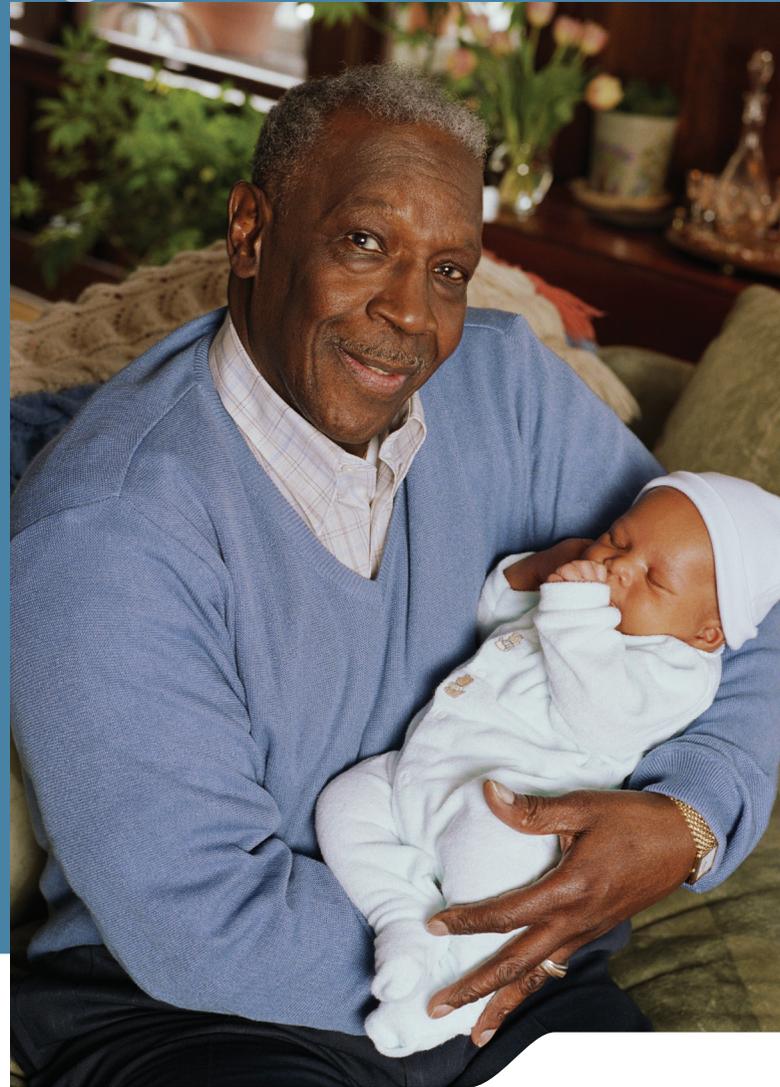


Protect Yourself and Your
Grandchild From Pertussis!



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Immunizing Florida. Protecting Health.



Why Pertussis is Serious:

Grandparents have an opportunity to protect their families. Pertussis (also known as whooping cough) spreads easily from person to person. Anyone who comes in contact with your grandchildren—family members, caregivers, and teachers—can infect them. This disease is very serious for babies, causing coughing fits and breathing problems, but may go undetected in an adult. Hundreds of babies are hospitalized each year, and some die.



Ways to Protect Yourself and Your Family:

Get Vaccinated

Everybody in the family should be immunized against pertussis to protect themselves and the baby at home. Ask your health care provider for the tetanus-diphtheria-pertussis (Tdap) vaccine that protects against pertussis and includes a tetanus and diphtheria booster.

Make Sure Your Family is Up-to-Date on Their Immunizations

Pertussis protection for babies begins with vaccination at two months of age. Infants and toddlers need four shots against pertussis, and a booster before starting kindergarten. Children 10 years of age and adults should receive a single dose of Tdap to replace a tetanus booster immunization. Pregnant women should receive Tdap vaccine during each pregnancy, preferably in the final trimester, if not then immediately post-partum.

Practice Good Hygiene

Pertussis is spread by coughing. When you cough, cover your mouth with a tissue or cough into your elbow. Wash your hands frequently.

For more information:
visit www.ImmunizeFlorida.org