

Pertussis Immunization



Do it to protect yourself.
Do it to protect others.



Are You Protected Against Pertussis?

Pertussis vaccines are **safe and effective** at helping to prevent pertussis infection.

Talk to your doctor, nurse, pharmacist or public health office about the pertussis vaccine.



What is Pertussis?

Pertussis, or **whooping cough**, is a highly contagious respiratory infection.

Infection can lead to uncontrollable coughing and in some people breathing difficulty.

Pertussis is usually spread by coughing or sneezing while in close contact with others or from sharing personal items or things like drinks, or utensils.

Individuals of any age can be affected, although pertussis is most common in children and most severe in infants under one year of age.



Who Should be Immunized?

Infants, children and adolescents should be immunized according to their childhood immunization program.

Adults who have not previously been vaccinated should be immunized, especially if you are going to be near small children.

Publicly-funded immunization schedules for pertussis may vary between provinces and territories.



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