



Kingman County Health Department

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Two more pertussis cases confirmed in Kingman County

Two more cases of pertussis (whooping cough) were confirmed in Kingman County on June 10. That brings the total number of cases this year in the county to five.

“In order to have an outbreak, you must have either two cases confirmed at the same time or two cases that are related,” said Cindy Chrisman-Smith, county health officer and director of the Kingman County Health Department. “Because these two cases occurred at the same time, they officially are considered an outbreak.”

The June 10 cases are in a 7 year old and a 15 year old, both county residents. These two newest cases are unrelated. They also are not related to a June 3 case involving an unvaccinated 91-year-old county resident.

The second case was confirmed on May 21 and involved an 11-year-old county resident who had not received the 11/12 year old pertussis booster vaccine. The second case involved a teenager and was confirmed March 27.

The Health Department is required to investigate any case of pertussis because the illness is a contagious, reportable disease. Chrisman-Smith said Health Department staff are investigating these two new confirmed cases and will track anyone at risk for 21 days.

The Kingman County Health Department has a limited supply of vaccine on hand and is available to answer questions about the disease, the vaccine and related concerns. Please call the department at 620-532-2221.

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