



Protect Yourself and Your
Children From Pertussis!

Need health insurance for your child?
Apply online at www.floridakidcare.org
or call (888) 540-5437 for an application.

Fl♥rida KidCare



**Bureau of
Immunization**

4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin A11
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1719
(850) 245-4342
Fax (850) 922-4195
www.ImmunizeFlorida.org



DH 1993 1/10 Stock Number 5744-000-1993-0



**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 them. 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 Vaccinated

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

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 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.

If You are Pregnant

Tdap should be administered to a pregnant woman who is in contact with an infant younger than age 12 months, is in an outbreak setting, or is a healthcare provider who sees children. If there is no risk to the pregnant woman of acquiring or transmitting pertussis, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends that Tdap vaccination be deferred until the immediate postpartum period.