

## Rowan County



## Public Health

Prevent. Promote. Protect.

### Whooping cough (pertussis) Information

Whooping cough (pertussis) is on the rise in Rowan County and across North Carolina. Pertussis is a highly contagious respiratory disease spread from person to person by coughing and sneezing.

Early symptoms include:

- Runny nose
- Low-grade fever
- Mild, occasional cough
- Apnea — a pause in breathing (in infants)

After 1-2 weeks:

- Cough worsens and individuals may experience severe fits of coughing, sometimes severe enough to cause vomiting.
- Pertussis can cause violent and rapid coughing, over and over, until the air is gone from the lungs and you are forced to inhale with a loud "whooping" sound. In infants, the cough can be minimal or not even there.

To hear the cough in kids, go to: <http://www.pkids.org/diseases/pertussis.html>

*\*\*It is important to know that not everyone with pertussis coughs or "whoops".*

For more information, go to: [www.cdc.gov/Features/Pertussis/](http://www.cdc.gov/Features/Pertussis/)

### Whooping Cough Vaccination Clinics



### Appointment Clinic

The Rowan County Health Department will provide Tdap vaccine clinics. Tdap is the vaccine that helps to prevent the spread of Whooping Cough. Tdap is for those 7 and older and is offered at no cost. Protect yourself and others. Get vaccinated against Whooping Cough. **For Tdap appointments call 704-216-8786**