

New Moms:



Pertussis is on the Rise

Babies Are Most At Risk

Whooping cough (also known as pertussis) causes coughing fits so bad that it is hard to breathe.

Each year in the U.S., hundreds of babies are hospitalized for whooping cough and some die.

Circle Your Baby with Protection

Whooping cough shots safely prevent the disease. But, your new baby is too young to get the shot.

To protect your baby, make sure that you and these people are up-to-date on their whooping cough shots:

- anyone who lives with your baby, or
- anyone who takes care of your baby

As an adult you can catch whooping cough because the vaccine you received as a child may have worn off. Make sure you and anyone who will have contact with your baby is vaccinated.

- keep your baby away from sick people

New Moms Need Tdap Protection

Babies most often catch whooping cough from a family member. By protecting yourself from the disease, you also protect your baby.

Ask your doctor for a Tdap shot. You can get it:

- before you are pregnant (ideally)
- after you are 20 weeks pregnant (late 2nd or 3rd trimester), or
- after giving birth

If you have not gotten your Tdap shot yet, get one before leaving the hospital with your new baby.

It is safe to get a Tdap shot while breastfeeding.

Treat Whooping Cough Early

Call your doctor or your baby's doctor if:

- you or your baby are sick. Early signs of whooping cough can look like a mild cold and get worse fast; or
- you or your baby are around someone with whooping cough or a bad cough

Protect yourself. Protect your family.

Get Vaccinated!



Have questions?

Talk with your doctor.

<http://health.state.ga.us/pertussis>