



MCH Urging People To Get Vaccinated 06/15/12

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Odessa, Texas - Officials at an Odessa hospital say yesterday's Pertussis or "whooping cough" case is shedding light on a growing problem. Physicians are seeing more cases of illnesses that are easily preventable with vaccinations because more and more people just aren't getting immunized.

Doctors tell us it's a growing problem, people are shying away from getting themselves and their children vaccinated, causing illnesses from the past to pop back up.

Serious illnesses that many thought were in the past are making a comeback.

"What's happening now unfortunately because of myths parents refuse to have their kids vaccinated and diseases like whooping cough are coming back," said Doctor Sudip Bose, Medical Center Hospital.

Doctor Sudip Bose says misinformation and misconceptions are to blame for this growing problem.

Vaccines are a victim of their own success because we haven't seen certain serious illnesses in so long, parents are becoming more concerned about the vaccine and the mild side effects compared to the devastating diseases," said Doctor Bose.

Megan Pry is a mother of two boys and was once a skeptic of vaccines like the flu shot, until one of her boys caught the bug.

"Seeing him that sick broke my heart and it's scary," said Megan Pry, Mother.

Pry and her boys now get their shots every year.

"Since me and the boys have gotten the flu shot, they're protected so we haven't had any run-ins with the flu since," said Pry.

Pry is now an advocate for vaccinations.

"For those people who refuse to do it, you run the risk of putting your child and those around them in jeopardy and why run that risk," said Pry.

Doctor Bose urges people to learn the facts about the benefits of keeping up to date with your immunizations.

"Make your decisions based on science, not myths," said Doctor Bose.

Medical Center staff say there are lots of resources in our community to help you get informed and get affordable shots. Doctors say to call your local hospital or health department for more information.

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