

# TALK TO YOUR DOCTOR: WHOOPING COUGH

## REMEMBER THESE FACTS ABOUT WHOOPING COUGH:

- Whooping cough is a highly contagious disease that can cause severe coughing spells
- The coughing fits associated with whooping cough can persist for up to 3 months
- If you received a vaccine to help protect against whooping cough as a child, that doesn't mean you have lifetime immunity. Since childhood vaccines that help protect against whooping cough can fade over time, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends a single dose of Tdap vaccine for people ages 11 years and older who have not previously received Tdap
- If you are pregnant, talk to your healthcare provider about whooping cough vaccine during pregnancy

**A vaccine called Tdap can help protect you against 3 diseases: tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis. (Pertussis is another name for whooping cough.)**

## QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONAL:

Should I get a Tdap vaccine today?

Are there any side effects that I should be aware of?

Who else in my family should be vaccinated?

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