



# Keep Old Diseases in the Past.



## Protect Your Child. Vaccinate Yourself and Your Teen.

Vaccinations are intended to protect not only the individual, but also entire communities. As our society becomes increasingly global we need to continue to protect our children from infectious diseases like tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis (whooping cough). In recent years, lower vaccination rates have led to an increase in pertussis cases and infant deaths from whooping cough.

Most children are vaccinated from tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis, but teens and adults often do not get the booster needed to extend their immunity. Florida law requires the Tdap booster be administered to children entering, attending or transferring to the seventh grade to prevent these serious illnesses.

By vaccinating your child, you are not only protecting him or her from serious illness, you are also preventing your child from becoming a carrier. Diphtheria and pertussis are highly contagious diseases that can spread very quickly through casual social encounters, and their effects are more significant in young children and elderly populations. Your child's vaccination protects him or her as well as others in your home, community, and school.

Cost is not a barrier to vaccination. Children ages 18 and younger who do not have insurance or whose insurance does not cover vaccines are eligible to receive free vaccinations through participating Vaccines for Children doctors or the county health department.

**Talk to your doctor today about the Tdap booster for you and your teen.**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 1-877-888-7468 OR VISIT [WWW.IMMUNIZEFLORIDA.ORG](http://WWW.IMMUNIZEFLORIDA.ORG).**

