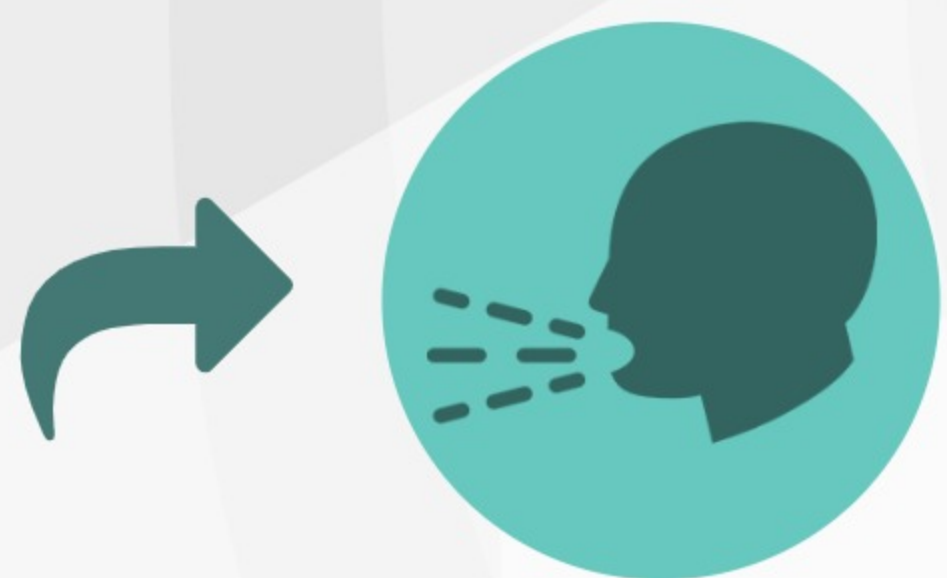


# PERTUSSIS

## (WHOOPIING COUGH)

Pertussis is a bacterial disease of the respiratory (breathing) system. It spreads easily when people are in close contact, like in classrooms, households, child care centres, and sports teams. Infants can quickly get very sick - and even die - when they have pertussis.

**PERTUSSIS CAN BE PREVENTED.  
MAKE SURE YOUR CHILD'S IMMUNIZATIONS ARE UP TO DATE.**



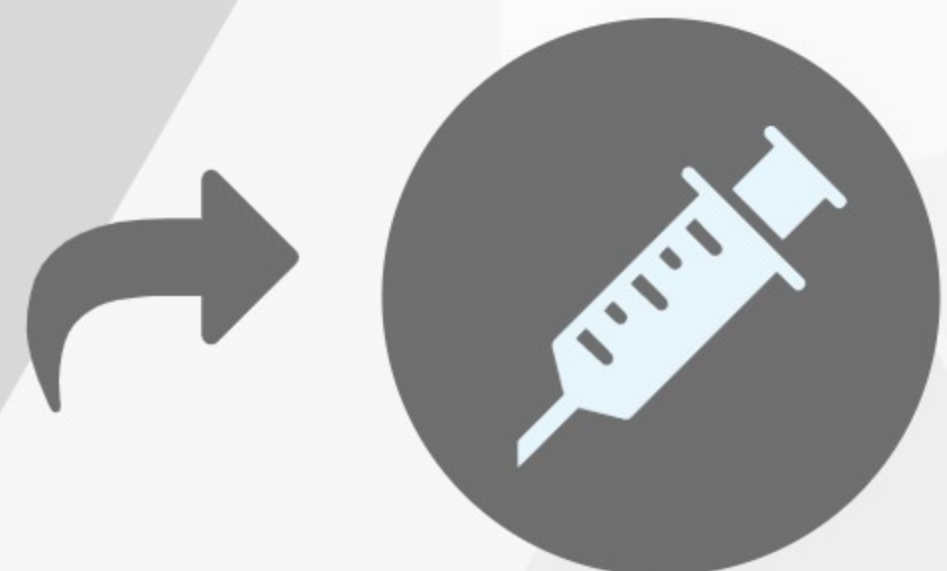
### WHAT ARE THE SIGNS & SYMPTOMS?

The first signs are usually a runny nose and an irritating cough. Over time, the cough gets worse, causing severe coughing attacks. The cough can last 10 weeks or more.



### HOW IS IT TREATED?

Early diagnosis and treatment are important to stop the spread of pertussis. Testing for pertussis is done by a nose swab. It is treated with antibiotics.



### WHAT CAN I DO?

Ensure your child's immunizations are up to date - and yours, too, especially if you are around infants under 6 months of age. Watch for signs and symptoms, and see a doctor for early diagnosis and treatment. Wash your hands and cover your cough.



### QUESTIONS?

For more information, contact your doctor or Population and Public Health at 306-655-4612 or visit [www.saskatoonhealthregion.ca](http://www.saskatoonhealthregion.ca) and enter 'pertussis' in the search box in the upper right corner of the page.