Pertussis (Whooping Cough)

Parapertussis

Cause: Bordetella pertussis bacteria.

Signs and symptoms: sneezing, runny nose, low or no fever, and a mild cough that worsens over time.

Duration: From a few weeks to months.

Treatment: Prescribed antibiotics which are most effective if started early.

Vaccination: Vaccines are the best ways to prevent pertussis.

- DTaP for children younger than 7 years
- Tdap for adults

Cause: Bordetella parapertussis bacteria.

Signs and symptoms: similar to pertussis, but typically milder. Some do not have symptoms at all.

Duration: Up to a few weeks.

Treatment: A doctor may prescribe antibiotics.

Vaccination: There is no vaccine for parapertussis.

The pertussis vaccine does not offer protection from parapertussis.

Advanced Symptoms of both Pertussis and Parapertussis:



Cough (Whooping) that worsens over time



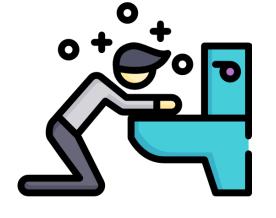
Difficulty Breathing



Runny nose



Feeling very tired



Vomiting After Coughing Fits

Prevention Methods





Wash your hands



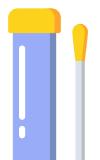
Cover coughs with a tissue or your sleeve



stay home when sick



Avoid close contact with sick people



Talk to a health care provider if you have these symptoms. A doctor may swab your nose to test for pertussis or parapertussis.

For more information, visit: www.maine.gov/dhhs/pertussis