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| To | Dr «GP» | Please complete this form and fax back to «PHU\_Officer» xxxxxxxx within a 1 day from date <<03/03/2015>>. |
| Fax | «GP\_Fax» |

Dear «GP»

The Public Health Unit (PHU) has received a notification that your patient «First\_Name» «Surname» «DOB» tested positive for pertussis on «Collection Date» If your patient has consistent symptoms, the following information is required to identify **infant contacts less than 6 months old** as they are **most at risk of severe disease and death from pertussis**,and to help prevent further spread. Close contacts are people with face-to-face exposure (<1 metre) to an infectious case, for a single period of at least one hour (<1 hr in neonates).

1. Onset date of cough (best approximation)? / /
2. Does the patient share a household with an infant < 6 months of age? Yes / No
3. Is there a woman in the last month of pregnancy in the household? Yes / No

**If yes to Q2 or Q3, please ensure antimicrobial prophylaxis for all household members, including the infants, and update age appropriate pertussis immunisations.**

1. Is the patient a childcare worker or does s/he attend childcare? Yes / No
2. Is the patient a healthcare worker working with infants or pregnant women? Yes / No

**If yes to Q4 or Q5, please phone your PHU on 1300 066 055**

1. Has advice been given to the patient that they remain infectious until 21 days from onset of coughing or until 5 days of appropriate antibiotics and should avoid contact with infants and women in the last month of pregnancy? (Please provide a fact sheet) Yes / No

We may need to contact the patient/carer. Please provide a phone no(s): …..................

If your patient is less than 5 years of age, the PHU will follow up with you directly by phone.

Please remember that pertussis is a notifiable disease under the Public Health Act 2010 and that you should notify the PHU *as soon as the diagnosis is suspected,* and when you believe your patient has contacts at high risk of pertussis or is part of an outbreak. Phone the PHU on **1300 066 055.**

**Antibiotics for treating patients**

Antibiotics are useful to reduce the patient’s infectiousness and may also reduce symptoms if given early. They are not required if more than 3 weeks have elapsed since onset of coughing.

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| **Antibiotic** | **<1 month** | **1 – 5 months** | **Children >6 months** | **Adults** | **Frequency** | **Duration**  |
| Azithrozmycin | 10mg/kg | 10mg/kg | 10mg/kg (max 500mg) Day 1 | 500mg on Day 1 | Daily | 5 days |
| 5mg/kg (max 250mg) Days 2-5 | 250mg on Days 2-5 |
| Clarithromyacin | 7.5mg/kg (max 1g) | 7.5mg/kg (max 1g) | 7.5mg/kg (max 1g) | 500mg | Twice a day | 7 days  |
| Trimethoprim + Sulfamethoxazole | N/A | ≥2 months 4+20mg/kg (max 160+800 mg | 4+20mg/ kg (max 160+800mg) | 160+800mg  | Twice a day | 7 days  |

For more information please phone **1300 066 055** or see NSW Health information below.

Pertussis Factsheet<http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/factsheets/infectious/pertussis.html>

Whooping Cough Campaign <http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/PublicHealth/Infectious/whoopingcough/workers.asp>

Yours sincerely

**«PHU\_Officer»**