



Pertussis can be very serious, especially in infants. The most common complication of pertussis is pneumonia. Seizures, swelling of the brain, and death are rare but possible.

## **TREATMENT**

Pertussis can be treated with antibiotics, which are most effective when started early.

Pertussis can spread from an infected person to others until five days of antibiotics are completed. If you do not take antibiotics, avoid close contact with others for 21 days. This includes staying home from daycare, school, work, or events.







Pertussis spreads from person-to-person through the air by droplets, usually by coughing or sneezing.

## **SIGNS & SYMPTOMS**



Runny Nose



Cough, Starting Mild and Worsening Over Time



Vomiting or Gagging After Coughing



Exhaustion, or Feeling Very Tired

## **PERTUSSIS VACCINE**

Vaccination is the best way to prevent pertussis. Pregnant women should also receive the Tdap vaccine in their third trimester of pregnancy. Talk to your healthcare provider to make sure you are up-to-date. People vaccinated for pertussis can still get sick, but it is usually a milder illness. Vaccinated people are less likely to be hospitalized or die from pertussis.

## OTHER PREVENTION



Wash Your Hands Often



Cover Coughs With a Tissue or Your Sleeve



Stay Home When Sick



Avoid Close Contact With Sick People