

Did you know?...

You can now protect your unborn baby from **whooping cough** from day one.



- Studies have found that whooping cough vaccination during pregnancy is safe and effective for both the mother and baby.
- Vaccination during pregnancy (preferably at 28 weeks) means your body produces antibodies that get passed on to your baby before birth. These antibodies will protect your baby until they are ready to receive their own vaccinations at 6 weeks of age.
- Whooping cough is a highly infectious bacterial disease that causes severe bouts of coughing. Anyone can be affected, but it is more severe (and can be fatal) in small babies, particularly those too young to be vaccinated.
- It is also important to make sure that your family members who will have contact with your baby are protected against whooping cough. Make sure other children are up to date with their vaccines and ask carers and close family members who have not had a whooping cough vaccine in the past 10 years to make sure that they receive a whooping cough vaccine at least two weeks before they have any contact with your baby.
- If you are planning a pregnancy or already pregnant, talk to your GP, Aboriginal Medical Service or other provider about what vaccines you need while you are pregnant.

Vaccine	Recommendation
Whooping Cough	Pregnant women in the third trimester (preferably at 28 weeks)
Flu	Pregnant women at any stage during pregnancy, especially those who will be in the second or third trimester during the flu season



Health

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How effective is vaccination during pregnancy?

Without vaccination during pregnancy **50** of the infants born every year in a large hospital will become sick from whooping cough – **40** of these will require hospitalisation due to their illness.

Whooping cough *WITHOUT* pregnancy vaccination



If all of the women delivering at the hospital were vaccinated during pregnancy, only **4** babies would get whooping cough in a year.

Whooping cough *WITH* pregnancy vaccination



After the birth of your baby

Download the 'Save the Date to Vaccinate' phone app

The 'Save the Date to Vaccinate' phone app gives you a personalised immunisation schedule and reminders for when your baby's vaccinations are due. You can also visit the 'Save the Date to Vaccinate' website at www.immunisation.health.nsw.gov.au for useful immunisation information, including a range of videos.



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