

Protect Infants from Pertussis

- **Pertussis**, commonly known as whooping cough, is a **highly infectious vaccine-preventable disease**¹
- Data from the **NNDSS**, maintained by the CDC, reflects the **recent changes in pertussis epidemiology**²



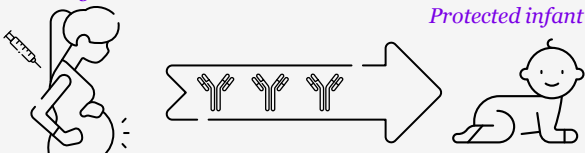
Rising pertussis cases in infants aged <6 months

- **Pertussis outbreaks** has been observed globally over the past two years
- **Pertussis outbreak has continued into 2025**
- **Young infants are at highest risk**—they are more likely to be hospitalized and suffer severe disease²



2024–2025 U.S. pertussis alert: What OB/GYNs need to know?

Newborns cannot be vaccinated until 2 months of age—**Tdap in pregnancy serves as the first step in protecting newborns**³



Maternal antibodies provide early protection against pertussis



Infants aged <6 months account for a disproportionate share of the morbidity and mortality from pertussis²



Tdap in pregnancy remains the most effective strategy to protect newborns before they can be vaccinated⁴



Effectiveness of Tdap in pregnancy

- **92.5% effective in preventing infant pertussis** when administered at 27–36 weeks of pregnancy⁵
- A systematic review study revealed that Tdap vaccination in pregnancy was effective⁶:



Up to 93% in preventing pertussis

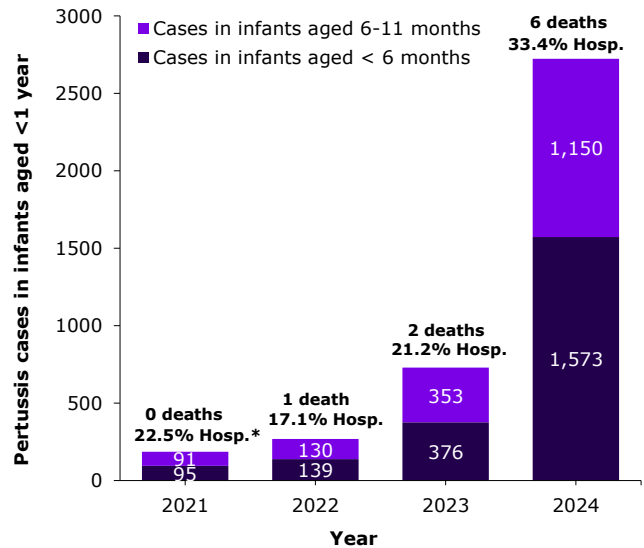


91–94% in preventing hospitalization



95% in preventing deaths

Pertussis cases & hospitalizations in infants aged <1 Year (2021–2024)²



*Hospitalization is mentioned for infants aged <6 months



What can OB/Gyns do?

- **Recommend Tdap for Every Pregnancy** (as emphasized by ACIP⁷ CDC⁴ and ACOG⁸ guidelines)
 - Administer vaccine in the 3rd trimester, preferably between 27–36 weeks, for optimal newborn protection
 - Use strong, presumptive language: “It’s time for your Tdap vaccine today to help protect your baby at birth”
 - Avoid weak phrasing: “Do you want a Tdap vaccine?”
- **Ensure Tdap is Available in Your Practice**
 - Vaccination rates drop when patients are referred elsewhere
 - Stock Tdap in-office or set up seamless referral pathways
- **Document Tdap at Every Visit**
 - Use EHR reminders to flag unvaccinated patients
 - Ensure every pregnant patient gets vaccinated on time

Help protect newborns by preventing pertussis in pregnant patients

Additional Information: Link to CDC NNDSS website: <https://www.cdc.gov/nndss/about/index.html>

Abbreviations: ACIP, Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices; ACOG, The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists; CDC, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; EHR, Electronic Health Record; NNDSS, National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System; OB/Gyn, Obstetrics and Gynecology; Tdap, Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Pertussis vaccine

References: 1. Pertussis. Accessed from https://www.who.int/health-topics/pertussis#tab=tab_1 on February 27, 2025; 2. Pertussis Surveillance and Trends. Accessed from <https://www.cdc.gov/pertussis/php/surveillance/index.html> on February 27, 2025; 3. Mazzilli S et al. Ann Ig. 2018;30(4):346–63; 4. CDC, Tdap Vaccination for Pregnant Women. Accessed from <https://www.cdc.gov/pertussis/vaccines/tdap-vaccination-during-pregnancy.html> on March 25, 2025; 5. Vargas-Zambrano JC et al. Vaccine. 2023;41(18):2968–75; 6. Vygen-Bonnet S et al. BMC Infect Dis. 2020;20(1):136; 7. CDC, Guidelines for vaccination during pregnancy. Accessed from <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines-pregnancy/hcp/vaccination-guidelines/index.html> on March 07, 2025; 8. American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG), The Tdap vaccine and pregnancy 2024. Accessed from <https://www.acog.org/womens-health/faqs/the-tdap-vaccine-and-pregnancy> on March 07, 2025.