

Parents:



Protect
Yourself
and Your
Child
from
Whooping
Cough!

Why Whooping Cough is Serious:

Whooping cough (also known as pertussis) is a contagious disease that can be passed easily from person to person. It is very serious for babies and can cause them to cough so much that they cannot breathe. Hundreds of babies are hospitalized each year for whooping cough, and some die from it.

Whooping cough can cause adults or teens to have a persistent cough. The cough can become severe enough to lead to vomiting or broken ribs. Adults and teens can be hospitalized for pneumonia and miss weeks of work or school. Even worse, they can spread whooping cough to babies.

Ways to Protect Yourself and Your Family:

Get Your Pertussis Booster (Tdap)

Everybody in the family should be vaccinated against whooping cough to protect themselves and the baby at home. Parents should ask their doctor for the Tdap vaccine that includes a tetanus and diphtheria booster and also protects against whooping cough.

Make Sure Your Children are Up-to-Date on Their Vaccinations

Children need five shots against whooping cough before starting kindergarten. Children 7 years of age and older can also get the new Tdap booster.

Cover Your Cough and Wash Your Hands

Whooping cough is spread by coughing and sneezing. Remind everyone to cover their mouths when coughing and to wash their hands often.

Protect yourself. Protect your family.

Get Vaccinated!



Have questions?

Talk with your doctor.

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