

Panel: Gramps, get whooping cough shot

October 27 2010, By MIKE STOBBE , AP Medical Writer

(AP) -- A federal advisory panel is recommending that people 65 and older who are around infants get vaccinated against whooping cough.

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices gave the advice Wednesday because of an [outbreak](#) of whooping cough this year in California, where more than 6,200 cases have been reported.

Nine of the 10 [infants](#) who have died were too young to be fully vaccinated against the disease.

Children get whooping cough vaccine in a series of shots beginning at 2 months.

Health officials believe elderly caregivers play a small role in spreading the contagious infection to infants. But a whooping cough vaccine is not currently recommended for the elderly.

[Whooping cough](#) cases tend to run in cycles. The last peak was in 2005.

More information: Vaccine panel:
<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/acip/>

©2010 The Associated Press. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed.

Citation: Panel: Gramps, get whooping cough shot (2010, October 27) retrieved 25 April 2024

from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2010-10-panel-gramps-whooping-shot.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.