



Surround Your Baby with a Vaccinated Family

Vaccinate Your Family Members against Pertussis (Whooping Cough)

What Is Pertussis?

- Pertussis is a serious disease. Symptoms can include: a runny nose, mild fever and a cough. The cough then turns into severe coughing fits and can last six or more weeks.
- Did you know that pertussis is especially dangerous in newborns because they are too young to receive the pertussis vaccine?
- The disease causes infants to cough so much, that some have trouble breathing, leading to hospitalization and potentially death.

Not Just Kids Are At Risk

- Pertussis easily spreads from person to person, family member to family member.
- Family members can unknowingly spread pertussis to the most vulnerable, your own babies.
- Anyone that has not been vaccinated against pertussis (Tdap vaccine) is at a higher risk of getting pertussis and passing it on to an infant or child.

Protect Your Family

- Vaccinate family members with a Tdap vaccine to protect against pertussis.
- Don't forget that this includes your teens, grandparents and close family friends.
- Talk to your doctor or call your health plan for Tdap vaccine information.

Questions? Call the Virginia Department of Health, Division of Immunization 1.800.568.1929
Adapted from the Arizona Department of Health Services and The Arizona Partnership for Immunization (TAPI).

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