Vaccination of infants and toddlers is a common and well-accepted practice in the U.S. However, parents need to be aware that children age 11 to 12 need immunizations against meningococcal disease, human papillomavirus-, or HPV-related cancers, and pertussis, or whooping cough. Coverage with vaccines for pertussis and meningococcal disease has increased to high levels, but coverage with HPV vaccine has lagged, leaving many unprotected against cancers caused by HPV. If your preteen or teen isn’t up-to-date on their recommended vaccines, make an appointment with your child’s doctor.

Thank you for joining us on a Minute of Health with CDC.

For the most accurate health information, visit www.cdc.gov or call 1-800-CDC-INFO.