

Law Makes Polio Shot Mandatory

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County Health Officer

Polio—once one of the most frightening diseases for a parent to contemplate—has become almost a matter of unpleasant history both here and nationwide. Its control in but a few short years has become reality through the development and use of vaccines.

Part of the insurance that the disease will continue to be controlled is contained in a law which requires that all children entering school for the first time must be immunized against polio.

Whereas children who have previously attended school in California and have submitted proof of immunization to school officials need to supply no further documentation, those who are beginning school for the first time or who are transferring into California schools from other states will be required to provide proof of immunization against polio.

IT IS acceptable to be immunized by injection or to be immunized by oral Sabin vaccine. If a child has not previously been immunized, he must at least have had the first of the immunization series at the time of entry into school and then must provide evidence of completion of the series during a specified time after school begins.

Number of doses constituting a completed immunization series varies according to the type of vaccine used. The monovalent or single type Sabin oral vaccine is given in three doses by mouth at approximately one month intervals. The trivalent, or three-types-in-one Sabin vaccine is given in two doses by mouth, the second dose administered at least eight weeks after the first. This latter type is the vaccine becoming most widely used; however, any type of polio vaccine given as recommended is acceptable for school admission.

Because of the necessity to begin the series before school opens, parents of children who need to be vaccinated should start youngsters on the series now to avoid the last minute rush.

ALTHOUGH THERE is no legal requirement that children previously immunized in a method acceptable to the schools furnish evidence of further immunization, physicians and public health authorities generally agree that a child is better protected by having a periodic booster dose of polio vaccine. It is also recommended that persons who have been immunized by injection of Salk vaccine be re-immunized with the oral vaccine as the latter is considered to be a more effective disease prevention measure than the earlier polio shots.

Polio immunization is readily available at the offices of family physicians and, because polio is not a children's disease but of all ages, everyone in the family should be immunized.

In addition to private physicians' offices, health department clinics make oral polio immunization available to school enrollees for a small fee. Information as to time and place of these clinics may be had by calling the nearest health center of the Los Angeles County Health Department.

Plans Approved For Subdivision In Carson Area

The Regional Planning Commission approved last week the planned subdivision of owner Andrew R. Joughlin, Los Angeles, and subdivider Cameron Collier, Gardena, in the Carson area, west of Vermont Avenue and north of Lomita Boulevard.

Vacation Bible School Scheduled

Vacation Bible School classes will be held each evening this week at the First Baptist Church of Torrance, according to the Rev. Robert Dehn, associate pastor.

The classes will meet each evening from 7 to 9. Classes for all age groups are planned and nursery care will be provided.

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