin eruptions with whitish heads, which break and scab over. Children may return to school one week after skin eruptions first appear, and scabs are dry and falling off. Symptoms may appear 14 to 21 days after exposure.

Observe your child carefully for early signs and symptoms. Children with an unidentified rash or fever should not be at school, and should seek medical advice. Report any known cases to your school.

If someone in your household is pregnant or has a compromised immune system, and has had contact with a *diagnosed* case of Chicken Pox, please call your physician for medical advice.

Placer County Health Department is providing the following information directly from the CDC website re: children & adults

All children and adults without evidence of immunity to varicella need the vaccine. Evidence of immunity includes any of the following:

- Documentation of TWO doses of varicella vaccine
- Blood tests that show you are immune to varicella or laboratory confirmation of prior disease
- Born in the United States before 1980, excluding health-care workers, pregnant women, and immunocompromised persons. These individuals need to meet one of the other criteria for evidence of immunity.
- Receipt from a healthcare provider of a) a diagnosis of chickenpox or b) verification of a history of chickenpox
- Receipt from a healthcare provider of a) a diagnosis of herpes zoster (shingles), or b) verification of a history of herpes zoster (shingles).

You do NOT need the chickenpox vaccine, if you meet any of the above criteria for evidence of immunity.

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd-vac/varicella>

Thank you,

Steve Jennings, Superintendent
Lisa Abrahams R.N., Liz Ewing R.N., Health Services