Pertussis (Whooping Cough)

Protecting Your Baby Begins In Pregnancy





3700

cases of pertussis in Alberta.¹

116

cases were babies under 3 months of age.¹

1-4

deaths are related to pertussis each year in Canada. These deaths are most often in babies who are too young to be immunized or children who are not fully immunized.²



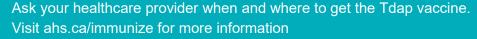
Pertussis:

- is also called whooping cough or the "100 day cough"
- spreads easily
- can cause severe coughing spells that last for weeks or months
- can lead to an infection in the lungs (pneumonia), and in rare cases, seizures, brain injury, and death
- can make it hard to breath especially for young babies
- can happen to anyone



The Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis) vaccine protects you from tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis. The vaccine:

- is recommended each time you are pregnant
- is best when given between 27 and 32 weeks of pregnancy
- protects your baby until they are old enough to be immunized
- is safe in pregnancy for both mother and baby
- is free





2. https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/immunization/vaccine-preventable-diseases/pertussis-whooping-cough/health-professionals.html

