



Protect Yourself and Your
Children From Pertussis!



**Bureau of
Immunization**

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**Bureau of
Immunization**

Immunizing Florida. Protecting Health.



Why Pertussis is Serious:

Pertussis (also known as whooping cough) spreads easily from person to person. Anyone who comes in contact with your child — family members, caregivers, and teachers — can infect your child. This disease is very serious for babies, causing coughing fits and breathing problems. Hundreds of babies are hospitalized each year, and some die.



Ways to Protect Yourself and Your Family:

Get Your Tetanus Booster (Tdap)

Everybody in the family should be immunized against pertussis to protect themselves and the baby at home. Parents should ask their healthcare provider for the new tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis (Tdap) vaccine that protects against pertussis and includes a tetanus and diphtheria booster.

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

Pertussis protection for babies begins with vaccination at two months of age. Infants and toddlers need four shots against pertussis, and a booster before starting kindergarten. Children 10 years of age and older can get the new Tdap booster. Adults through 64 years of age should receive a single dose of Tdap to replace a tetanus booster immunization.

Practice Good Hygiene

Pertussis is spread by coughing. When you cough, cover your mouth with a tissue or cough into your elbow. Wash your hands frequently.

For more information:
visit www.ImmunizeFlorida.org,
email immunization@doh.state.fl.us, or
call 850-245-4342

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