

Whooping cough (pertussis)

Symptoms

Please see your doctor urgently if you think you or your child has whooping cough.



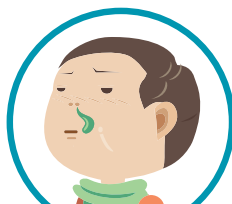
Cough
(can get worse
over 1-2 weeks)



**Breathing
problems in
young children**



**Vomiting after
coughing**



**Runny
nose**



Sneezing



Tiredness

How it spreads

Whooping cough spreads easily to other people when a person with the illness coughs or sneezes.

Who is at risk

Some people can get very sick if they catch whooping cough.



**Pregnant
women**



**Babies under 6
months of age**

If you are in any of these groups and you have spent time with a person with whooping cough, you should **URGENTLY** see your doctor.

The doctor might give treatment to reduce your chances of getting whooping cough.

How to prevent whooping cough



Exclusion

A person with whooping cough should stay at home until their doctor has cleared them to go back to work, school or childcare. Your doctor may advise you to stay at home until you have finished **5 days of antibiotics**.

The whooping cough vaccine is **free** for children and pregnant women. Catch up vaccines are **free** for people under 20 years of age. If you are 20 years of age and over, you will have to pay for the whooping cough vaccine. **Please speak with your doctor.**



For further information, please contact the Metro South Public Health Unit on ph: (07) 3156 4000