WHOOPING COUGH





The data

In 2018, there were **MORE THAN 151,000 CASES** of pertussis (also known as whooping cough) worldwide.



The disease

Whooping cough (pertussis) is a highly contagious RESPIRATORY INFECTION caused by the bacterium Bordetella pertussis.



Transmission

- Pertussis is spread mainly through the DROPLETS produced by coughing or sneezing.
- > The disease is **MORE DANGEROUS IN INFANTS.**
- > People with pertussis are MOST CONTAGIOUS until about 3 WEEKS AFTER the cough begins.



Symptoms

- The first symptoms usually appear 7 TO 10 DAYS after infection.
- > They include mild fever, runny nose, and cough, which in typical cases gradually develops into a dry cough followed by whooping cough.
- > PNEUMONIA is a relatively common complication, and seizures and brain disease occur rarely.



Calendar

- > It is recommended that the FIRST DOSE is taken at 6 weeks of age; with FURTHER DOSES administered 4 to 8 weeks apart, at 10 to 14 weeks of age and at 14 to 18 weeks of age.
- A REINFORCEMENT DOSE is recommended during the second year of life preferably.



Vaccines

- Depending on local epidemiology, reinforcements may be warranted at a later date.
- > Vaccination of PREGNANT WOMEN is effective in protecting infants who are too young to be vaccinated.
- > Pertussis vaccination is normally administered with the DTP (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis) VACCINE.
- > In addition, it is also administered combined with diphtheria, tetanus, and Hib (quadrivalent); combined with diphtheria, tetanus, hepatitis B, and Hib (pentavalent); combined with diphtheria, tetanus, inactivated polio, and Hib (pentavalent); and combined with diphtheria, tetanus, hepatitis B, inactivated polio, and Hib (hexavalent).



